



The Filby Association™



HMRC Charity No XT10887

Minutes of The Filby Association AGM 12th August, 2018
Held at All Saints Church, Filby, Norfolk, commencing at 11.00am

Officers Attending:

C14 Alan W Filby (Manager/Treasurer/FFHS Rep.,)
C05 Marion Filby (Acting Secretary/Editor/Chief Researcher)
C03 Alan V Filby (Deputy Manager)
C06 Alan Starkey (Tree Manager)
C06 Christine Starkey (GOONS Rep.)

Members Present. Derek Filbey, Peter Filbey, Emma & Dan Carlson-Filbey, Mathtilda and Norah Carlson-Filbey: from Sweden.

Alan & Caroline Dinsdale, Sue & Clive Reynolds, Ray & Sue Filby, Barbara Hayward, Pat & Alan Filby: UK.

Cara Filby-Prest, Diane & Ed Filby: Canada

Garth & Marion Hunt, Andrew & Michelle Philbey, Glenis & Darryl Philbey, Carlene Riley.

Ivan Filby: USA

No written apologies for absence. Although some attendees excused themselves during this period.

- 1) The Chairperson opened the meeting at 11.00am and welcomed all members.
- 2) He asked if there were any matters arising from last year's Minutes of the AGM. The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were then agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Manager.

Alan W Filby then gave his report as Treasurer.

In the last year most of the financial activity has been focused on the 50 Anniversary Reunion

A deposit payment was made for the river boat trip on the Saturday afternoon of the Reunion weekend

We have also made a significant donation to the church, which Alan Filby, our Deputy Manager has noted in his report. Our contribution amounted to £5949.82. Thanks to Alan for organising this and for the liaison with Filby Church

The introduction of the GDPR Regulations meant that we had to contact all of our members to advise them of how we hold their personal data as well as what this is used for. For the members who do not use e-mail, this meant posting this information to them and £36.80 was expended on postage for this.

Other more routine expenditure was our annual subscription fees, paid to the following;

Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) £99.18

Guild of One Name Studies (GOONS) £30.00

We are proposing that we maintain our membership of both of these organisations in the future.

We received £87.91 in gift aid which was reclaimed from HMRC. Donations to the Association have fallen again in the last year and the claim that will be made for this financial year will be the last that is submitted. After this point the charitable status of the Association will cease.

There have been a few donations from members in this financial year and as ever we are very appreciative of whatever is given.

- 3) Marion Filby gave her Report. As acting secretary, this year has been busier than ever for me, mainly due to our International Reunion weekend in celebration of the Filby Association's 50th anniversary. I have organised the Mississippi boat trip on the Broads and the Celebration Dinner at Filby Bridge

Restaurant, both of which involved continuous communication with those wishing to attend. We are delighted that over 70 members came to our events and many, the AGM and Sunday service.

Throughout this year I have maintained and updated the web site, with current news and new research information. I have had many enquiries, which have been dealt with, but none have followed through with information to us, even when promised. There have been requests for help from none Filbys' who have an interest in the village, some from overseas who are researching ancestors from Filby. I have tried to help wherever possible and all are very grateful, but do not show it by way of donation. All this proves that our web site is being found and viewed as shown on my analytic program but is not creating membership or donations for the Association.

I am willing to continue with website maintenance for the time being as I believe this is the only way forward for our Association. However, I would very much like to hear from anyone with an interest and willingness to continue my work in the near future. This will be the only way the Filby Association will survive as a One Name Study Group so that we may gain information to add to our existing family trees.

As editor of the Chronicle since 2003, I mentioned that 2018 would be my final edition in the hope that someone would come forward to continue publishing. However, there has been no interest shown. I shall send out an emailed newsletter following our International Reunion, with photos and notes on the events. Unfortunately, anyone without internet will not receive a hard copy but can request an emailed version be sent to a family member on their behalf.

I would like to thank you all for your dedication over the years and for joining us this weekend.

- 4) Alan V Filby gave his report as Deputy Manager. Back in August 2017, I contacted church wardens, Martin and Vivien Moore, to inform them that The Filby Association would like to make a donation toward the cost of a church project to be recognised as a lasting celebration of the Association's 50th birthday.

Their priority was heating to the north and south aisles of the church.

After many detailed discussions with Mr John Hart, their secretary and fabric officer, the Filby Association decided that we would be delighted to fund the total cost of the project, amounting to £5,949.82 exc. vat.

Ceramic heating has since been installed overhead, along with brass plaques that can be seen on the pillars to commemorate our gift as a lasting tribute, thus marking the long association between All Saints Church and The Filby Association.

Finally, I would like to offer my personal thanks to Vivien and Martin Moore for their help and cooperation over many years

- 5) The Re-election of Executive Officers by 3 year Rotation.

Alan W Filby (Manager)

Marion Filby (Member of Executive)

As this is necessary while we remain members of the FFHS both Officers agreed to continue.

Seconded by Sue Reynolds and Alan Dinsdale

- 6) Alan W Filby then gave his Manager's Report. Status of the Filby Association going forward.

The fact that this will be the last AGM and formal Filby Reunion was outlined in the 2018 Chronicle that was published earlier in the year, but to recap;

The Association is currently a registered charity which allows us to claim gift aid on any donations given by UK tax payers. The number of people who give, who are tax payers, has fallen over the years.

The charitable status also means that we have to hold a public AGM. In the past this was always at Filby, but due to members' attendance dropping, more recently it has been elsewhere, nearer to where officers of the executive live.

The charitable status also means that we must have an executive committee to manage the Association.

We have asked if anyone was interested in assisting with the running of the Association. We have received no response whatsoever.

Therefore, we have come to the decision that the Filby Association as a registered charity will be wound down and closed.

The Filby Association as a One Name Study Group, will however, continue to exist 'on line' via the web portal www.filby.org. We propose to continue our existing register of members and add to this if there are new requests from anyone interested in becoming a member. Both Marion, and Alan Starkey have indicated their willingness to continue with research and managing the family trees, which we are very grateful for. Our complete database will be held by all officers of the Association until it can be passed on. We are still hoping that in the near future offers to take over will be forthcoming from younger people.

I am happy to continue as manager / treasurer for the time being.

All future communication will be via e-mail and the web site and we will continue to help with your enquiries.

At the moment we do not propose to organise any more formal Filby reunions, however, would give our blessing and support to anyone who chooses to do so, whether it is in this country or overseas.

Our founder, Ellsworth Filby, was initially interested in tracing his own family tree, and based on the response he received, decided to start an Association. The rest as they say, is history, well 50 years of history at least.

In the earlier years of the Association, a lot of the enjoyment was the 'thrill of the chase', of piecing together little snippets of family tree information and gradually linking them together to form larger and more interconnected family trees. However, based on the family history documents of birth, marriages and death records as well as the wills, we have probably gone back as far in time as we can. Internet searches now makes research that took years to compile, instantly available although not always as reliable and accurate.

The DNA research project may well push some of the boundaries back, as well as challenging some of the connections that have been made, but for this to be fruitful, many more people will need to have their DNA tested, leading to a much bigger sample size. In the interim all of the data collected and our family trees will stand as historical records, for the use of whom-ever has a passion to trace their own family tree.

Whilst we may never get back to the original residents of Filby, named after the village where they lived and who left as their lives led them to other parts of the country and world, but it is an idyllic thought to think, that somehow, we are all related through a distant common ancestor.

Thank you all for your interest and support of the Filby Association through the years

7) AOB

Alan Starkey reminded members that he had produced a complete Family Tree data base in paper form, which was on display today for research purpose and will be left at the church. Marion thanked him for producing the new family tree database on both CD and Excel for the website.

Keith Johnson requested that any photographs pre 2008 would be very much appreciated for his Filby files. He will scan them and return them to the owner. Or one or two photographs at a time via email due to size. webmaster@filbyvillage.org.uk or Homeward, Main Road, Filby, Norfolk, NR29 3HN

Marion Filby thanked Sue Reynolds for her assistance in her research work.

Ivan Filby asked about the DNA Project and Marion explained that there was a new file showing results of all our tests to be left in the church on the Filby Book Stand for visitors to see. It explained how they could join the project and gave contact details.

A vote of thanks was given to the Filby Association from Ray Filby

A bouquet was presented to the secretary Marion Filby for organising the weekend's events.

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 11.35am and thanked all for their attendance.

Minutes taken 12th August, 2018, and written by Marion Filby (Acting Secretary)

To be signed in due course.