

Museum Management Working Group
20th October 2021
Museum Society Chairman's Report

The meeting to thank Volunteers was held on the 20th September and Directors were able to meet up and thank volunteers for the support they made over two very difficult years. The Castle was open and tours led by Sarah Kirkpatrick were popular. The Society talk programme for the 2021/22 period began on the 13th September. For the time being these continue on Zoom. The Board decided in August that the AGM should again be held by email or letter and the formal meeting will be held by the Board Officers on the 22nd October.

The Development Committee has met twice since the last MMWG and a report is included later in the Agenda.

My term as Chairman of the Society expires on the 22nd October, a post I have held since the re-constitution of the Society in 2008. This will be my last report to the MMWG. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Adrian Webb and Richard Auty for the close working relationship we have had over the last thirteen years. This period covered the decision to wind up the Heritage Centre project, followed by a long search for suitable premises for the Museum Store. This resulted in the successful development of the Shire Hill store. I would also like to thank both the current Councillors on MMWG and those former members with whom I have worked. The partnership arrangement between the Society and the Uttlesford District Council, which began on the 1st April 1975, has resulted in great improvements to the Museum. The prospect of further improvements now being led by the Society and the Council I hope will prove successful and I look forward to seeing the improved Museum in due course.

Tony Watson
11th October 2021