

The John Hampden Society

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held via Zoom on 4th September 2022.

Present: Beth Rogers (Chairman), Anthea Coles (Hon. Secretary), Sam Hearn (Hon. Treasurer), Peter Osborne and Rich Howell. Roy Bailey also attended for part of the meeting.

1. Apologies were received from:

Miles Buckinghamshire and Phil Broomfield (Membership Secretary).

2. Strategic Plan:

Beth had drawn up a template for this which was discussed. In general, the question to be answered is who you are, who you would like to be and how to get there. Peter suggested that we should comment in detail within a time frame and then have a meeting to sign off on the strategy. A time scale of 2 weeks, ending on 18th September was suggested for everyone to consider Beth's template and let her have comments, which would then be discussed in a further meeting. Roy does not think it is important to have lots of members so long as those we do have are enthusiastic and committed. Sam feels that the more members we have, the more likely it is that we will have more active members who will bring ideas and take things on.

3. Risk Register:

A discussion took place, and it was agreed that the top five items listed are always a challenge, with the other items to be monitored. It was agreed that we need trustees with experience of giving talks. Peter felt this should be part of an annual review to show that we are being serious about what we do.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting:

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting of 22nd May 2022.

5. Matters Arising:

Beth asked whether the paperwork for Rich's co-option onto the committee had been completed. Anthea had sent out the letter for him to sign and return, as she had for all other committee members, but had not received the signed copies at the time of the meeting. Rich said if we still required items to let him know and he would send them over. Sam will check whether he requires anything further.

AGM:

Beth reported that it was possible to hold an AGM on the Isle of Wight next year and a discussion took place to decide an alternative. It was agreed that Peter should find out whether this could take place at Amersham Museum and Roy reminded the committee that when lock-down came we had been supposed to have the AGM at The Kings Head in Aylesbury and had promised them that we would do so when things returned to normal. It was suggested that, if the AGM were to be held at Amersham, we should arrange a meal for later in the year, at the Kings Head.

Ship Money Memorial Inscription:

Framed copies of the Ship Tax Memorial inscription have been distributed to various places and have been well received. Beth asked that if anyone knows of anywhere else we can offer a copy to they should let her know. She wondered whether Rich might know of organizations in America who would be happy to display a copy. Roy suggested that the Historical Society at Kingsley House might be interested, and Anthea asked whether Wendover Library had been offered a copy.

Peter reported that the footpath to the memorial has been re-routed to the edge of the field and the map has been re-done. This is being well-used with sometimes 30 – 40 people turning up and both Peter and Jim have given talks to groups who turn up there when either of them is at the site.

Hampden presence on the websites of local museums:

We have contacts with Thame and Amersham museums, and they are fine. Miles is trying to follow up with Bucks museum and Beth will speak to him to see if he got anywhere. Wycombe museum is absolutely hopeless to try and contact.

Honorary Membership:

A suggestion was made to make local MP's honorary members of the society. Sam feels that free membership rather than honorary membership should be offered for the duration of their period in office with promotion to an honorary member if they do something to support the society.

6. Co-option of new committee members:

Beth had circulated a draft of an advert for the Editor job. She asked that, if anyone knew of someone who might be interested in earning a little money, who had the necessary knowledge to take on this role, we should approach them to see what they felt. She is, though, aware of the time constraints as Roy is handing over at the end of the year, currently being on his penultimate issue.

7. The Patriot:

Edition 103 was discussed, and Roy still needs further articles.

8. Website/Social Media:

Sam and Roy update the website and Face Book from time to time. When Phil has time, he will look at the genealogy section. Sam mentioned that a lot of genealogy stuff that he had put on there when we first had the website, going right back, has disappeared. He has been meaning to talk to Sarah about this but has not done so yet.

Sam will chase up Sarah to get the new arrangements finalized with regard to the Website account.

9. Ship Money Inscription:

This was discussed under Matters Arising.

10. Forthcoming Events:

Dinner on 6th November:

This will follow a Battlefield Walk and Sam will circulate details to members.

Next year's AGM:

This had been discussed under Matters Arising.

11. Chair:

Beth had nothing further to discuss.

12. Secretary:

Anthea reported finding a request in her emails from someone whose name she did not recognize, requesting permission to view Video 1549917673, It was suggested that she should reply asking why this permission was being sought and then a decision could be made as to whether we should allow permission to be granted.

13. Treasurer:

Sam reported that our Zoom sessions were being run on his personal account. He will investigate the possibilities of using Teams. Peter mentioned that he uses Teams more than Zoom at present.

Sam has booked a place for the Society at the Bucks Local History Network. We will be registered and anyone attending will have our contact details. He said that we want volunteers to be there, and Beth said that she can attend.

14. Membership Secretary:

Phil was unable to attend the meeting, but will keep the committee updated when he has anything to report.

15. AOB

Peter wondered about a connection between Hampden and Chequers. Sam commented that there are a lot of Cronwell artefacts in Chequers and it is possible that there might be Hampden artefacts also.

Sam requested that the date of the next meeting should be shown on the minutes and also that the agenda for a meeting should state the date of the previous meeting.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was declared closed. The next meeting is scheduled for 11.12.22

