



REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1209505

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## **1<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of EVMT CIO**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 7pm, in Rickards Hall**

### 1. Apologies

Janet Slack, Jim Morgan, Christine Byrne, Brenda Saunders, Alan Ford, K. R. Gunn, Brenda Hillman, Ray Taylor, Keith Oriss, Karen Oriss, Andrew Saunders, Dor Francis, Giles Jackman, Jenny Smith, Joanna Wade, Annette Hards, Mary McCarten, Kim Maynard, Rosemary, Jaqui Wilcox, Penny Mendelssohn, John Isherwood, Pauline Broussard, Ben Brownless, Gillian Scholey, Don Garman, Jane Wroe, Jill Davison, Rachel Cooper, Kay Wilson

2. Minutes of the previous AGM were signed at the Extraordinary Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting were agreed and signed by Alan Smart.

3. Matters Arising: there were none.

### 4. Chairs Report:

Alan Smart thanked everyone for attending. He highlighted that moving the charity to CIO status was mainly a lengthy paper exercise. Accreditation is almost there, the only outstanding item is signing of the lease, we await ETC.

He commended the various displays particularly the VE Day using memories from members of the museum.

He also reminded members that this year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the museum some of the founding members being present this evening. The guest curator for the exhibition is Jane Higgs MBE. On 22<sup>nd</sup> June there will be a members evening to launch the event, he encouraged members to attend.

This last year has seen a very good collaboration with Topfoto sharing photos on our Facebook and Instagram page.

People stepping down and those stepping up:

Richard Johnson is stepping down as a trustee and thanks were extended to him.

Alan Smith has been President for several years and before that Chair and has decided the time is right to step down.

Alan was the driving force behind acquiring the Chiddingstone Hoard and keen to keep entry to the museum free for all. A suitable method of thanks will be found.

Those stepping up:

Ray Taylor has been a volunteer steward for several years. Elin Hancock is a history graduate & local person. Angela Baker who is chair of ETC. All are prepared to stand as trustees. Jim Morgan and Stuart McGregor remain as SDC and ETC council members respectively.

Jane Higgs has agreed to become our new president. She is a long-standing member of the museum and there at the beginning!

Alan thanked our sponsors, Great Stonebridge Trust, ETC., Warren Meadows Trust, Bonfire Society, Edenbridge & Westerham Rotary, Stonewall Park Trust, Lennox Cato, Brenda Hillman. Many thanks to all.

He finished with thanks to members, volunteers & stewards for supporting the museum. He also said the museum is always looking for new volunteers.

5. Management Report had been circulated.

Alan explained the difference between the Trustees and Management teams. Management meets more frequently and deals with the day-to-day business of the museum whereas Trustees meet about 4 times a year and are concerned with strategy and finance including fundraising.

6. Treasurers Report had been circulated.

Clare Seymour asked why the museum was getting money from Norfolk. Joan Varley explained that due to mergers MDSE finance is now being handled by Norfolk. Clare also pointed out that the shop had made a profit of £1600. Alan added that we are in a better position financially because the museum has a good team handling the money – Paul Byrne deals with gift aid, Sandy is the museum bookkeeper, Julie Johnson handles membership and Richard Seymour is taking over payment of invoices from Joan Varley.

7. Vote to approve Annual Report and Accounts:

Proposed to accept: Julie Johnson

Seconded: Stuart McGregor

All voted in favour.

8. Vote on the appointment of Independent Examiner:

Isobel Currie is happy to continue as accountant.

Proposed to accept: Min Hancock

Seconded: Lindsey Eaton

All voted in favour.

9. Vote to elect officers and trustees:

People unable to attend were able to vote online. 55 people voted online.

Proposed to accept: Claire Donithorn

Seconded: Jane Higgs

All voted in favour.

10. Chair's final comments:

Alan repeated his thanks and invited everyone to stay, chat and enjoy some refreshments.

11. A.O.B None

Attendees:

Richard and Julie Johnson, Clare and Richard Seymour, Alan Smart, Stuart McGregor, Jane Higgs, Lyn and Alan Layland, Lesley and John Martin, Susan and John Terry, Margaret and David Pocock, Claire Donithorn, Joan Varley, Elin Hancock, Min Hancock, Margot McArthur, Angela Baker, Helen Jackman, Anna Griffin, Fiona Lewis, Lindsey Eaton, Flora Smith, Jean French

Meeting closed at 7.40

Signed:

Date: