

The John Hampden Society

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held via Zoom on 26th September 2021.

Present: Beth Rogers (Chairman), Anthea Coles (Hon. Secretary), Sam Hearn (Hon. Treasurer), Phil Broomfield (Membership Secretary)

1. Apologies:

Miles Buckinghamshire, Peter Osborne, Roy Bailey.

2. Minutes of Last meeting:

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting of 4th July 2021.

3. Matters Arising:

Beth reported that she had renewed the loan agreements with Thame Museum and had been informed about the Sealed Knot event. They are happy to work with us and wondered if we could provide a “Soldier” to do a talk about life as a soldier.

Sam has not had time to follow up with Sarah on our proposal of having a more formal arrangement and paying her a retainer but will do so in due course.

Sam had provided a suggested risk register and Beth felt that progress had been made.

The question was raised again of whether to continue with Zoom or switch to Whereby, but it was decided to continue with Zoom for the moment.

4. The Patriot:

Roy Bailey is hoping to have edition 99 ready to send out during October.

With regard to edition No. 100, we are hoping to make this a bumper edition and Beth had put out an appeal to members asking if anyone would like to produce an article or suggest which articles from previous editions, they might like to see revisited.

5. Forthcoming Zoom talk by Lynette Nusbacher:

Beth had spoken to Lynette, and she was set up for the talk. We must ensure that once the talk starts, everyone is muted, and their cameras are off until question time.

6. Great Kimble Church Artefacts:

We were contacted by the Church regarding some restored artefacts that were going to be on display they felt that some of our members might be interested in joining them. Several members had duly attended and found it very interesting.

Beth stated that the Great Kimble artefacts are instrumental in getting John Hampden’s name known and it cost quite a lot to do the restoration and she suggested we could ask when Roger Howgate does his talk, whether anyone would donate towards this expense.

7. External Partnerships:

Beth had spoken to the Cromwell Association and Thame Museum, and both were willing to work with us The Cromwell Association were talking about doing a joint meeting sometime next year, wanting us to go to the Oliver Cromwell Memorial Service in September, and Thame Museum hoping we would help in making the Hampden artefacts more interesting to the public.

8. Wreath Laying and Sealed Knot Weekend in Thame:

This has been scheduled for the last weekend in June 2022. We will be laying a wreath and participating in other events in Thame and also visiting the church in Great Kimble. It will be quite a challenge making certain that everything runs to plan but it sounds as though it will be a fun day.

9. Visit to Hampden House and Church Service in the Spring:

Beth has been talking to James Oliver and also Deiniol. The Olivers are happy for us to visit Hampden House, and they suggested putting that together with a service at the church. Beth felt that, as we had ring-fenced 27th March for the AGM, it might be feasible to have our AGM at Hampden House following a church service. Beth will go back to James and Deiniol and suggest that date to both and see if it worked for them.

10. New Biography of John Hampden (Sam):

Sam has heard from a number of possible authors and Jim Rodda has suggested an author. In order for it to have an impact, she and Sam felt it had to be a named historian. Beth wondered whether Sam might email Lucy Worsley along the lines of "The John Hampden Society are thinking about a new biography and would you or anybody you can recommend be interested?" Sam felt he might keep it more vague, along the lines that we are looking at this as a project and wondered what thoughts she might have and is there anyone she felt we should be talking to? This was agreed to be a good idea.

11. Honorary Members (Peter):

This was something that Peter had wanted covered. He felt we should invite more of the South Bucks MPs and people that might have an obvious interest in John Hampden. Beth had asked him for some specific suggestions. She suggested that as he was unable to join us, we should carry this forward to the next meeting.

12. Attracting New Members and new committee members:

Beth wondered whether it was worth appealing to members to see whether any of them would be interested in taking a more active part in the Society, in view of the age and health status of some of the current Executive committee. She was thinking, in particular of the Bucks History Fair as Sam was unable to lift at present. He said he would be able to attend and talk to people but could not carry boxes of books or move tables. He stated that two people can run a stall, but you really need three to run it efficiently. initially.

13. Chair:

Beth had nothing to report

14. Secretary:

Anthea had nothing to report.

15. Treasurer:

Sam reported that we only have two cheque signatories now, himself and Anthea, and felt that we really need one more, suggesting it should be Beth. Beth was happy to do this and will wait for Sam to send her whatever she needs to complete,

The bank account is fine. Sam tries to persuade people not to pay by PayPal, as they can pay direct into our bank account which means that we don't then pay charges to PayPal.

16. AOB:

Bucks Local History Conference, October 23rd. Beth could probably do that, but as had been said earlier, we do need to appeal to members to help out. Beth has asked them what the arrangements are, and they have asked for stalls that are physical but also online, but she has no idea how they are intending to do that. We will see what they come back with and what they want stallholders to do.

When Beth was in the Isle of Wight the previous week, she had been to visit John and Kate Hobart and was made very welcome. They stated that Carisbrook Castle Museum is doing up a meeting room, which looks as though it will be lovely though it will not be ready for a couple of years, and it may be possible that, providing members can be inspired to go that far for the AGM, we could do something there.

Sam thanked Beth for taking so much work in hand and moving things forward. It was quite impressive.

The meeting ended at 5.36