

## WINCHESTER ART HISTORY GROUP

### Annual General Meeting held via Zoom on 26 May 2021

#### PRESENT:

**Committee:** Rodger Hake (Chair), June Brooks (Website & Publications Secretary), Catherine Campbell (Treasurer), Christine Clarke-Smith (Events Secretary), Margaret Munro (Membership Secretary), Carol Orchard (Committee Secretary), Felicity Pennycook (Programme Planning Group Liaison), Evelyn Thurlby (Venues Organiser & Publications)

#### Members:

Charles Arthur, Sonia Bolton, Pat Boulting, Helen Burrell, Judy Burns, Mary Calle, Bevis Clarke-Smith, Claire Duncan, Helen & Michael Etherington, Sarah Fry, Gill Graham-Maw, Susan Greene, John Harding, Jenny Hayward, Ann Jones, James & Susie Long, Joanna Meeson, Nicholas & Victoria Muers-Raby, Fred & Gweneth Middleton, Sally Milligan, Lawrence & Sian Morphet, Paul Nicholson, Eira Parry-Jones, Jane Parsons, Penny Patton, Val Pile, Barbara & Bruce Purvis, Margaret Robertson, Geoffrey Satterthwaite, Beverly Smith, Di Sommerville, Richard Sutton, Beth Taylor, Jane Thompson, Felicity Urquhart, Jo Watson, Peter de Wekker, Maya Whitmarsh, Daphne Winning, Alison Wood, Anita Wyatt

#### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Jane Balfour, Peter Eagling, Brenda Lucas, Anne Oestman, Antonia Whitley

#### 2 MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM

Because the 2020 AGM had been cancelled, the minutes of the meeting on 15 May 2019 had not yet been formally accepted. No comments or questions having been received, they were now accepted as a true record.

#### 3 TREASURER'S REPORT

A summary of the accounts and balance sheet for 2020 had been circulated to members before the meeting. Net reserves at the year-end were £14,000, after taking into account fees received in advance for 2021 and refunds due to members for last year's cancelled seminars.

Catherine Campbell explained that the overall operating deficit of £1,352 for 2020 could be ascribed to the pandemic. Most of the seminars planned for the first half of the year had been cancelled, and the programme for the second half had been broadcast to members free of charge via Zoom. Losses had been limited by savings on some administrative costs (eg. catering at the AGM and after the Christmas seminar) and the fact that many members had offered to roll forward the refunds due to them for the cancelled seminars.

She concluded by saying that there were no plans currently to raise fees or subscriptions, although both would be kept under review, and thanked members for their generosity.

#### **4 CHAIR'S REPORT**

Rodger Hake described the year's events. By the time the national lockdown began in March 2020, only three seminars, one study day and two day-trips had taken place, and the remainder of the programme for January to June had to be cancelled.

The committee continued meeting, using Zoom, and adapt its plans. A sub-group was set up to work with speakers on preparations for running the September to December programme remotely. This worked successfully: speakers adapted well, the number of members logging on was similar to the numbers previously attending live seminars at the WDC, and feedback has been positive.

The five cancelled seminars have all been rescheduled, the cancelled trip to Longford Castle has been rearranged for 29 June 2020, and a visit to Glasgow has been organised for September 2020. It is hoped that the postponed overseas visit to Portugal will finally take place next year, and that the Discussion Group can resume its meetings in September 2020. The exhibitions list prepared by Beth Taylor has been adapted to include on-line exhibitions.

Although it is still difficult to plan with confidence - especially as regards overseas visits - the committee will endeavour to reintroduce day trips and UK visits as circumstances allow. Planning of future programmes will continue using current procedures (ie. with input from members). The committee is exploring the possibility of running 'hybrid' seminars at the Discovery Centre (ie. live events also made available via Zoom) and will keep members informed of developments.

#### **5 ELECTIONS TO THE WAHG COMMITTEE**

Christine Clarke-Smith had completed two three-year terms as Events Secretary, which is the maximum permitted under the constitution. However, current circumstances make a personal handover of the role impossible, so she has agreed to be co-opted to the committee to continue in it for a further period.

Rodger Hake has completed a three-year term as Chair. No nominations having been received to replace him, he has agreed to be re-nominated for a further period.

He concluded by naming and thanking all the people whose efforts help keep the group running so successfully.

#### **6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

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