

Friends of Halesworth County Library

Minutes of meeting of the Trustees held on 6th August 2019

Present: Alison Britton (Chair), David Borer, Sheila Freeman, Evelyn Lindqvist, Irene Thomas

		Actions
1. Welcome & Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheila was welcomed back after her absence due to a broken knee. Apologies: Natalie Evans, Nigel Frostick, Yvonne Sandison. 	
2. Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held 25th June were read and approved. 	
3. Matters arising and not elsewhere on agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation – Alison had contacted Emma Healey but is still awaiting her response. Will contact her again later in the month. Patrons – Jacky Carreira (playwriter and author) was pleased to be as asked and immediately offered to run 3 events per year. Tessa Newcomb (artist) also readily agreed and as she will be retiring soon will be pleased to get involved with the Library. Both said they were honoured to be invited. Alison will meet with Dean Parkin (poet) at the end of this week. Julia Blackburn was considered as she has generously given her time in the past. We are not restricted to three patrons, so it was agreed to ask Julia too. Sheila wondered if other local influential people might be approached to be patrons who would give financial rather than practical help. Hearing loop – ongoing. We will wait to follow this up when we are clear what physical changes might be made to the Library layout. Sheila and Alison both have options for people to come and advise on this as Suffolk Libraries still maintain that we could not have a system throughout the Library. 	<p>AB</p> <p>AB</p>
4. Updates Treasurer's report Acting Events coordinator	<p><i>David Borer reported:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receipts: Donations £496.69; Income from donated items £144.10; Payments for displaying posters etc. £196; Glasses £100.84; Misc. £207.43; £4.97 interest on savings account. Total receipts: £1,150.03. Outgoing Payments: petty cash £217.77 Balances: Petty cash £236.83; Current account £9,806.61; Savings account £30,260.05. <p>Current Total: £40,303.49</p> <p><i>Alison Britton reported:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Games Café – has suddenly become much more popular again – 12 people in June and 15 in July. Extra helpers will be needed (especially if transport is organised) in the future. Sociable Sundays – attendance variable. It feels like the group meets a need. Antiques Street Market Stall – helpers are reduced this year (because of people going on holiday and others retiring from the Events Group due to aging). Staffing the stall will not be a problem but there are concerns about having enough people to set up and clear up. Irene suggested asking Ben Chadwick if he could help and if he had any friends who might join him. Any other possible helpers? Please ask them or pass names on to Alison. An email will be sent to Friends. 	<p>AB</p>
5. Furniture update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The non-fiction side of the ground floor has been reorganised with new shelving on wheels where the newspaper reading table used to be. The table has been moved to nearer the front of the building. We can now clear the whole space for events. Some change has been made to the entrance "tunnel" and more re-arranging will be done soon to complete making the entrance more welcoming (which was something Ali Hopkins had been wanting to do for some time). Sheila has provided information about the company which supplied chairs to the Huntingfield Hub. We are welcome to arrange a date to go and test the 	

	<p>chairs at the Hub. When this company provided the chairs they also brought a wider selection to the Hub for “testing”. So, we should investigate to see if we could have some brought to the Library for this purpose.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that we need to progress with buying tables. The two estimates we have for tables presently are similar. One is from Gresswell and we know that they were very expensive for wheeled bookshelves (which were finally purchased from fg). Alison feels we need to find a better estimate, and this was agreed. It is probable that the company which provided the chairs to Huntingfield also supply tables. 	AB
6. New signatories for bank account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will look at this at the next meeting now that we know a new manager will be in place. 	
7. Need to hold general meeting of FoHCL to pass amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do not want to hold a special general meeting but rather add a short meeting on to another event. For example, in the autumn we can hold an event for Friends to inspect the improvements we have made and enjoy a social evening with refreshments and maybe a speaker. This would follow on from the discussion we had at the AGM re improvements to the Library. 	
8. Suffolk Library meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk Libraries Community meeting – Halesworth Library, Monday 23rd September at 2:00pm. Opportunity to network with trustees and friends from other libraries, be updated on Suffolk Libraries matters and meet candidates for Suffolk Libraries Board. Trustees and any active Events Group members welcome to attend but you must book. • Suffolk Libraries AGM – Thursday 3 October. Alison does not want to attend this year, but the new manager may do so, and another trustee could attend in Alison’s place. • Suffolk Libraries Day – Saturday 12 October. All libraries are encouraged to do something – we thought it would be an opportunity to introduce our new Patrons with displays of their books. +++ • Book Journey – During the week beginning 7th October (preceding Suffolk Library Day) a book (<i>The Huntingfield Paintress</i>) will be taken to all 44 Suffolk Libraries via various modes of transport. It will arrive at Halesworth on Monday 7th October from Kessingland. We must get it to Southwold Library between 4 and 5:30. James Hewett, co-chair of the Halesworth to Southwold Narrow Gauge Railway, has agreed to do the journey in his liveried van. It is unfortunate that both Halesworth and Southwold Libraries will be closed on that day! We will provide tea and cakes at 3:30 and invite people to come along to wave James off on his journey! The idea of this week of journeys is to give publicity to Suffolk Libraries. We should try to get articles in the <i>Halesworth Hoot</i> and <i>The Community News</i> for October. 	
9. Any other Essential Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Gulliver has been appointed as new library manager with a start date at the end of August / beginning of September. Alison and Evelyn represented the Friends at the interviews on 25th July. 	
10. Date of next mtg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 17th September at 5.30 in the Library. 	

Signed as an accurate record:

Alison Britton, Chair.

Date: