KIBWORTH & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting: Wednesday 21st October 2026
at Kibworth Community Library

MINUTES

AGENDA

1. Welcome from the Chair
2. Apologies
3. Chair's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Proposed changes to the constitution
6. Resolutions from members
7. Election of members to the Committee
8. Any other business
9. Date of next meeting

1/. Welcome: John Freeland opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first AGM of the society.

2/. Apologies: Ann Davis, Richard Dowling & John Hughes

3/. Chair's Report

On August 28th 2025, the Kibworth and District Heritage Society was launched as the successor to the Kibworth History Society,

Our first meeting was held on September 18th and we now have over fifty members, most of whom attend our monthly meetings.

A monthly newsletter keeps our members up to date, as does a Facebook page where we have well over one hundred and fifty followers.

Talks have covered a wide variety of subjects; the A6 Turnpike Trust, the legal background to the National School, the Great Alonzo, the revealing of a family mystery, witchcraft, Harold Ridley, and the Home Guard. Activities have included a walk around Kibworth Harcourt and workshops.

We inherited Phillip Porter's database of local birth, marriage, death, and census records and are working on revising and checking his transcriptions. The transcription of the First book of Parish Records is complete and available to view on our website.

Other archive material we have acquired includes a large collection of photographs belonging to Isobel Cullum, plus a huge number of Grammar School photos.

Our website is now up and running. It has inherited content from the Kibworth History Society site and new material is being added as it becomes available.
We were privileged to be invited by the Kibworth Beauchamp and Harcourt Parish Councils to participate in the 90th Birthday Celebrations of the Grammar School Hall. Through the contribution of many old photographs, Janet Davis made a rolling presentation, photos, and a history of the school.
As we look back at our first year, I am pleased to thank those who have helped to set up the Society and to send it speeding ahead into 2027.
Janet Dowling has provided invaluable insights into running societies and into the ways of local government.
It has been a pleasure to work with your dedicated and enthusiastic committee; Sara Barrett, Ann Davis, Janet Davis, Stephen Poyzer and John Tillotson. Janet Davis, in particular, has been tireless on behalf of the Society, administering subscriptions, organising publicity and applying for grants as well as transcribing parish registers. Her efforts are much appreciated.
We are grateful to Penny and Denise for their help at our talks, opening up, greeting members, and providing drinks and biscuits.
We thank the Councillors Ward fund and the Kibworth Chronicle for their financial assistance.
Finally, my thanks go out, particularly, to you, our members, for joining the society and for your wholehearted support of our activities. I look forward to seeing you at our AGM and at our events in the coming year.

John Freeland
Chair

Following the Chair's report, Janet Davis explained the following change to the location and scheduling of meetings to those present, to take effect from January 2027.
"Owing to the limited space in the library, next year, the society will move its meetings to the third Tuesday in the month and to the Studio in the Community Hub. The move will enable our society to grow and will eliminate the current problem we have with seating."

3/. Nominations to the Committee
The following were nominated:
Sara Barrett, Ann Davis, Janet Davis, Janet Dowling
John Freeland, Stephen Poyzer, John Tillotson

All nominations to the committee were put to a members' vote and all were agreed

4./ Treasurer's Report

A summary of the treasurer's report was explained to members, the report having been circulated in advance of the meeting

5/. Proposed Changes to the Constitution

1.In 3.1

From: "The committee of Kibworth & District Heritage Society shall consist of not less than six members and not more than nine."

To: "The committee of Kibworth & District Heritage Society shall consist of not less than four members and not more than nine."

Justification: to be In line with

"3.9 Committee meetings shall require a quorum of four Committee members to take place."

2.In 3.1

"At least one committee member should be a representative and trustee of the community library."

Delete – Justification: no longer needed.

3.In 3.2

From: "The election of the Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and the rest of the Committee will take place at the Annual General Meeting by the membership."

To: "The election of the Committee will take place at the Annual General Meeting by the membership."

Justification: to fit roles to members once committee is elected

4.In 3.3

From: "The annual general meeting of Kibworth & District Heritage Society will take please annually during September."

To: "The annual general meeting of Kibworth & District Heritage Society will take please annually during October."

Justification: to maximise attendance at AGM

5.In 5

From: "The accounts shall be audited annually by an independent auditor."

To: "The accounts shall be examined annually by an independent examiner."

Examination rather than auditing is standard practice at societies like ours.

6.Clause 6.1

From: "Any resources or materials obtained and / or published by the Society will remain the property of Kibworth History Society"

To: "Any resources or materials obtained and / or published by the Society will remain the property of Kibworth & District Heritage Society."
Justification: Wrong name for the Society

7.Clause 6.2
The domain name of the website for Kibworth & District Heritage Society shall be the property of Kibworth & District Heritage Society
Delete – Justification: no longer needed

All changes to the constitution were put to the vote and all were agreed.

6/. Resolutions from the membership

There were no resolutions put forward by members.

7/. Any Other Business – Janet Davis invited members to support the production of the monthly newsletter by contributing articles, photographs and other information which may be of interest to members.

8/. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 19th October 2027