

Minutes of the Friends of Lytham Hall AGM held on Monday 20th October 2025 at Lytham Hall, at 2.00pm

Present: A. Wood, K. Smith, R. Smith, T. Jones, S. Jones, M. Hargreaves, M. Smith, G. Totty, S. Havenhand, J. Hornyak, F. Sumner, P. Beeden, G. Duxbury, L. Dopping - Hepenstal, D. Coupe, M. Coupe, F. Wilson, G. Wilson, S. Davis, A. Matthews, J. Allen and P. Anthony.

Apologies: E. Guffogg and S. Dopping Hepenstal.

Minutes Acceptance of the minutes of the 2024 AGM was proposed by R. Smith and seconded by M. Hargreaves.

Chairman's Report

A. Wood read the Chairman's Report, with details of activities undertaken by the Friends. A copy of the report is filed with these minutes and is available on the Friends of Lytham Hall website

Treasurer's Report

T. Jones presented the accounts. A copy is filed with these minutes and is available on the Friends' website.

Year ending 31 st May 2024 : Current Account	£13957
Deposit Fund	£77394
Cash	<u>0</u>
	<u>£91351</u>

Income was on a par with the previous year.

Membership fees were increased in January

Gift Aid has been claimed for 2023-2024, and the claim for 2024 to 2025 is being prepared.

Acceptance of the Annual Report and Financial Statement was proposed by A. Wood and seconded by K. Smith.

The Chairman thanked T. Jones for his continued hard work as treasurer.

Thank you to the independent examiner, Rev. A.A. Clements, for auditing the accounts.

Membership

M. Smith reported that we have at present 264 fully paid up members.

There are several people on our list who have not paid for 2 or more years despite reminders.

It was agreed that these should be removed.

Election of Committee

Under the rules of our constitution, E. Guffogg, P. Beeden and A. Wood are retiring from the committee this year. They have all agreed to stand for re-election.

E. Guffogg – proposed by A. Wood and seconded by G. Totty

P. Beeden - proposed by K. Smith and seconded by F. Sumner

A. Wood - proposed by K. Smith and seconded by G. Wilson

The re-election of committee members was agreed unanimously.

The Chairman thanked J. Hornyak for representing the Friends on the LTT board for many years. He has recently resigned, and S. Jones has taken up the position.

Update on the Hall

Archaeology

More car parking space is needed at the Hall and plans are underway to make a green overflow car park on the Paddock in front of the inner gate. Before any work can start, an archaeological survey is necessary. The Friends offered to fund the majority of the survey because it would be an educational exercise involving volunteers.

Peter Anthony, General Manager at the Hall, gave an update of the many recent developments and plans at the Hall:

The Gardener's Cottage

Work on conversion of the cottage for use as self-catering accommodation is nearing completion. It is at the decorating stage and the furnishings are ready to go in.

F. Wilson asked if the Gatehouse self-catering accommodation was a success. Peter said it is one of the biggest successes at the Hall, with occupancy on most available dates. The property is let on Friday to Monday, and Monday to Friday periods and is managed by Sykes Cottages.

Old Tape Store

This is another possible building for converting to accommodation.

Woodshed/ Visitor Centre

Plans are underway to repurpose the Woodshed as a Visitor Centre, relieving pressure on the Estate Office. An alternative space will be needed for wood storage.

Dairy

'Lady Eleanor's Ice Cream Parlour' is to open in the old Dairy which has been used as an antiques centre for several years. There will be a choice of twelve flavours, made by 'Lakes Ice Cream'.

Dovecote

Work is complete on restoring and repurposing the Grade 2 listed Dovecote as a 'Pet Memorial Sanctuary'. The 85 nesting places are to be used for the ashes of pets, with memorial plaques, and a calm space with candles and seating are provided. The original revolving ladder is still in situ – there has been no intervention on the building.

The Chairman thanked P. Anthony for sharing the news of developments at the Hall and for his continued support for the Friends.

D. Coupe [President of the Friends] acknowledged the continuing efforts of the Friends and thanked the Committee for all their hard work.

The Friends of Lytham Hall
Registered Charity Number 1069442