

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THOROTON COUNCIL HELD AT LENTON GROVE, UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM, ON FRIDAY, 13th FEBRUARY 2009, from 5pm to 6.45pm

PRESENT

D Bagley	J Beckett	B Cast	K Brand	L Cram	D Crook
T Foulds	H Fisher	J Hamilton	A Henstock	A Hope	D Johnston
P Jones	P Messenger	P Reddish	P Smith	M Trueman	J Wilson

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from K Challis, R Gaunt, D Hoskins and A Langton.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 17th October 2008, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

4 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Professor Beckett reported on the following matters:-

- a) Local History Education and Research in Nottinghamshire - in view of concern regarding the demise of local history education in the county a meeting had been held at Bromley House in January to discuss the issue. As well as Thoroton, there were representatives from the NLHA and the WEA. Sue Clayton, one of the few accredited teachers for adult learning also attended. The two society representatives proposed that, subject to their organisations' agreement, a study be jointly funded to be undertaken by Mrs Clayton on the current situation and setting out possible ways forward, to be produced by September 2009. IT WAS AGREED that the sum of £1000 be allocated for this study, subject to the NLHA contributing a further £1000.
- b) Thoroton display boards - Penny Messenger and Margaret Trueman agreed to take responsibility for the display boards and prepare them for the History Fair in Bramcote in September. A budget of up to £500 was AGREED for this project. Penny and Margaret would report back to the next meeting on progress.
- c) Bernard Beilby - following the death of his wife, Joyce, Bernard was now a resident in a retirement home at Hucknall due to his increasing mobility impairment. He was offering his Transactions to the Society and Penny and

Margaret would look into this.

- d) Honorary Programme Secretary - Leslie wished to retire from this position as soon as a replacement could be found. He had compiled a clear set of what the role entailed which would assist the new HPS. A note would be put in the Newsletter and it would be mentioned at the AGM.

5 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- a) Proceedings of the November committee meeting - these had been circulated.
- b) Transactions - the 2008 volume was at the printers.
- c) Record series - the Gedling Town Book was undergoing its final editing and an event to mark its publication would be held in Gedling church. It was proposed to proceed with the publication of the Estate Maps of William Senior as soon as possible, with the Welbeck and Chatsworth maps in DVD format and a separate volume on the Welbeck atlas to replace the missing survey.
- d) Bibliography - IT WAS AGREED that Andy Nicholson be requested to create a searchable PDF rather than any other form of digitisation, which had proved elusive. The bibliography could then be updated and then on a continuous basis.

6 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Annual Report - this had been circulated and WAS AGREED for circulation, subject to a few minor amendments.
- b) AGM - 25th April at Woodborough
 - i) Nominations for officers and to Council - the three retiring Council members, John Beckett, Howard Fisher and Ann Hope, had agreed to stand again. The Vice-Presidents would also stand again. IT WAS AGREED that the Newsletter Editor should also be one of the officer roles which would be formally approved by the members.
 - ii) All was in hand for the AGM. Rather than a guided tour of Woodborough, the printed trail guide would be available for those who wished to tour Woodborough after visiting the church.
- c) Luncheon 7th November 2009 - this was to be held on the Princess Endeavour. It was noted that it had been incorrectly stated on the programme that 7th November was a Sunday and this would be drawn to members' attention.
- d) Correspondence - a number of items were circulated around the table.
- e) Nottingham museums - concerns over the future of museums in the city and the county were discussed. Currently threatened with closure were the Industrial Museum and the DH Lawrence Museum at Eastwood. The IM would be the third museum in Nottingham to close, reflecting the poor attitude of the City Council to its history. As a core city its outlook should reflect that of its cohort, for example, Leeds was celebrating the opening of a new museum at this time. Concerns were also expressed regarding the Brewhouse Yard Museum and the

general lack of funding for museum and related work. IT WAS AGREED that the Response Group send a letter to the City Council expressing the Society's concerns.

- f) Southwell Roman site - the findings at Southwell and their future were discussed.

7 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

- a) Annual accounts - John Wilson went through the accounts, which had been circulated. He noted that the finances were healthy; there had been an increase in the sale of publications through the Archives Office, an increase in reserves and gift aid. There were also gains in membership but a loss of some institutional members. The accounts were AGREED for circulation to members.
- b) Subscriptions - no increase in subscriptions was to be recommended.

8 HONORARY PROGRAMME SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Progress report - the programme for 2010 was almost finalised and would be put on the website when complete. Leslie Cram was thanked for an excellent programme and Council was encouraged to make suggestions for future years.
- b) Neil Cossons lecture - this was to be given the next day and had received prior coverage in the Evening Post.

9 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Membership - the new members were formally approved. John was thanked for his work on the membership campaign.
- b) Subscriptions - There were a number of members yet to pay this year.

10 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- a) Archaeology - Keith Challis was not present but his report for the Annual Report had been noted.
- b) City Planning - Ken Brand added to his report in the Annual Report including that the appeal relating to 20 Park Row had been dismissed, those who had objected to the Odeon application were still outraged by the decision to grant, plans were in the pipeline for the Forest. Ken also reported that the Notts Industrial Archaeology Society was to be wound up.
- c) County and CBA Planning - Howard Fisher added to his report in the Annual Report including mega-developments at Clifton and in Rushcliffe, the implications of the widening of the A46 on sites along that route and the ongoing consideration of Newton as an eco-town.
- d) East Midlands CBA - Ann Hope reported on activities, including a number of walking excursions and theme days. She undertook to alert the Society to events of interest.

- e) Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust - Howard Fisher attended the AGM: nothing of note to report.
- f) Nottinghamshire Local History Association - Philip Jones reported on the forthcoming day school. The association was hoping to develop its relationships with other similar organisations. It was also planning to make grants or loans available to local history societies for such things as publication and a prize for schools.
- g) Response Group - a further letter had been sent re the Odeon site.

11 DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2009-2010 AND AGM IN 2010

- a) May 29th and 16th October 2009, 12th February 2010
- b) AGM - 24th April 2010 at Bingham