

Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society
Registered charity No. 246145

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 30th November 2022 at 8.00pm
Altrincham Town Hall

Apologies: Patricia Kovach (President), Robert Redford, Sue & Simon Nichols, Leslie Cupitt, Ray Goodier, David Eastwood.

Committee Present: Judie Collins, Trevor Stone, Richard Hagon, Paulina Lewis, Angela Stone, Martin Garrett.

Chair's opening remarks and report

The Chair Judie Collins welcomed everyone to the AGM and gave a short update on the various projects presently being worked on by the committee.

She said we were extremely grateful to Sue Nichols for completion of the Heritage Website which went live on the internet yesterday. Over a decade in the making it is a tremendous achievement and is sure to become a useful resource to many organisations.

We were please to hear that two new Conservation Officers had been recruited by Trafford Council and look forward to working with them in the future.

She was sorry to report the sad loss of several people close to the Society, Vivian Labaton and Michael Armstrong, both long serving committee members. Also Burgess John Smith, who worked at one time for Altrincham Town Centre Partnership, and was appointed a Freeman of Altrincham in May 2016. He was a great supporter of the Civic Society.

Chair reported that our President was unable to be present due to being in hospital, but sent her thanks to the committee for its hard work and many successes during the year.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous 2021 AGM had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Judie Collins that the minutes of the 2021 AGM be accepted without alteration. This was seconded by Paulina Lewis. Passed unanimously.

Matters arising: None.

Membership and Treasurer's Report 2022 (See Apendix B)

Mr Stone had circulated the Year End Accounts prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Paulina Lewis that the Accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Martin Garrett. Passed unanimously.

Election of Officers and Committee

No nominations had been received by the Secretary.

All the present officers and committee members had expressed their willingness to continue in office. It was proposed by Richard Hagon that the Officers and Committee be elected on block. This was seconded by Ian Stuart. Passed unanimously.

Town Hall Project Update

Chair introduced Angela Stone who had been the lead in our preparation and submission of an expression of interest to Trafford Council for taking over the operation of Altrincham Town Hall. She explained that we had only a very short time to prepare. Initially Trafford were quite interested, but at a recent meeting their enthusiasm seemed to have waned.

As a general comment Angela said that in the past Altrincham was seen to be a great example of regeneration, with good partnership working and networking, however post Covid things had started to go the wrong way, the latest debacle over the Town Hall being a good example.

Some discussion took place regarding the proposed recent controversial alteration to the town centre traffic flow plan which is soon to be implemented. People were concerned about the impact on businesses, awkward access for delivery vehicles to Central Way and lack of direct access to the new Regent Road Multi-Storey Car Park.

Guest Speaker

Chair then introduced Matt Colledge, who is now working for High Street Task Force which is a Government Initiative, through the Institute of Place Management at Manchester Met.

Matt gave a short talk on his work with the High Street Task Force and Place Management, focusing on data which had been collected through visiting hundreds of towns in the UK.

They found that despite many towns having regeneration plans with funding in place, there was a distinct lack of partnership working and networking, a lack of strategic planning going forward and very few were actually doing anything now.

The indices of deprivation were very high in some cases, but there were no plans to fix it.

Many towns had no community representatives at critical meetings.

Although some towns had master plans, there appeared to be no local vision with over 60% not doing anything for their high streets. Most town boards were only interested in capital projects.

This was just a sample of the problems he and his colleagues were currently working on.

Presentation of the Don & Hilda Bayliss Award for 2022

Matt Colledge presented the Don & Hilda Bayliss Award for Civic Excellence to local historian Hazel Pryor. Hazel thanked the society and said she had worked with both Don and Hilda on past projects and was honoured to receive it.

Closing remarks from the Chair

In closing the meeting, Chair Judie Collins thanked Matt Colledge for his interesting contribution and thanked her hard working committee in a year which had been very challenging. She reiterated that we would welcome anyone who would like to join us particularly in Broadheath and Bowdon.

The Meeting Closed at 9.15pm.

Appendix B

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 246145

ALTRINCHAM & BOWDON CIVIC SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 SEPTEMBER 2022

ALTRINCHAM & BOWDON CIVIC SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 246145

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30th September 2022

Name, Registered Office and Constitution of the Society

The full name of the society is Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society. The legal registration details are:-

Principal Office	14 Greenwood Street Altrincham WA14 1RZ
Charity Registration Number	246145
Telephone Number	0161 927 7508

Objectives and Activities of the Society

The Society is established for the public benefit for the following purposes:-

To encourage high standards of architecture and town planning in Altrincham and Bowdon.
To stimulate public interest and care for the architecture, history and character of the town

and its surroundings.

To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of the environment of the area.

To promote the conservation of buildings, features and areas of historic or public interest.
To promote the creation, maintenance and improvement of amenities in the public realm.

To work alongside other associated groups and agencies to achieve common aims and objectives.

The Society's Strategy for achieving its Stated Objectives

The society lobbies local councillors, developers and other bodies in response to planning issues in the area of benefit. The Chairman, Vice-chairman, Planning Officer and selected members appear at local forums and public enquiries to forward the aims of the Society.

Fundraising Activities

The Society occasionally engages in fundraising in accordance with sections 3.2 and 3.3 of the constitution.

Summary of the Main Achievements of the Society during the Year

Please see the report of the Chair for the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

The Charities Act 2006

The trustees believe they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Nature of the Governing Document and Constitution of the Society

The Society was established in 1964 and its constitution was adopted on 2nd November 1964 and amended on 4th November 2009.

Methods Adopted for the Recruitment and Appointment of Officers and Trustees

The Society invites nominations for the position of officer in advance of its Annual General Meeting held in November of each year. Elections are held at the Annual General Meeting. Existing officers are eligible for re-election. Trustees are appointed by the management committee and remain in post until they resign or are replaced in accordance with the constitution.

Reserves

Reserves are maintained to fund the Society's regular annual outgoings.

Principal Funding Sources

The Society's income derives from membership subscriptions and donations. In 2010 the Society also obtained a substantial grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for specific heritage projects in the area of benefit. This grant was exhausted in 2017.

Transactions and Financial Position

The financial statements are set out on pages 4 and 5. The financial statements have been prepared implementing the 2005 Revision of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission for England And Wales (effective May 2008) and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008). The trustees consider the financial performance of the Society during the year to have been satisfactory. Memberships remained steady, with donations, which included a very generous one of £1,000 from Mr Jon Morrison, again being the main source of income. Running costs were higher due to larger print runs of the magazine and an extra edition having been produced for the Platinum Jubilee. The Statement of Financial Activities showed a net surplus for the year of £669 and total reserves at the September year's end stood at £3,024.

Members of the Board of Trustees of the Society during the year ended 30th September 2022 were:-

Chair	Ms Judie Collins
Treasurer	Mr Trevor Stone
Committee Member	Mr Leslie Cupitt

Members of the Board of Trustees of the Society at the date the Report and Accounts were approved were:-

Ms Judie Collins
Mr Trevor Stone
Mr Leslie Cupitt

Bankers

The Society's bankers are:-

Barclays Bank plc

48-50 George Street

Altrincham

WA14 1RH

CCLA Investment Management

COIF Charity Funds

Senator House

85 Queen Victoria Street

London EC4V 4ET

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity Law and the Companies Acts require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the Society. In preparing those statements the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue to meet its objectives

State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements

The committee are responsible for keeping accounting records which are such as to disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the Society at any time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that the accounts comply with the disclosure regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the Society's assets, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of error, fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the contents of the trustees' report. The trustees consider that for this year an audit is not required under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and neither is an independent examination needed.

Declaration

The trustees declare they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

TREVOR STONE

Date:

LESLIE CUPITT

Date:

ALTRINCHAM & BOWDON CIVIC SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2022

	General	Restricted		
	Funds	Funds	Total	Last Year
Receipts				
Members Subscriptions	265.00	0.00	265.00	300.00
Donations In	1,471.00	0.00	1,471.00	638.00
Gift Aid Tax Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COIF Deposit Fund Interest	7.71	0.00	7.71	0.00
Trafford MBC Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1,743.71	0.00	1,743.71	938.00
Payments				
Civic Voice Membership	50.00	0.00	50.00	60.00
The Mill Membership	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00
Liability Insurance	96.00	0.00	96.00	203.83
Society Website	282.00	0.00	282.00	282.00
Meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Printing	571.50	0.00	571.50	80.00
Postage	16.00	0.00	16.00	10.56
Stationery	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.58
Wreaths	34.00	0.00	34.00	34.00
Funeral Expenses	25.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
Total	1,074.50	0.00	1,074.50	757.97
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	669.21	0.00	669.21	180.03

ALTRINCHAM & BOWDON CIVIC SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2022

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Last Year
Balances				
Bank	1,588.38	1.00	1,589.38	927.88
COIF Deposit Fund	1,435.06	0.00	1,435.06	1,427.35
	3,023.44	1.00	3,024.44	2,355.23
Representing				
Surplus Brought Forward	2,354.23	1.00	2,355.23	2,175.20
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	669.21	0.00	669.21	180.03
	3,023.44	1.00	3,024.44	2,355.23
Reconciliation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Notes to the Accounts

Signed:

TREVOR STONE

Hon Treasurer / Trustee

LESLIE CUPITT

Trustee

Date: