**HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION -EALING BRANCH**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting – 12th December 2017**

**At Ealing Green Church**

1. members were present. They were welcomed by the Chair Peter Hounsell
2. Apologies; Liz Wood, Richard Morse, Ann Scurfield
3. Minutes of the AGM of the 13th December 2016 were circulated and approved. No matters arose which were not discussed under subsequent items.
4. The Chair presented his report. In addition, he particularly stressed the need for volunteers to help continue to run the branch, without whom it would eventually close down.
5. The Secretary presented his report. In addition, he stated that he would be prepared to continue for one more season and help with one more but would resign by 2020.

There was some discussion about;

-new ways of publicising talks. Specific mention was made of various local community websites such as Today, Neighbours, Ealing Newsletter, West Five. The secretary said he would look into them.

- Paying speakers. The secretary stated that speakers in HA were usually expected to give their services for expenses only. He did not exclude the possibility of payments in certain cases (it has happened before) but he was wary of the reliability of celebrity speakers who were most likely to charge.

5. The Treasurer presented his report. He referred to difficulties being experienced with the bank

 in obtaining details and documents and the possibility of changing banks. The motion to approve the report was proposed by Elizabeth Sunley, seconded by Russell Davis and approved unanimously.

6. Election of Officers. The following were elected

 Chair – Peter Hounsell

 Secretary - Pierre Thomas

 Treasurer - Peter Crane

 Information

 & Publicity - Philip Woods

Committee - Elizabeth Sunley, Liz Wood, Russell Davis, Rodney Read , Simon Cockshutt

7. Refreshments. The chair made a further appeal for a volunteer to be responsible for refreshments at monthly meetings. At present it was being done on an ad hoc basis by committee members.

8. Meetings and Outings for 2018. Elizabeth Sunley agreed to look into organising an outing during the spring. Various options were considered, including one connected with the RAF centenary.

9. Book Sales. The Association still maintains a stock of second hand books, the sale of which is still an important part of its revenues. Donations of good quality books are welcome. Sales continue at the HA national meeting and BrentFest. The Association is looking into other local fairs or festivals at which to run a stall. The Secretary will look into the possibility of having some books for sale at each meeting. It may be possible for volunteers to catalogue the collection.

10. Subscription Rate. It was unanimously agreed to keep the rate at £15 per season with £5 per meeting for guests, with students free.

11. There was no other business.

The meeting concluded with seasonal refreshments and a “Show and Tell” session of members’ objects of historical interest.

Pierre Thomas

Secretary