

The John Hampden Society

Minutes of Meeting held 15th November 2012 at 2 Farm Close, Chalgrove.

Present: Sam Hearn (Chairman), Anthea Coles (Hon. Secretary), Derek Lester (Hon. Treasurer), Roy Bailey and Brian Cox.

Apologies: Lord Hollenden and John Gabbitas.

		ACTION
	Minutes of last Meeting: Were approved as a true record of the meeting.	
1	Matters Arising: Sam again mentioned that we need to back Derek on the Chalgrove Battlefield.	Committee
2	Finance: Derek produced the up-to-date accounts and explained the current position. He is hoping that, eventually, his records would automatically show who had paid their subscriptions and on what date. It was agreed that he had done extremely well in setting up his spread sheets to automatically update and highlight any errors as they arose.	
3	At the commencement of the meeting the committee were asked to state what they thought should be the main topic of the meeting and how we could conduct that meeting and future meetings in a more effective manner. It was suggested that the main topic on this occasion should be the website and what lengths we should go to in order to update this. It was suggested that the person proposing the topic should speak for a maximum of 5 minutes and then each committee member could respond for a maximum of 3 minutes, following which the instigator could have a further input and then the Chairman would summarise for the Minutes. It was agreed that this would be a good way to proceed. Website: Roy, as webmaster, was in favour of gradually updating and modernising the website. It was not felt to be an urgent matter but it does need a facelift. Anthea agreed with Roy's views, having received a number of compliments on the website. Derek felt that Roy had done an excellent job maintaining the site but hoped that minor problems could be resolved. Brian feels that he can deal adequately with any problems likely to arise as a result of the subscription changes.	
4	Newsletter: Derek had just received <i>The Patriot</i> from the printer and handed out copies to the committee. This will be despatched to members this weekend, together with a letter from the Chairman concerning the increase in subscriptions. Brian suggested that it would be worth having two editions of the newsletter on the go at a time, so that overflow articles could be placed in the second edition. Content for the January (Winter) edition was briefly discussed and several articles were promised.	Anthea
5	Forthcoming Events: The venue and date for next year's AGM were discussed and two suggestions were made. Sam will look into possible dates in April, avoiding Easter, and a decision will then be made as to venue. Sam will be giving a talk on Sybil Penn at Hampton Court on 23 rd January. Roy will be giving a talk to U3A at Chinnor on 18 th January.	Sam Sam/Roy
6	AOB: Derek produced the translation of the Pardon provided by Maija Jansson. Roy will reproduce this on the website. The spare Service Sheets had been purchased from Hampden Church and were with Brian, who will take them along when attending talks to see if there is any interest in purchasing them. The suggestion was made that we should try holding the committee meetings on a Saturday, preferably in the afternoon, particularly during the winter months. Roy had discovered that The Barns Centre in Thame had a small room which they hire out at a cost of £9 per hour and it was agreed that this might be a suitable venue for the meetings. It was felt that we should consider having new membership application forms professionally printed. Sam will contact John Bercow to see if he is willing to arrange a visit to the Houses of Parliament. The suggestion was also made that we might find out whether it would be permitted for the Society to lay a wreath at the statue of John Hampden.	Roy Brian Sam
7	Date of Next Meeting: This was tentatively fixed for 19 th January 2013 at The Barns Centre if this is available. Date and venue to be confirmed.	