

FOHA Annual General Meeting - 2011 Update

On Thursday evening of the 10th of November 2011 The Friends met to hold its 63rd Annual General Meeting in the Lower Great Chamber of the East Range of the Old Hall. It was attended by 50 people made up of Members and Non Members, attracted no doubt, by the presence for the first time in two years [due to pressure of other matters] of the Chair, Sir Nicholas Bacon Bart; [pic 1] President of the association. A report was submitted from the Old Hall LCC but no representative attended the meeting neither apologies given. Two members present are in their 90's - Mrs V Jones & Miss P Peart!



It was one of the most relaxed meetings for several years and remained focused on the Friends' future and contribution to the Old Hall despite its reservations over proposed changes in 2012. Two minutes silence was observed on the eve of Armistice. Several reports were submitted first the Chair, Mr PDJ Howitt-Cowan [pic 2] who surveyed the past year whilst looking forwards to the 2012 year of events. The membership roll stands at over 500!



The Hon Treasurer, Mr Mike Long, gave his last report after five years in harness. The picture shows Mike in full flow and seated to the right, is the Vice President, Mr Neil Taylor.

Sir Nicholas thanked Mike & Pat, [his wife] and elevated them from Honorary Membership to Life Membership in recognition of their sterling work.

Mike reported that the association holds £47k, an increase of 9% on last year's figure. Thanks was made to Wright – Vigar for auditing the 2010/11 accounts.

Mr Chris Shelton, returns as Hon Treasurer after an interval of six years.

The current officers and committee along with the Auditor and Solicitor were re elected to serve another term 2011/12.

Mrs Hancock & Mrs Anne Clark served refreshments – mini sausage rolls, cheese rolls and profiteroles – all home made and greatly appreciated!

Christmas cards priced at 70p were on sale during the evening.

After a short interval Dr Maureen Ille , an Art Historian, gave a stimulating and informative presentation on the Golden Age of Watercolours from the Hickman Bacon Collection which was greatly appreciated.



< here is Maureen being wired up by Nigel for the PA system ready for her talk.

The next annual general meeting is fixed for Thursday 22nd of November 2012 @ 7.30pm