

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING 9TH MARCH 2011

MEMORIAL HALL ELSENHAM

Those Present:

Gordon Barker (GB) Chairman	Ray Franklin(RF)	Paul Salvidge(PS)
Chris Bush (CB)	David Verlander	Heather Salvidge(HS)
Valerie Austin	Tim Snow	Ruth Fulton
Gordon Fulton	Jean Beeston	Mike Rea
Margaret Rea	Roger Clark	Phyllis Clark
Jill Hunt	Avril Braidwood	Dennis Haslam
Brian Tulley	Janet Tulley	Frances Lambert(FL)
Vic Dowsett	Wendy Morgan	John Morgan
Eileen Kay	Christine Hall	

1. The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced and welcomed our guest speaker for the evening, Mr Alf Wright.

2. **Annual General Meeting**
The Secretary opened the Annual General Meeting Segment of the meeting.
 - I. Invitations were extended to fill the two vacant committee posts.
Mike Rea put his name forward and was appointed to join the committee.

 - II. Invitations were extended to nominations for the posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary.
There were no nominations for these posts. The existing committee members were prepared to stand for another year and this was duly agreed.

 - III. There being no contest for any of the posts no votes from members were required.

 - IV. The Chairman then gave a review of the society's activities over the past year.

 - V. The Treasurer then presented the society accounts for the last year and made these available for inspection.
The Treasurer referred to the society's register of assets which was also available for inspection.

There being no other matters raised by the membership present the Annual General Meeting segment was closed and business reverted to the main agenda.

3. Apologies For Absence:

Margaret Shaw
Lillian Adams
Pam Merrifield

Jean Platt
Barrie Adams
Keith Merrifield

Alan Lambert
Kevin Wood
Robert Clarke

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

- I. HS said that she would be pleased to receive any pre-decimal coinage that members could donate to the coin collection that she was cataloguing for the society.
- II. Other matters referred to in the last minutes would be dealt with later in the meeting.

6. Guest Speaker Alf Wright

Mr Wright gave an interesting presentation on the history of Easton Lodge and the Eastons and the life and times of Daisy The Countess of Warwick.

The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Mr Wright.

7. Open Forum

- I. CB showed to members a deed box donated to the society by Mr Malcolm Robinson which bore the title "Sir Walter Gilbey Bart." This had been added to the Society's asset register.
- II. CB reported that he had agreed a date of Saturday 7th May 2011 at 2:00pm for members to visit Thaxted for a guided tour of some of the town's historic buildings. Members were invited to indicate their interest, 18 names were put forward. CB would provide more details when these have been finalised. **CB**
- III. Avril Braidwood and Gordon Fulton gave an update on the work that the team of members was doing to research the history of the men on our War Memorials. There were still details of some that needed to be tracked down.
- IV. Frances Lambert referred to the possibility of an archaeological field walk and she invited members to indicate or refresh their interest in this exercise. She would then be progressing the necessary arrangements and permissions that would have to be obtained before access to any site would be possible. **FL**

V. CB reported that he had, with the assistance of Reverend Gary Townsend and the family of Ronald Wheeler, assembled a small booklet which contained a short family history and which included the tributes which had been given at the time of his funeral. CB asked whether any member/s would be prepared to take this further and seek to collect more similar commemorations.

ALL

VI. CB reported that recording work had been started during the Winter and over seven hours had been collected and typed up. Two more interviews were at the planning stage and he asked if any members had suggestions about other interviewees.

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8. Date of Next Meeting

Members were reminded that henceforth meetings would start at 8:15 p.m. to avoid a clash with earlier bookings in the hall.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday June 8th at 8:15 and there will be a presentation by Peter Paye, author of a book on the Elsenham to Thaxted Railway.

Meeting dates have been booked for 2012, so if you want to get them into your planner they are:

Wednesdays 8:15 pm	March 7 th 2012
	June 10 th 2012
	Sept. 12 th 2012
	Nov. 12 th 2012

ENDS