

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : MINUTES

Cheltenham Civic Society CIO : Registered Charity 1166580

Minutes of AGM held on 30 April 2025 at 7.30pm at the New Club, Cheltenham

1. Welcome and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was opened by the Chair. It was announced that the Hon Secretary, would be retiring after one year in the role. Members were invited to put themselves forward for the position of Hon Secretary but no nominations were received from the floor or before the meeting.

2. Election of Trustees

The Chair and Treasurer indicated their willingness to continue serving as trustees for a further year. A show of hands was taken and members unanimously approved their reappointment.

3. Accounts

The Hon Treasurer presented the annual accounts and explained that they had been reformatted following feedback received at the previous AGM. Two questions were raised from the floor regarding:

- The inclusion of capital assets within total assets.
- Interest earned during the year.

The accounts were proposed for approval by Alex Goude and seconded by Judy Hodsdon. A show of hands confirmed approval of the accounts.

4. Campaigns and Projects

Members received an update on the Society's campaigns and projects, including:

- Highways.
- The Daffodil.
- Battlefield Crosses.

Thanks were recorded to Freddie Gick, Colin Smith and Steve Bryson for their work.

5. Consultations and Membership

An update was provided through a presentation. Members were informed that the new Chair of Civic Voice had described Cheltenham Civic Society as probably the most influential civic society in the country.

6. Planning

Thanks were given to Adrian Phillips and members of the Planning Forum for their diligence and hard work throughout the year.

7. Public Realm

An update was provided on public realm issues. The Society continues to pursue resolution of outstanding concerns. Members were informed of progress relating to the Section 56 notice and response. Thanks were recorded to Hugh Curran for his work on St Margaret's Square.

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8. Parmoor

Members received an update on Parmoor, including:

- The reasons for delays in securing planning permission.
- Issues arising from 27 Cambray Place.
- Current progress towards reopening access.

It was reported that 5 May had been identified as the target date for restored access to Parmoor.

9. Civic and UnCivic Awards

An update was given on the Civic and UnCivic Awards, judged by Paul Baker, Andrew Booton and Adrian Phillips and David Myerson. The introduction of the UnCivic Awards was discussed. Members noted that public interest had focused largely on the UnCivic Awards. Should the awards continue, publicity would only follow completion of judging.

10. Membership

Members received an update on membership levels and the recruitment of corporate members. Thanks were recorded to Hugh Curran for his efforts in attracting new corporate members. The Society's target remains:

- 400+ members.
- Around 10% of members actively involved in campaigning and Society activities.

Members were encouraged to help recruit new members and consider serving as trustees.

11. Heritage Open Days

Members were informed that Heritage Open Days had enjoyed its most successful year to date in terms of both events delivered and attendance. Thanks were given to Sarah Harvey and all Heritage Open Days volunteers.

12. Governance

The Chair's Annual Report was noted. A tribute was paid to Peter Sayers in recognition of his significant contribution to the Society as Vice Chair and Chair of the Planning Forum.

13. Any Other Business

Steve Jones invited volunteers to assist with Minster Quarter activities on Mondays between 10.30am and noon.

14. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.