

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THOROTON COUNCIL HELD AT LENTON GROVE, UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM, ON FRIDAY, 16th FEBRUARY 2018, from 5pm to 6.45pm

PRESENT

J Beckett	B Cast	M Dorrington	T Foulds	A Henstock	D Hoskins
R James	P Jones	C King	A Langton	C Little	
P Messenger	J Mills	H Nicholson	P Smith	M Trueman	

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from David Crook, Richard Gaunt, David Knight and John Wilson.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20th October 2017, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were none not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Professor Beckett reported on the following matters:-

- a) Greater Nottinghamshire Local History Fair - this was to be held on 13th May and Rob James would lead on this event. Other volunteers included Penny Messenger, Margaret Trueman and Philip Jones: John Beckett would also attend.
- b) Development of Social Media - in order to attract a wider range of members it was proposed to develop some kind of social media outreach and a volunteer to lead on this was to be sought. Chris King undertook to discuss the possibilities with James Wright.
- c) Lowdham Book Festival - this was to be held from 23rd to 30th June and the Society was to take a stall on Saturday, 30th June, for which volunteers were needed to assist John and Janet Wilson. Stef Mastoris was giving a talk on the Welbeck Atlas on that day.

5 PUBLICATIONS REPORT

- a) Proceedings of the last Publications Committee meeting - the minutes had been circulated.
- b) Transactions - Chris King reported that the Transactions publication was on track with the proofs due back from the printers, 4Word, that day. There were 5 archaeology papers and 5 history. The numbers required to be printed had been adjusted as agreed.

- c) Record Series including the Welbeck Atlas - it was recommended that a formal launch would not be held for the Welbeck Atlas as it had now been reprinted. Instead a reception was proposed to be held at Bromley House, appropriate due to Stef Mastoris' association with the library and, being central, it might attract a good attendance: this was agreed. A number of the atlas volumes would be put on the bookstall. Newstead Abbey had requested 30 further copies of the Newstead Abbey volume which might reduce the stocks completely: the shop had already sold in the order of 50 copies. Print on demand was discussed for past volumes which were requested and Rob James undertook to look into this. Adrian Henstock reported that the next volume, the Glynne reports on Nottinghamshire churches, was planned to be published later this year.
- d) Newsletter - John Wilson had sent copies of the next edition which was due out shortly.
- e) Website - Andy Nicholson continued to keep the website up to date. Chris King and Martyn Bennett would review the contributors' notes before Andy put them on the website.

6 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Annual Report - a draft had been circulated: this was approved for submission to the AGM.
- b) Spring Meeting and AGM - 28th April at Calverton Village Hall
 - i) Nominations for President, Vice-President/s, officers and for Council - Adrian Henstock was again nominated for election as President and Keith Goodman, Rosalys Coope, Sir Neil Cossons and David Bagley as Vice-Presidents. Nominations for officers remained as currently. This year there were only two Council members due to retire, John Beckett and Ceril Little. Professor Beckett had agreed to stand again but Ceril indicated that she wished to retire. She was thanked for her service as a member of Council to which she had been elected in 2012. There were four vacancies on Council (three vacancies carried forward and one retirement). Subject to their acceptance and eligibility, the following were agreed for nomination to Council - Ruth Strong, Scott Lomax and James Wright.
 - ii) Details of the Spring Meeting - Tom Smith, a local member, would give a talk on Calverton. The cost to members, mainly covering the cost of tea, was likely to be £10. Arrangements to visit the church would be made.
- c) Luncheon 3rd November 2018 - it was planned to be held in the Council House to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of the architect, Cecil Howitt. It was more difficult to arrange than our usual lunches due to having to engage one of the City Council's approved caterers.
- d) Special Lecture 2019 - the current situation was that the preferred speaker had asked for a fee that Council was concerned would cause a deficit. There were a

number of other possible speakers one of whom was currently being invited.

- e) Correspondence - a cheque for £186.90 had been received as a donation from Basford and District Local History Society which had now been wound up. A letter of thanks was to be sent to the Chair of the Society and the funds would go towards the cost of an appropriate paper for the Transactions to be identified by the Publications Committee.

7 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Annual accounts - the Hon Treasurer, who was absent, had provided copies of the accounts. It was **agreed by Council** subject to all being to the satisfaction of Martin Shaw, the independent examiner, that the accounts be approved for submission to the AGM.

8 HONORARY PROGRAMME SECRETARIES' REPORTS

- a) Excursions - Alan Langton reported that the first two excursion flyers were going out with the impending mailing. Planning for 2019 was underway with two of the excursions being led by Council members, Ceril Little and Pete Smith.
- b) Lectures - David Hoskins reported that the 2018 programme had commenced successfully and that preparations for the 2019 programme was underway. The printer had mistakenly printed the current programme card at a larger size - Council agreed that this was a satisfactory size and it would be continued.

9 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Membership - Judith Mills informed Council that four new ordinary and three new ordinary and record members had joined since the last meeting. 45 had not yet renewed their memberships, most standing orders had been updated and several had been paid more than once and this was to be rectified. She also informed Council that long-standing member, Revd John Banks, had died. Alan Langton was to write an obituary for the newsletter.
- b) New membership leaflet - this was now available.
- c) General data regulations - the detail of the implications of the new regulations would be considered by the Standing Committee, including the prohibition on retaining personal information without permission for which a policy on privacy and retention would be necessary. Proposals would be submitted to Council in May.

10 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- a) Archaeology - David Knight had submitted a comprehensive report for the annual report. There would be a further programme of excavation at Nottingham Castle this year, despite it being closed, and a visit for members would be arranged.
- b) City Planning - Hilary Brindley had provided a comprehensive report for the annual report.

- c) Thoroton Response Group - Barbara reported that a letter had been sent to Broxtowe Borough Council concerning the proposals to demolish Beeston Town Hall, a plan which had caused much consternation in the town. A further issue of concern was the intended sale of Laxton by the Crown Estates Commission. Consideration is being given how to best ensure the future of this village's unique farming system and both universities were involved in the planning. John Beckett would brief Barbara when discussions reached a point at which Thoroton should make some representation. An inspectorate hearing on the future of the remains of the Robin Hood Hotel in Newark had been set for May. A Heritage Lottery Fund grant had been made towards work at Clipstone Headstocks.
- d) Thoroton Research Group - John Wilson was not in attendance - dates were in the programme.
- e) Nottinghamshire Local History Association - Judith Mills, now Thoroton's representative on the NLHA committee, reported that there had been a number of changes on the committee and a reallocation of responsibilities. Alison Hurst was to take over editorship of the Notts Historian and organising day schools. The AGM and Day School was to be held on 24th March with the title "1918 Legacy": Rob would take some Thoroton publications for sale.
- f) Nottingham Heritage Strategy - Richard Gaunt's report informed Council that a Nottinghamshire Heritage Partnership Forum was to be held on 24th March. He also confirmed that Nottingham Castle was due to close on 2nd April and to reopen in two years' time.
- g) Nottingham Civic Society - no report due to there being no January meeting.
- h) Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust - Alan Wahlers had submitted a report for the Annual Report. The map case which was found to be the property of Thoroton Society had been restored by Mr Wahlers and was now located in the Thoroton Room at Bromley House.

11 MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Council was reminded that the Viking Exhibition at Lakeside was still open.

12 DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2018/19 AND AGM in 2019

- a) 18th May and 19th October 2018, 15th February 2019
- b) Spring meeting and AGM 2019 - April 27th - to be confirmed