**The John Hampden Society**

**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held via Zoom on 12th December 2021.**

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| **Present:** Beth Rogers (Chairman), Anthea Coles (Hon. Secretary), Sam Hearn (Hon. Treasurer), Peter Osborne, and Roy Bailey. |
| **1. Apologies:**  Miles Buckinghamshire, Phil Broomfield (Membership Secretary) |
| **2. Minutes of Last meeting:**  These were accepted as a true record of the meeting of 26th September 2021 |
| **3. Matters Arising:**  Sam has found someone to read the part of the soldier in Thame Museum for the Civil War weekend in Thame. |
| **4. The Patriot:**  Roy has three items so far for the 100th Edition of ***The Patriot***, and would welcome more articles from anyone who would like to contribute.  Beth commented on what a superb edition No. 99 was. |
| **5. Great Kimble Church Artefacts:**  The question of the Society making a donation towards the cost of the repairs to the artefacts was discussed and it was agreed that a sum not exceeding £100 plus Gift Aid should be sent to Roger Howgate together with any other donations made by members. |
| **6. Thame Museum, Wreath Laying and Sealed Knot weekend:**  As mentioned in Matters Arising, Sam has identified someone to play the part of the Civil War Soldier and is working on a short script.  Contact has been made with the Sealed Knot in advance of this event. |
| **7. AGM Update:**  It had been discovered that the agreed date for the next AGM clashed with Mother’s Day but the decision was made to continue with that date, commencing with attendance at Great Hampden Church, hopefully followed by lunch at Hampden House and the AGM. |
| **8. Brentford update:**  Nothing had been heard about the Brentford redevelopment and Sam will follow up on this.. |
| **9. Logistics for next talk:**  The next on-line talk will be given by a historian from Leicester who will talk about Civil War wounds and treatment. Beth has been in touch and will liaise with her again. The question of a charge for attending the talk was discussed and it was suggested that a charge of £3 for members of the Society and £5 for non-members might be considered.  The question of hybrid talks was also discussed briefly. This would require specialist equipment and someone with the knowledge of how to set it all up. |
| **10. John Hampden Statue:**  The Aylesbury Council proposal to move the John Hampden statue in Market Square Aylesbury to a new location was discussed and thought to be acceptable, but Beth is awaiting further information. |
| **11. Ship Money Monument path diversion update:**  The Chiltern Society are custodians of this site. Jim Rodda had struggled to keep the site presentable, and Peter has been working on it with him. The Chiltern Society will help with the preservation of the inscription on the monument and Peter has enlisted the aid of a stone mason friend of his who has the necessary expertise of working with the type of stone that forms the monument and who has quoted to carry out the recutting of the inscription.  The footpath to the monument needs to be diverted as at present it runs up the extremely busy road which is narrow and is designated for the use of heavy goods vehicles, making it extremely dangerous for pedestrians, especially as there are high banks at the side of the road. Peter is working on this.  Peter had obtained a weatherproof box which he had placed at the monument to display Society leaflets and reported that they were proving popular, and he needed a further supply. |
| **12. Donations to Great Kimble Artefacts restoration:**  This matter had been discussed under item 5 above. |
| **13. Chair:**  Beth had nothing to report |
| **14. Secretary:**  Anthea had nothing to report other than the fact that her attempt to save the Kimble church talk to the cloud had failed because her version of Zoom is not a subscription version. Beth wondered whether it might have been saved on Sue’s computer as it was her subscription to Zoom that was being used. |
| **15. Treasurer:**  Sam reported that there was currently about £8,500 in the bank and said we needed to consider what we were going to do with it. |
| **16. AOB:**  Email from Derek Lester: Beth had received an email from Derek regarding Chalgrove which should be linked to the article on Chalgrove. Sam will look into this and consider what should best be done.  New Biography: It was suggested that Dan Jones might be a good person to contact in this regard. It was agreed that we need to find someone who is well known to write the book. Sam had been in touch with Tracy Borman to see if she had any suggestions. Peter made a suggestion that we might consider using Crowdfunding to raise money to cover the cost.  Peter reported that the official hand-over of the lock of hair to Amersham Museum was going to be delayed due to the coronavirus restrictions.  The speaker at the Bucks Local History Fair had talked about Retail in Amersham, which Sam had found really interesting. Sam and Roger Howgate had manned the Society stall.  We have a table booked for the Thame Local History Fair in June.  Sam reported that he has arranged with Sarah that she will be paid a retainer to look after our website and he will circulate details of this.  Sam will circulate his draft of Risk Register for additions and amendments from the committee.  With regard to future virtual meetings, Peter said that he has a Zoom business account which could be used if Sue closes her account. |
| There being no further items to discuss, the meeting ended at 5.36 The next meeting will be held in February prior to the AGM. |