

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THOROTON COUNCIL HELD AT LENTON GROVE, UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM, ON FRIDAY, 24th MAY 2013, from 5pm to 6.30pm

PRESENT

J Beckett	B Cast	D Crook	H Fisher	T Foulds	R Gaunt
A Henstock	D Hoskins	P Jones	A Langton	C Little	P Messenger
P Miller	J Mills	A Nicholson	P Reddish	M Trueman	J Wilson

1 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

- a) Chair - Professor John Beckett.
- b) Vice-Chair - none appointed: should the Chair not be present, the Hon Sec would chair.
- c) Co-options - there were none - currently there were 13 members out of a possible 15 - it was hoped that a place would be taken by the University Keeper of Manuscripts and Collections once appointed.
- d) The Chair would write to Sir Neil Cossons welcoming him on his election as one of our Vice-Presidents.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from David Bagley, Martyn Bennett, Ken Brand, Keith Challis and David Knight.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 23rd February 2013, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4 MATTERS ARISING

- a) From the minutes -
 - i) Further to minute 8b, Ceril Little reported on the meeting held under the auspices of the World Monument Fund at Newstead Abbey, intended to discuss how this building and its historic setting could be best supported. It was considered that, at present, the outcome of this was inconclusive. A letter would be sent to the WMF to ascertain future plans and to inform them of the Society's interest and concern about the future of the Abbey.
 - ii) Further to minute 9b, Andy Nicholson and Judith Mills were thanked for putting together the members' email list.
- b) From the Spring Meeting and AGM - Philip Jones, and Michael Riley, were thanked for helping to make the meeting such a success and an interesting afternoon.

5 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2013-14

- a) Standing Committee - this comprises officers of Council and any other as deemed

necessary: appointed were John Beckett, Barbara Cast, David Bagley, Howard Fisher, David Hoskins, Alan Langton, Judith Mills and John Wilson

- b) Publications Committee - as agreed at the last meeting of the committee
- c) Archaeology Representative - David Knight
- d) City Planning - Ken Brand
- e) Thoroton Response Group, to include County and CBA planning - Barbara Cast, Ken Brand, David Crook, Howard Fisher, Peter Smith
- f) Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust - Ceril Little
- g) Nottinghamshire Local History Association - Philip Jones to step down at the annual meeting in June when it is intended that Richard Gaunt would take over

6 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Professor Beckett reported on the following matters:-

- a) Timing of lectures - because of an event which followed lectures at the Mechanics Institute, it was proposed to bring forward the timing of Saturday lectures. It was agreed, subject to confirmation by John Wilson with the Mechanics Institute, that from January 2014 timings would be 2pm for a 2.30pm start. As much notification of the change as possible would be made, using announcements at lecture meetings and the newsletter.
- b) Bromley House volumes - the Chair had now been informed that the Throsby and Thoroton volumes did not belong to the Society as we had been informed and, therefore, no further action would be taken. They were found to be part of a collection given to Bromley House Library by Neville Hoskins.
- c) Sir Andrew Buchanan - the Chair had written to Sir Andrew inviting him to become an Honorary Member of the Society.

7 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- a) Transactions - this was received in good time for the AGM. There were already articles in preparation for Transactions 2013, including substantive items from David Crook and Trevor Foulds.
- b) Record series - about thirty people, including the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham, attended the launch of the volume on Archbishop Drummond's 1764 visitation. Howard Fisher was congratulated on the volume and Adrian was also thanked for his invaluable assistance. Ten further volumes were sold on that day. The images for the Senior map volume had been greatly enhanced by Andrew Nicholson's work, the catalogue was nearly complete but the introduction was still being revised. The Abigail Gawthern volume would not be ready yet but the Newstead Abbey volume was progressing.
- c) Newsletter - Howard had made a few layout changes in the latest edition. Again it was a good edition, full of information.
- d) Bibliography - Andy Nicholson explained that the current work was mainly in adding items from various sources and that it was progressing well. At present

there were 11,100 entries, as compared to 8,700 in the Brook volume.

8 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair - this had been held the previous week and those who had represented Thoroton considered it to have been a worthwhile event. It was understood that it would be held every other year and the next one would probably be in Nottingham. It was agreed that we would attend again.
- b) Luncheon 2013 - this was to be held at Kelham Hall on 2nd November.
- c) AGM and Spring Meeting 2014 - the Thomas Cranmer Centre at Aslockton was to be the venue on 26th April. The usual pattern of speaker and tour would be followed: the Chair had a possible speaker which he would follow up.

9 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

John Wilson circulated a comprehensive account sheet which he took members through. All was in order.

10 HONORARY PROGRAMME SECRETARIES' REPORTS

- a) Lectures - next year's programme was nearly complete, with one more lecture to secure.
 - Appointment of Chairs of lectures - 12th October - Barbara Cast: 9th November - David Hoskins would ask Martyn Bennett: 14th December - David Hoskins.
 - Bookstall - Philip Jones asked if he could have assistance in getting the books from the storage room on the upper floor in time for lectures: John Wilson volunteered. The other issues were the lack of new books to sell and also the large back-stocks in the Archives stores. It was decided that the best solution to both would be to bring some of the volumes to the bookstall where they could be sold at reduced prices. The Archives might also wish to reduce some of the prices for their sales. A small group would meet to plan how this would be achieved - to consist of Margaret Trueman, John Wilson, Penny Messenger, Philip Jones and Adrian Henstock. Jean Stanbridge of the Archives would also be invited. It was agreed to have small bookstalls at other events such as the NLHA day-schools.
- b) Excursions - the first excursion of the year had been very successful and the rest were booking fast. The Welbeck tours were already booked up and there was a waiting list for possible further visits. Next year's excursions were in preparation.
- c) Michael Wood Lecture - this lecture was to be held in Newark Town Hall on 18th July and 152 had booked for it, almost capacity. John Beckett would chair.

11 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Judith Mills circulated a list of new members and resignations. There were 8 new full members, 8 associates, 2 ordinary members and one ordinary record series. However, 25 people had not yet renewed their subscriptions so there might be a drop in

membership numbers.

12 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- a) Archaeology - David Knight was not present but his section in the annual report had been comprehensive. Howard reported on the Geo-Archaeology of the Trent Valley conference held at the British Geological Survey which had been very interesting, albeit some of it rather technical. David Knight had launched a new county review compiled by himself and Ursilla Spence on the aggregate industry and archaeology. This was one of a series produced by various counties. It can be downloaded from the Trent and Peak website.
- b) City Planning - Ken Brand had circulated a report on planning matters in the city. Of particular note was the future of the Shakespeare Street HQs of the police and fire service, both interesting 40s buildings which, it has been suggested, the City Council would like to see demolished to allow for a complete redevelopment of the site. The Chair confirmed that the bid for HLF funding for the Castle and its grounds had been turned down but it was understood that a revised application would probably be favourably received.
- c) Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust - Ceril Little reported that an successful recent restoration was the Prince Rupert public house in Newark. She intended to bring the situation at Newstead Abbey to NBPT's attention at the next meeting.
- d) Nottinghamshire Local History Association - Philip Jones reported that the day-school had had to be postponed due to the weather and would now be held in October. The AGM was also postponed and would take place on 8th June.
- e) Response Group - representations had been made to the County Council regarding the greatly decreased archaeology section which the new council was urged to address: also a further letter on the Southwell Roman and Anglo-Saxon site: building was now underway at the site. It was understood that the new County Council portfolio holder for culture had an interest in the subject.
- f) Research Group - it was decided to ask for a regular report on this group in future.

13 DATES OF REMAINING COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2013/14

25th October 2013, 21st February, 23rd May and 24th October 2014

14 OTHER MATTERS

The Bromley House Library catalogue was now online and would be officially launched on 20th June.