

MINUTES OF 1989 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON
WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 1989 in the Union Hall.

Mrs. J. Kirschi in the chair and 41 members present. Apologies from Mrs Jeubling, and Mr Meyer, Mrs Loveland and Mrs Mrs Denton.

1. Minutes. The minutes of the 1988 AGM were read, approved and signed.

2. Chairman's Report. Mrs Kirschi referred to the discussion last year on the boundary of the S.P. development zone; although final decisions had to await the Laton enquiry, decisions on planning applications are being made on the strength of the new plan and there is currently an application by Miss Pitman for development at the Studios. This would be discussed at a meeting on 25 April.

The Chairman emphasised the Society's role and recalled its recommendations, etc. could not please 100% of the membership.

He referred to the flood and the ducks and to the commemorative stone provided by the Society, in its 25th anniversary year, to acknowledge the village's 1000 years of history. Before the unveiling, it had been pushed into the pond and was retrieved by the quick action of Muggfoot Services. A few days

Later the same thing occurred, but it had been observed and the police were informed; she hoped no further action would be necessary although a decision on its permanent siting was desirable. Mrs Kibschik thought it important that we have pride in the village and its history; perhaps a special celebration of Thomas Hardy's 150th birthday in 1990 would be appropriate. She thanked the committee members for their work. Her report was received, with thanks.

Treasurer's report. Mrs Roy Hodson-Williamson produced an audited statement of accounts for the year just ended; bank balance was £326.19; cash in hand £13.81 and N.S. Account £1285.67. The commensurate about cost £86.25, inclusive of VAT. The bookshops at Buxton had bought about 400 of our Christmas cards from past years for re-sale. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Williamson and to Mrs J. Mullins who audited the accounts. The Chairman asked whether any member had views on the use of the sum in the N.S. Account (originally a "fall-back" in case litigation on any matter was necessary); the general view was to leave it in the Account. On the motion of Mrs Dico, seconded by Mrs Dowbotham, the accounts were approved; and the subscription to the Society unchanged.

Secretary's report. The Knight referred to the various activities of the past year, to the dredging of the pond and the reinstatement of the banks, to the highly successful visit to Sultan Bogutz by the Friends of Red House, Bournemouth, and to our activities in regard to litter. A local artist, Mr Alan Butler, is producing packs of six cards (3 copies of two drawings) for sale - 500 packs will cost about £150 and could be sold for 75p each at least. In relation to litter, thanks were expressed to a local Cub Scout's pack who have collected litter in plastic sacks.

Social Activities. Mr Birch thought our activities had been successful, particularly in promoting togetherness and community interest. He ^{referred} to the 21st Anniversary Party at the Jack Room at the Mill on 26 May, which he hoped would be well supported. In reply to a question, he explained why the event could not be held at the Springhead, as originally intended; and pointed out that previously some events had taken place outside the village itself. Mr Field thought it would be a nice gesture to invite new members to their first event without charge; the Chairman said this would be considered.

Membership of Committee 1989/90. Nominations, duly signed, had been received for A. Birch, A. Biss, Tony Dwyer, J. Eubank, M. Doyle, K. Knight, Mrs J. Litsch, A. Meach, Mrs C. Pussly, Mrs E. Rowbottom, E. Saunders, Mrs M. Stephen, Mrs C. Swords and Mrs E. Wilkinson (14). On the motion of Mrs M. Knight, these were elected en bloc. The Chairman indicated that Mr Horchilly and Mrs Loveland had not sought re-election because of pressure of work and ill health, respectively, and she thanked them for their help.

The Commemorative Stone. Arising from the Chairman's report, Mr Eubank asked why the stone was so obtrusive and had not been inserted into a wall. Mr Litsch said that advice had been taken, via the Mayor, on the lettering etc and the present site (by the first willow tree), although temporary, was considered suitable. Mr Pussly asked for a letter from Mrs Shires (intended at her request for the Committee) about "chatter" round the pond to be read, and this was done. Mr Biss said that ~~the Committee decided that~~ a site at the northern end of the pond had been agreed by the Committee, this being confirmed by the Secretary. Various members spoke in favour of the present site or another; two thought the Society had wasted money on it; a number considered it too stark. A number of propositions were made and rejected, and it was

finally agreed that, subject to the consent of Mr. P. Suook on behalf of Deceuninck's, the stone - trimmed in depth - be inserted in the wall of the small car park, on the "cottages" side. Mr. Gaudin or Mr. Siss would liaise with Mr. Suook. Councillor P. Harney commented on the weathering of the stone and mentioned the Roman Stone on Portland.

After refreshments had been served, a C.P.F.E. Video "Green Line to Europe" about environmental issues was shown. Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Stephen and other ladies for arranging the refreshments.

Joyce H.S. Hilschi
Chairman.