

The John Hampden Society

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 25th March 2018 at Shillingford Bridge Hotel, Shillingford

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

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from Gerald McGregor.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting:

These were accepted as a true record of the last meeting.

Matters Arising:

Julian, the person dealing with the video, has been, and still is, extremely busy with political matters at present, but Sam will ensure that this is dealt with as soon as possible.

Sam reported that on looking into the Facebook advertisement, this is quite expensive and could incur ongoing costs.

Anthea reported that she had written to David Lidington and Stuart Peachey thanking both of them for the part they played in the anniversary dinner.

3. Executive Committee Issues:

With regard to dates for future meetings, as Steve Barriff will not be standing for election to the committee at the forthcoming AGM, he will no longer be responsible for scheduling the meetings. He did, however, agree to set up the date for the first meeting after the AGM and it was suggested that this should be scheduled for either the 13th or 27th May.

4. Membership Issues:

Sam and Phil are liaising with regard to renewal subscriptions received. Phil reported that he had a list of members who had not renewed despite reminders. He supplied the list to see whether anyone could throw any light on the lack of response from them, prior to having one further attempt to make contact.

In view of the impending Data Protection legislation, it was agreed that we should e-mail all members normally contacted by e-mail and ask them to confirm their willingness to accept communication from the Society by this means, and that, once the legislation comes into force, we should consider sending all e-mail communication via the BCC facility.

5. The Patriot:

Sam had produced an edition of *Hampden Voice* and circulated this via Mailchimp but reported that only about half of them had been opened and it was feared that in some instances they might have ended up in people's Spam folder.

Sam hopes shortly to produce the next *Patriot*, which he proposes to set up in Word and then convert it to Mailchimp format, rather than the reverse as he has done in the past.

6. Financial Report:

Sam had been unable to prepare a financial report for the meeting as yet but stated that we had a healthy bank balance.

8. Website:

This is running well at the moment, though there are some more photos to be uploaded in due course.

Phil confirmed that he will work on Genealogy as soon as he can. In the meantime, he is prepared to deal with any queries received in the meantime to the best of his ability.

9. Future Events:

AGM. The paperwork had been sent out earlier in the month and a number of apologies had been received, together with 13 acceptances so far, but no nomination forms as yet.

Roy is doing a talk for Probus in June and will probably ask Brian Cox if he would turn up to give him a hand.

He will also be giving a talk to the U3A at Newbury, as recorded in the last Minutes, date to be announced.

Sam has not had an opportunity to speak to John Bercow about a possible wreath-laying at Westminster this year and it was agreed to let this lie for the time being and possibly see whether it would be possible, at a later date, to arrange another tour and combine that with a wreath-laying and possibly also attendance at Prime Minister's Questions, as was arranged last time.

10. Any Items not on Agenda:

Roy asked Sam if he would be able to bring the projector along to the AGM as he will need this for one of his talks. Sam confirmed that he would be able to do this.

Sam felt that, when the demands on his time have lessened, it would be a good idea to try and arrange some London-based events for those members who live in London and form a "London Chapter" of the Society.

11. Date & Venue of Next Meeting:

The date of the next meeting was agreed as either 13th or 27th May, to be confirmed, at the same venue.