

AGM 2025 Thurs 25 Sept – 7.00pm Granary Tea Room MK Museum

Preceded by a tour of the new galleries exhibits from 6.60pm and an address by Bill Griffiths.

(These minutes are intended to be read in association with the copy of the slide presentation given during the meeting.)

Present:

Bill Griffiths - Director MK Museum – (for tour of new galleries)

Daniel Williams – Bucks Archives - Guest speaker – (for first item)

David Muston - Calverton and MKHA

Neil Loudon - MKM and MKHA

Charlotte Hall - Woughton and MKHA

Alan Cooper - New Bradwell and MKHA

Anna McEvoy – Stowe House and MKHA

Tim Skelton – MK Forum and MKHA

Paul Cox - Woburn Sands Collection and MKCDC

Anitra Bull - Deanshanger Village Heritage Society

Sandra Horswood - Deanshanger Village Heritage Society

Graham Thorpe - Deanshanger Village Heritage Society

Vicky Thorpe - Deanshanger Village Heritage Society

Jennifer Cooper - New Bradwell Heritage

Peter Barnes – Simpson History

Annette Bull – Hanslope HDHS

Barbara Hale– Hanslope HDHS

Stuart McMcFarlane – MK WFA

Lis Tighe – Turvey History Society

Sara Jenkins – Turvey History Society

Jill Smith - WDAS

Stuart Smith – WDAS

Victoria Leatherhead – Towcester Museum

Steve Eyres – Wolverton Society for Arts and Heritage

Amanda Molcher – Cowper & Newton Museum

Pam Matthews – Stoke Goldington Association

Apologies:

Dianne Sutton	MK Forum
John Gosling	Great Linford
Rachel Fleet	LAMK
Catherine McIntyre	MKCDC
Shane Downer	MKCC
Margaret Smith	Roade LHS
Brian Giggins	Towcester and District History Soc.
MK WFA	Anne McIntyre

Buckinghamshire Archives Relocation – Daniel Williams

After Daniel's presentation (see copy of slides) there was an active discussion on archives issues - timescales for move, size of archive at Wycombe and provision for expansion, digitisation in the future, service level agreement between BCC and MKCC, accessibility of Wycombe, arrangements for archive service in Milton Keynes.

Daniel offered direct communication with anyone who had any further concerns about archive provision.

He would also be liaising with MKHA over detail digitisation issues.

The Chair thanked Daniel for his presentation, and he was warmly applauded by the meeting.

AGM

1. Apologies received
2. Approval of Minutes of AGM 25 September 2024
3. Matters arising

4. Chairs Report – David Muston (see slides 16-17)

5. Treasurer's Report – Charlotte Hall (see slide 18)

- Accounts 2024-25
- Grants to members
- Membership subscriptions
- New members
- Financial arrangements for Excell Bequest

5.1 Vote to approve Accounts

Proposed by: Peter Barnes

Seconded by: Graham Thorpe

Carried by a majority

6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee:

All members of the committee were eligible and prepared to stand again. They were voted in on an en-bloc basis.

Proposed by: Graham Thorpe

Seconded by: Vicky Thorpe

Carried by a majority

7. MKHA Governance

7.1 MKHA Constitution 2025 Annual Review – Neil Loundon

- Clarification of membership status (see slide 25)
- Grants (see slide 26)
- Subscriptions and other costs (see slide 27)
- MKHA policies (see slide 28)
- MKHA Member Survey (see slide 29)

7.2 Q & A

- Membership survey supported and asked for feedback of collated responses
- There were some queries about geographical coverage of membership which were clarified.

7.3 Vote to approve updates to Constitution

Proposed by: Peter Barnes

Seconded by: Graham Thorpe

Carried by a majority

7.4 AOB

Close of AGM

8. Recent and planned events

8.1 Archaeology Day November 1st 2025 Christ the Cornerstone. MKHA had offered to support the event and mount an MKHA stand if requested

8.2 Proposed History Day – Summer 2026?

Being planned but date will depend on completion of major refurbishing works to library roof and interior.

8.3 Future of Heritage – Focus on Funding

A 'Focus on Funding' workshop is being planned to be held at Bradwell Abbey in April 2026 to explore alternative sources of funding for both small and particularly larger heritage projects.

8.4 Excell Awards 2025

It was reported that at MKHA June meeting, awards had been presented to:

- MK Forum for a book about HomeWorld (£500 and certificate),
- New Bradwell Heritage for a booklet about St.James Church (£250 and certificate)
- North Crawley Historical Society for heritage signage (£250 and certificate),
- Special Award to Rachel Fleet of Living Archive for work organising Heritage Open Days (certificate).

8.5 HODS Debrief

MK will beat last year's record with even more events this year but with lower overall attendance numbers. Full report from LAMK to follow.

8.6 Archiving MK report

This is likely to be held bi-annually from now on (unless a more substantial number of groups commit by end of this November) Session 5 Part 2 (*Digitisation and Digital Preservation*) has been substantially rewritten and would be available as a stand alone presentation.

9.0 Members Reports

- Bow Brickhill – Steve Bacon
- New Bradwell Heritage – Alan and Jennifer Cooper
- MKWFA - Stuart McFarlane
- Great Linford Manor Park – DM for John Gosling (A leaflet covering the issues around the endangered buildings was circulated to the meeting)
- MKCC 'LOOK AGAIN' – TS for Shane Downer

- Roade History Society – Margaret Smith (written submission)

10.0 AOB

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm