

The John Hampden Society

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 8th November 2015 at Shillingford Bridge Hotel, Shillingford

Present: Steve Barriff (Chairman), Sam Hearn (Treasurer and Membership Secretary) Anthea Coles (Hon. Secretary) and Roy Bailey.

1. Apologies: Gerald McGregor.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting: These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising that will not be discussed later in the meeting.

3. Derek Lester - current situation:

There being no response to the letter from Greg Moss of Garner Channing to Derek requesting the return of the library, it was unanimously agreed that this matter should now be pursued through the Court.

4. Membership Matters:

Gerald was not present at the meeting but was pursuing the MP line of enquiries. It was generally felt that a letter should be sent to all MPs offering them the chance to become members of the Society.

It was understood that Gerald had also been in touch with Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

5. Executive Committee Issues:

Roy had placed a piece in *The Patriot* advertising the vacancies on the Executive Committee, hoping that someone might show interest in joining us but nothing had been heard so far.

6. The Patriot:

Roy had asked Tony Hill at Sarsen Press and he would be prepared to produce the newsletter for us at a cost of about £100 per issue (£25 per page). This was felt to be reasonable as we do not at present have any alternatives once Roy had retired.

Roy had asked, via the Members' Mailing List, for articles for *The Patriot* but had not received any responses, apart from one apologising for not having anything to contribute.

7. Financial Report:

Sam produced rough accounts which show that we are still sitting on something over £6,000, so have the money to pay for the website, Anthea's expenses and the purchase of the stamp stock. He will shortly be making the next Gift Aid claim which he has now set up on his system so it is easier to deal with.

Sam now has electronic access to the Co-op account. He has also, surprisingly, discovered that Derek had been deleted as signatory on the account some time previously, though the Bank had not told him this. We have £400 or so with PayPal which Sam will transfer to our account shortly and he will also include the money at present with Bucks Family History.

8. Website:

There seemed to be a slight problem with the display of the new website on some computers, but not on others. Roy will not be available to deal with this question for the next fortnight but was happy to leave it to the rest of the Website Sub-Committee to sort out the problem with Sarah. Sam offered to ring Sarah and talk about it.

9. Location of 2016 Wreath Laying:

We are hoping to be able to do this again at the Houses of Parliament next year. Sam suggested asking at the AGM whether members would like us also to lay a wreath in Chalgrove.

10. Future Events:

Anthea had not yet had a response from Hampden House about the possibility of holding the AGM there next April. A short discussion took place as to where we should try to arrange this if Hampden House was not possible and it was agreed that Broughton Castle would be the next choice, or failing that, Hartwell House.

There were no talks or other events in the pipeline and it was suggested that a list of historical societies and other organisations should be sent to Anthea who would e-mail them to say that we are working on our next year's calendar and wonder whether they would like to be included to receive a talk from the Society.

11. Any Items not on Agenda:

Sam had received the latest version of the membership leaflet from the printers and these were satisfactory.

Anthea reported that she has purchased a fresh supply of stamps for £518.

Roy had advertised the John Adair book on the Society's Facebook page, but so far Sam had not received a flood of orders for this. We could advertise this in the next edition of the newsletter to see if there might be some interest.

Roy has a lot of archive material on his computer and Sam suggested he might upload a lot of this to Dropbox, as it would then be ready to put on the website in due course.

Sam mentioned that he had promised a Hampden portrait to the Hampden Arms and had arranged to have a suitable one produced on canvas for that purpose by Snappy Snaps at a cost of about £30.

12. Date and Venue of next meeting:

The date for this meeting was agreed as 28th February 2016 at the same venue, commencing at 2.00.