

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THOROTON COUNCIL HELD AT LENTON GROVE, UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM, ON FRIDAY, 10th FEBRUARY 2012, from 5pm to 6.40pm

PRESENT

J Beckett	K Brand	B Cast	D Crook	H Fisher	T Foulds
A Henstock	D Hoskins	P Jones	A Langton	P Messenger	
P Miller	J Mills	P Reddish	P Smith	M Trueman	J Wilson

Judith Mills was welcomed to her first meeting. Judith was to take on the role of Membership Secretary.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from D Bagley, M Bennett, R Gaunt, A Hope and D Johnston.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21st October 2011, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3 MATTERS ARISING

4c: the Chairman reported that the trips to the National Archives at Kew had been discontinued due to the low take-up and resulting cost to the Society: however they may be reconsidered at a future date.

4 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

This item was taken at this point due to the Hon Treasurer needing to leave early.

- a) Annual accounts - John Wilson explained that, due to the new accounting system, there was a different format for the accounts. Although there had been a slight loss on the excursions overall, the financial situation was healthy. The accounts were approved for submission to the AGM. John and his daughter Victoria were thanked for their preparation of the accounts and Peter Bloomfield for examining them.
- b) Membership - ten new members were approved. John reported that all these new members had joined through the website: in view of this it was decided that consideration would be given to reprinting the flier. There were now 200 members paying by Direct Debit and this method was being increasingly used.

5 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Professor Beckett reported on the following matters:-

- a) Constitution - the Standing Committee were proposing a number of small changes to the constitution. After explanation and consideration, the amended constitution was approved for submission to the AGM for members' approval.
- b) Youth Heritage Conference - being organised by the Archives and with financial support from the NLHA. It was considered that the Society should be involved in such initiatives but it had not been informed prior to arrangements being completed.
- c) NLHA - Derek Walker was stepping down as Chairman and John Parker was taking on the role. Attempts would continue to create closer ties with NLHA and it was proposed to undertake a joint project with them to mark the 1914-18 War.
- d) Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives - this was being launched on 24th March as a newly created independent support group for the Archives. Richard Gaunt was to be the Chair and there would be a series of events to attract members and raise funds for the Archives. Its funds would be separately administered and would not be available to offset any council funding cuts. There would be a flier in the next mailing explaining the Friends role.

6 VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY

A report on the future of the VCH had been circulated, proposing that it be set up as a section of the Society. This was agreed.

7 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- a) Proceedings of the December committee meeting - the circulated minutes were noted.
- b) Transactions - in the absence of the History Editor, his note was read out giving information on the progress of the current edition of Transactions. The archaeology section was now in place and all should be ready for printing in time for the Spring Meeting and AGM in April.
- c) Record series - Adrian Henstock said that there was good progress on the Estate Maps of William Senior and it was anticipated that it would be ready for publication this year. The Archdeacon Drummond volume was also likely to be ready this year. Other volumes were as reported in the Publications Committee minutes.
- d) Printer - Adrian had discovered that Derbyshire Archaeological Journal was printed by Browns of Glaisdale Road; their terms were to be sought to see if it was possible to use this local printer for the Society's publications.
- e) Newsletter - Howard Fisher reported that the current edition was at the printers. There had been a few problems with the printers and this would be monitored.
- f) The Newstead volume - Pete Smith said that, due to the high cost of having all

the material typed up, alternative means were being looked at such as scanning. However good progress was being made. The inventory would be an appendix. The presentation of the whole volume will have to be considered; it may have a similar format to the Abigail Gawthern volume.

8 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Annual Report - this had been included with the Council papers and was approved for circulation to members in its final form.
- b) Spring Meeting and AGM - 28th April at Oxtou
Nominations for a Vice-President, officers and to Council - there were no nominations for further Vice-Presidents. Judith Mills was to be nominated as Honorary Membership Secretary and Martyn Bennett would be presented as the Council's nomination for Editor of the Transactions (History), having undertaken the role during the preparation of the current volume. Of the three retiring Council members, John Beckett, Ann Hope and Pauline Miller, John and Pauline had agreed to stand again. Tribute was made to Ann's long-standing membership of Council. Further nominations, subject to their agreement, would be Andy Nicholson and Ceril Little. Documentation for the AGM would be sent out at the end of March.
- c) Luncheon 3rd November 2012 - this was to be held at the Olde Bell, Barnby Moor. Rebecca Speight of the National Trust had accepted the invitation to attend: she would speak on Octavia Hill. In 2013 the lunch would be held at Kelham Hall and the Managing Director of Phillimore would attend.
- d) Correspondence - a number of items were circulated, including the Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan consultation.

9 HONORARY PROGRAMME SECRETARIES' REPORT

- a) Excursions - the programme for 2012 was in place and the preparation for 2013 well underway.
- b) Lectures - the 2012 programme would commence the next day and planning for 2013 was underway with some still to be confirmed.
- c) Prestige lecture - this was in the planning stage, with Michael Wood agreeing to be the speaker.

10 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Hon Treasure had given this report at 4 above.

11 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- a) Archaeology - Keith Challis was not in attendance. The Chairman informed Council that Trent and Peak Archaeology had left the University campus, now being part of York Archaeological Trust, and was located in a former warehouse

in Chilwell which gave them much more space.

- b) City Planning - Ken Brand added to his section in the annual report by saying that more definite information about the plans for Broad Marsh and the implications for enlarging the caves tourist attraction were awaited. Of concern was the disposal of a number of former City Council properties and the condition of some of these buildings whilst they awaited future use. Newstead Abbey continued to be a concern and it was noted that the Brewhouse Museum was also facing changes in its offer and accessibility.
- c) County and CBA Planning - Howard Fisher had nothing further to report but hoped that this would be his last report in this role.
- d) East Midlands CBA - Ann Hope was not in attendance.
- e) Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust - Barbara Cast reported that the Trust had been involved in attempts to retain two 17th houses within the former Robin Hood Hotel in Newark. The Thoroton dovecote restoration was now complete.
- f) Nottinghamshire Local History Association - Philip Jones reported on the forthcoming day school.
- g) Response Group - Barbara reported that comments had again been sent on the Roman site at Southwell, and on the Society's concerns regarding Newstead Abbey. Bassetlaw DC was still active in preparing conservation area appraisals etc, and had just submitted a CA appraisal for Retford.

12 DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2012/13 AND AGM in 2013

- a) May 25th and 19th October 2012, 22nd February 2013
- b) Spring Meeting and AGM 2013 - April 27th