

Minutes of the AGM of the Friends of Herculaneum Society held on Saturday 8 October 2011 at 15.00 at the Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies Lecture Theatre, 66 St Giles', Oxford

Present: Robert Fowler, Dirk Obbink, Nigel Wilson (Trustees), Krystyna Cech (secretary), Barbara Bell, Kay Byers, Margaret and Gideon Bentovim, John Bithell, Bonnie Blackburn, Andrew Cairncross, Alison Carter, Jacqui Cole, Revel and Marsali Coles, Lindsey Davis, Paul Everard, Jane Gardner, Miriam and Jasper Griffin, Sheena and Iona Hampson, Ben Henry, Leofranc Holford-Strevens, Kevin Lavery, Joy Littlewood, Carol Scott, Peter Spital, Jean Taylor (Members)

The minutes of the 2010 AGM were received without amendments.

The accounts of the Herculaneum Society and the Friends of Herculaneum Society were presented and approved by the members.

The Trustees stepped down and were unanimously re-elected. A report was presented by Robert Fowler about the recent and future activities of the Society.

- Robert Fowler gave a demonstration of the updated and improved new website. The updates are not live yet but will be soon. All the innovations were suggested by Carol Scott whom the Society has employed as a Development adviser.
- The project to translate the overview of the Villa of Papyri in the latest *Indicice di Cronache Ercolanesi* (in Italian) is two-thirds complete. Discussions are underway to choose the right way to print and distribute the translation.
- The British Museum is hosting an exhibition on Herculaneum in 2013. The Society should tap in on this and organize an event in London to coincide with the exhibition. Also, an attractive flyer/membership form should be designed to be made available at the exhibition. Hopefully, membership numbers will be thus boosted.
- There is a plan to fund an education officer at Herculaneum targeting local and British schools. This would be a new post. The first two years of the officer's salary would be funded by the Society and thereafter it would need to be fundraised for as part of the job.
- The research grant for which the Trustees applied last year has been turned down although it may be possible to resubmit it this year.
- The American Friends of Herculaneum Society has, at last, achieved charitable status. There will be an inaugural meeting at the University of New York organized by David Sider on 28 January 2012.