



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SANDGATE SOCIETY
THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2026
CHICHESTER HALL SANDGATE**

ATTENDEES:

Gemma Adams
Heidi & John Bailey
John Bacchini
David Banks
Deborah Bates
Steve & Ann Blunt
Andrew Bragg
Suzie Burden
Geoff Cane
Leigh Chambers
Deryn Cutting
Victoria Feaver
Caron Fortune
Elizabeth Gant-Smith
Eddie & Hilary Grimble
Lilian Jinks

Colin Jinks
Richard Kemp
Sal & Andy Kenward
Claire Knox
Maureen Long
Amanda and Jim Mason
Ros McCarthy
Sue Meehan
Keith and Sally Mills
John Oathwaite
Allan and Terry Petrie
Chris Phillips
Wendy Richley
Sue Ricketts
Kevin Roberts
Hilary Rosenz

Irene Ruff
Rosie Sanders
Ennelyn Schmidt
Huw Shepheard
Bryan & Lizzie Smith
Sam & Toni Simmonds
Stephen Vince
Thelma Stoppard
Simon Taylor
Judi Varona Argon
Valerie Whitehouse

Apologies : Jeffery and
Marjorie Finlay-Stone

1. Members or family of members who had passed away during the last year were remembered:

David Ewer
Dorie Morinan
Philip Sanders
Dave Cousins

2. Minutes of Meeting held 5 March 2025

These were previously distributed. No matters were arising or comments made, so the Chair asked for a motion to ratify and file.

Proposed: Lizzie Smith
Seconded: Eddie Grimble

2 Officers

There were no changes to the Trustees of the Sandgate Heritage Trust.

It was recorded that Guy Valentine-Neale, whilst remaining a Trustee, has stepped down from the working Committee and Leigh Chambers had been voted onto that committee. Emails to members were sent out thanking Guy for his service and welcoming Leigh.

3 Reports

These had been sent out prior to the meeting.

Thanks were formally recorded to the Martello Fund for their continued support. These funds are used to help children with craft classes at the Library during the summer holidays as well as ring-fenced for help with hardship in our community.

Thanks were also recorded to Bryan Smith for initiating and installing new email addresses for each part of SanSoc – enquiries@sandgatesociety.com, events@sandgatesociety.com etc.

4. Brief synopses of 2025 and/or events in 2026 were presented to the meeting from:

Planning & Conservation	Rosie Sanders
SEA	Gemma Adams
Membership	Sal Kenward
Reading Room	Lizzie Smith
Events	Liz Smith, Vicky Feaver, Heidi Bailey

5. Sandgate Society Business of the Year.

This annual Award, goes to a deserving Sandgate Business who goes above and beyond in its service and contribution to Sandgate.

It was with great pleasure that this was to be presented to Bill, Alison & Ollie of the Royal Norfolk Hotel by Heidi.

The meeting finished at 1940 with a short break before the Greenwall Lecture began at 2015.