

# Annual General Meeting 2011

The 87th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at 2.30pm on Thursday 7th July in the Great Hall of Hartlebury Castle, Worcestershire, by kind permission of the Church Commissioners and at the invitation of the Hartlebury Castle Preservation Trust. The meeting was chaired by the Earl of Leicester, President of the Society, and attended by 122 people. The weather was kind.

There was an optional visit in the morning to the Old Bishop's Palace in the centre of Worcester, led by Richard Morris, Frank Bentley and Chris Guy.

After receipt of apologies for absence (from 27 members, including Professor R. W. Brunskill and Lord Cormack) and the signing by the President of the Minutes of the 2010 AGM (previously published in Volume 55 of the *Transactions* for 2011), the Secretary, Mr Matthew Saunders, summarised the events of the year, particularly the severe cuts in public expenditure, and, on the domestic side, the retirement of Frank Kelsall and the appointment as Casework Secretary of Lucie Carayon. The Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2010 were presented by the Society's Treasurer, Mr Simon Barnes, and approved *nem. con.* by the meeting. He also nominated Messrs Blease Lloyd as the Society's auditors and their re-election was confirmed *nem. con.*

The meeting then proceeded to the elections. A list of those standing had been issued as part of the AGM Notice and brief biographies had been available on request during the preceding month and were provided for the meeting. All Officers and Trustees standing had been proposed and seconded before 31st March in accordance with the Constitution. The President then put the election of Officers and Members of Council to the meeting in two separate blocs. They were all elected *nem. con.*

After the closure of formal business, with a vote of thanks from the Chairman, Giles Quarme, to the President, there was an address on the building by Nicholas Molyneux of English Heritage, and an explanation by Alison Brimelow of the plans of the Trust to save the Castle by buying it from the Church Commissioners and opening it to the public. There then followed tours of the building (and the County Museum) and tea.