

The John Hampden Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 7th April 2019 at
Shillingford Bridge Hotel, Shillingford

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

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from Phil Broomfield.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting:

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

Matters Arising:

Any matters arising will be dealt with under the appropriate headings of the agenda.

3. Executive Committee Issues:

Roy welcomed Steve who has now rejoined the Executive Committee and taken on the position of Webmaster. Once again it was acknowledged that we really do need a larger Executive Committee in order to undertake the organization of events, etc.

4. Membership Issues:

Phil updated the membership list and circulated it to the committee in advance of the meeting.

5. The Patriot and Hampden Voice:

Roy asked Sam how he was getting on with the next edition of *The Patriot* and Sam reported that he had plenty of material available but had not had time to put it all together. Unfortunately, he had too many interruptions and had not been able to make much progress. Roy suggested that Sam might send him the articles that he had, and he would then produce the newsletter and e-mail it to the committee for comments prior to sending it to the printers.

6. Financial Report:

Sam reported on the current financial position and produced a breakdown of the costs of the AGM showing that we paid £729 to Hartwell. We subsidized the cost of the meal as it was felt to be rather expensive. Shortly before the event, one or two people had to drop out due to health reasons, but luckily substitutes were found to fill the gaps, which meant we ended up with a slight overpayment to the Society. It was therefore agreed that refunds should be made to those who had been unable to attend. It was agreed that the AGM had been a success and the expenditure was justified. The turn-out had been very good and everyone had enjoyed the day and those who had partaken of the lunch agreed that it was delicious.

Sam feels that, in order to get the maximum attendance, we need to be mindful of cost and disabled facilities etc. in order that certain members are not excluded from attending if they wish to do so. There is also the question of distance involved to be considered.

7. Website:

Roy noted that in the minutes of the last meeting, it stated that Steve wished to stand for nomination at the forthcoming AGM and would be happy to take on the post of Webmaster because he was familiar with the administration of the website. In fact, Steve has nominally been webmaster for several years.

Roy felt there were one or two little anomalies in the website that needed tidying up and said that he would arrange to meet Sarah at some stage and sort these items out with her. It was agreed that Roy should do this, and that Steve might go with him.

Sam stated that the diary is now out of date and needs to be brought up to date, so all items for the diary should be sent to Steve for his attention.

8. Future Events:

The next event will be the talk by Professor Ian Beckett which hopefully will take place at Aylesbury Museum on 22nd June and Roy asked if Sam could make the arrangements with the museum. He has spoken to Ian who is happy to do this, but the date needs to be confirmed and the event should be open to non-members as well as members

Sam will speak to the museum and let Roy know the outcome, so that Roy can finalize the details and organize the publicity.

9. Any Items not on Agenda:

Donations of Biography to libraries:

Regarding the suggestion made at the AGM by Elizabeth Rodda about giving copies of the John Adair Biography to local Libraries. Roy felt that we needed to decide whether to follow this policy of contacting the authorities who run libraries for permission to donate the books, as this needs to be done formally rather than just dropping a copy in to the local library. It was decided to start with Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Reading. Roy will contact Reading and asked if Anthea would do the same with Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. Roy was leaving a pack of books at reception at the Shillingford Bridge Hotel for Elizabeth Rodda to pick up but would ask her not to distribute them until we had responses from the various libraries. In the future we might also contact School libraries

Executive Committee rdJob Descriptions:

Sam had produced job descriptions for all the committee apart from the Secretary, for consideration. It was agreed that the format was good. Sam will make one or two minor alterations and then send them to Roy who will convert them to PDFs. Sam will draw a job description up for Anthea and send it to her for comments and amendment if necessary.

It was suggested that each committee member should produce a photograph of themselves with a brief description, for publication on the website. This should then be circulated round the rest of the committee for comments.

Roy wondered if we could hold next year's AGM at Carisbrooke Castle on the Isle of Wight. Sam pointed out that this would be very expensive, with the ferry crossing, and the distance involved might well put off a lot of members. However there are various reasons why this would be a good venue, having connections with Hampden, and Roy wondered whether it would be possible to arrange a package deal the local tourist board to offer one nights bed and breakfast and the ferry crossing at a discounted price, holding the AGM on the Sunday morning, followed by a meal and then return home. This will need to be given some thought and should be discussed at a later meeting

10. Date & Venue of Next Meeting:

This will be organized via Rallie, hopefully for early in May