



# Essex Society for Family History

We are a member of the Federation of Family History Societies

Registered Charity No 290552

[www.esfh.org.uk](http://www.esfh.org.uk)

## North East Essex Branch

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street, Colchester  
on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**Present** Mrs Pauline Adlem, Chairman; Mr Paul Stirland, Treasurer; Mr Roger Stirland, Librarian; Mrs Gill Peregrine Secretary, Mr David Cooper, Registrar; Mrs Christine Chatfield, Committee Member and members.

1. **Welcome by the Chairman** The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from David Eniffer & Ann Church.
3. **Minutes of last meeting** Acceptance of the minutes of the 2018 AGM was proposed by Christine Chatfield, Seconded by Juliette Malcolm and were carried unanimously after which Pauline Adlem signed them as a true record.
4. **Matters arising** The matter of a new venue was still in question and would be discussed later in the meeting.
5. **Chairman's Report 2019**  
Well here we are again another branch AGM, doesn't the time fly. It only seems like yesterday since the last one.

The number of people attending our monthly meetings are down again this year which is unfortunate considering how much effort goes into sourcing a range of varied and interesting talks. I hope that you have enjoyed this years talks so far, the programme for 2020 is almost completed and that you find them interesting and informative. It would be good to try and attract new members to our branch meetings. I am sure they would enjoy some of the talks and you never know they might get hooked. They don't have to be interested in family history particularly as we cover a wide range of subjects. Unfortunately it is not only our society that seems to be affected by falling numbers. If anyone has got any ideas about what they would like to hear about at the meetings please let us know. Do you like the member sessions we have been having? There is one coming up in October on 'An Ancestor I would have liked to have met and why'. Please can some of you contribute to this session, it does not have to be very long.

I would like to thank the members of the society who continue to work on transcribing parish records in our region. I know that quite a few people do a lot of the work at home. A lot of hours are put in behind the scenes by Paul and Roger checking our work, taking photos for the covers, and producing the CD's. Thanks go to both of them. I would also like to thank Ann and Juliette for all the work they do recording Memorial Inscriptions. I am sure they would

welcome more members along if they would like to help.

Don't forget the books in the library and anyone is welcome to borrow them and use the other resources we have including CD's and access to the internet, though occasionally that might be a problem. The society's website is full of useful information and items are being added all the time. Any latest news will appear on the website.

We have attended some events over the last year as a branch, as well as some of us representing the society as a whole. We went to Halstead and Ipswich and Gill went to the Family Tree Live at Alexandra Palace in London along with other members of the society. I am sure that we will be attending some more events over the next year.

We had an enjoyable visit to the 'East Anglian Museum of Rural Life' , Stowmarket in June. About 10 of us went even though the weather was not so good, but luckily it cleared up during the visit. There was a lot to see and quite a bit of walking. Thanks to Gill for organising it. We are thinking about where we could go next year now. I must not close without thanking all the committee members for their hard work throughout the year. Without such a good team we would not function so well.

Also I must thank all those who volunteer to help with the tea and the washing up, and the setting up and the clearing of the hall each month.

I hope that the coming year will be an enjoyable and successful year for every one.

Thank you.

6 **Treasurer's Report** The treasurer presented the accounts. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Brian Tyler and seconded by Phillip Beeton. They were then carried unanimously.

7 **Election of the Committee** The committee were re-elected en bloc.

**Chairman Mrs Pauline Adlem**

proposed by Mr Phillip Beeton seconded by Mrs Judy Tyler.

**Secretary Mr David Cooper**

proposed by Mr David Eniffer, seconded by Mr Roger Stirland.

**Treasurer Mr Paul Stirland**

proposed by Mr Brian Tyler, seconded by Mrs Judy Tyler

**Registrar Mrs Gill Peregrine**

proposed by Mr Phillip Beeton, seconded by Mrs Judy Tyler.

**Committee Member Mr David Eniffer**

proposed by Mrs Andrea Hewitt, seconded by Mr John Young.

At this point as Mr Roger Stirland and Mrs Christine Chatfield had been unable to complete nomination forms they were nominated at the meeting.

**Mr Roger Stirland as Librarian**

Proposed by Mr Phillip Beeton and seconded by Mrs Christine Chatfield.

**Mrs Christine Chatfield as Committee member.**

Proposed by Mrs Sue Beecham and seconded by Mr Mike Stancombe.

- 8 **Project Update** Paul Stirland gave us an update on the project. This is continuing although the transcriptions are now on Ancestry and Find My Past. As David pointed out, it is important that we do this as we know that our work is very carefully done and checked and is therefore done to a high standard.
- 9 **M.I. Update** As Ann Church is away Juliette Malcolm reported that they were still working at Mistley church. They have the cremation records to complete. The team is still small so it takes time. Juliette said that they would be pleased for anyone to join them. They work on Wednesdays.
- 10 **Any Other Business** The Hythe Community Centre was still under discussion. David Cooper asked if he could have the backing of the committee and the members to pursue this venue. There are three rooms, at the moment we think the small room would be enough. David will try to get an answer by the October or November meeting.

There being no other business the AGM closed at 2.43pm.