

The John Hampden Society

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 13th May 2017 at Shillingford Bridge Hotel, Shillingford

Present: Steve Barriff, Anthea Coles (Hon. Secretary), Sam Hearn, Roy Bailey and Phil Broomfield (via Skype)

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Roy put forward a proposal that, as no nominations had been received prior to the AGM for the posts of Chairman and Treasurer, Steve Barriff should be asked if he would be prepared to act as Chairman temporarily and Sam Hearn should be asked if he would be prepared to continue as Treasurer on a temporary basis, until these posts could be filled. Both Steve and Sam agreed to this proposition.

1. Apologies: Were received from Gerald McGregor

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

3. Matters Arising:

Sam reported that he deletes the names of past members from the published membership list, but keeps a note of them in case they are needed in the future.

Sam had gone further into the question of a Society video and whilst the original cost could be drastically pruned, it would still be very expensive. However, he had met someone who, on being told what we would like to do, had stated that he would be delighted to work with us to produce this for very little cost.

Sam has spoken to Roger Paynter about the plaque on the Hampden house in Grampond, and Roger feels that cleaning will not help the situation. He is going to speak to a friend of his, a Chemist from St. Austell, and ask him whether there is any chemical treatment that could be applied to improve matters.

4. Membership Issues:

There are still one or two people to be chased over non-payment of subs.

Two members were still paying subs into the old account and neither could be contacted. As we are unable to contact either of these people, there is nothing more that we can do, except keep the old bank account open

5. The Patriot:

Sam reported that he has changed the way he produces this now. He has a lot of material but has been too busy to complete this issue as yet and will do so as soon as he can.

6. Financial Report:

There is very little to report on this at present. Phil has some minimal expenses to claim as has Anthea, but apart from that the Bank balance is quite healthy at present.

A short discussion took place concerning what should be done about the Co-op Bank Account. For the present no action will be taken, but the situation will be monitored.

Phil will be visiting Glynde next weekend and will be taking a supply of books for them to sell.

7. Website:

Roy queried why, when wishing to look at an old *Patriot* on the website, there was an intermediate page to navigate before the actual newsletter was available. This will be discussed with Sarah to see whether it is possible to remove this intermediate page.

8. Anniversary Dinner:

Bookings are approximately at the halfway stage.

Anthea had contacted three firms asking for quotes for supplying trestle tables and tablecloths for the dinner, but had received only one response. This sounded very reasonable and Sam took the details so that he could deal with this.

Roy has been in contact with Chiltern Brewery who will provide a cask of John Hampden Ale for this event. Anthea pointed out that some people, when eating a meal, prefer to drink wine and asked whether we should bring a bottle if that was what we wished to drink. However, Roy said that he would have another word with Chiltern and see whether they would supply some bottles of red and white wine on a sale or return basis.

9. Future Events:

a) Talks:

Sam has a Sybil Penn talk booked, under the aegis of John Hampden.

Roy has joined the Newbury branch of U3A and they have asked him to give a talk on John Hampden.

Phil was asked whether he would be prepared to give talks. He is happy with this and will look into possible venues.

b) Meetings:

Steve will contact everyone with possible dates for future Executive Committee meetings.

13. Any Items not on the Agenda:

Roy was asked to order some more yellow labels.

14. Date and Venue of next meeting:

To be announced.