

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THOROTON COUNCIL HELD AT LENTON
GROVE, UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM, ON FRIDAY, 19th OCTOBER
2012, from 5pm to 6.55pm

PRESENT

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

Members were informed that Dorothy Johnston was retiring from the University Library but would continue as a member of Council until she moved to Oxford sometime in the future.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from K Challis, R Gaunt, Dorothy Johnston, David Knight and Judith Mills.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25th May 2012, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Hon Treasurer reported that payments for 22 subscriptions had now been received through the SWETS system.

4 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Professor Beckett reported on the following matters:-

- a) Lapel badges: possible member item - details of a lapel badge had been obtained with a view to purchasing some for members to buy. It was agreed that the minimum practical number be purchased to see if they were popular with members.
- b) Proposals for further vice-president and/or honorary member - the Chair explained the thinking behind these proposals and the distinction between the two roles, the former being awarded to a member who had given long service and/or been outstanding in the field, the latter to someone who, through for example their distinguished public service, would "add lustre" to the Society. He then said that the Standing Committee was proposing that sir Neil Cossons be invited to be a vice-president and Sir Andrew Buchanan an honorary member. This was agreed. The question of whether they would receive the usual benefits

of membership would be checked. Members queried the status of Vice-President Robin Minnitt and whether he was still active in the historic field.

- c) Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair 19th May 2013 - the invitation to participate in this had been accepted. New display materials were being sought which were easier to transport. Council members were asked to put the date in their diaries and be prepared to help if at all possible. Further details would be discussed at February's meeting.
- d) Proposed new members of Council and of Publications Committee - John Beckett said that David Knight of Trent and Peak Archaeology had accepted the invitation to take a place on Council and would be reporting on archaeology: Lee Elliott would take a place on the Publications Committee. Council agreed to Dr Knight's cooption.

5 PUBLICATIONS REPORT

- a) Transactions - Martyn Bennett had circulated a report on progress. He drew attention to the shortage of articles which were needed by 20th December: a number of members around the table indicated that they might have articles to submit. His report contained information on the Finch report which had implications for the Transactions in that it appeared that articles based on publically funded research might have to be published in "open access" journals. Further information was awaited and it would be discussed by the Publications Committee.
- b) Record Series - Adrian Henstock reported that the Drummond Visitation volume was with the printers. It was estimated to cost £3100 but, after some additions, it was likely to be a little higher. It was hoped it would be completed soon after Christmas. The British Library had given permission, without charge, to include fifteen of Grimm's drawings of Nottinghamshire churches. The Senior volume was still ongoing, but nearer completion. Stef Mastoris was still engaged in a great deal of intensive research. Dr L Butler has offered to prepare a Notts volume on Sir Stephen Glynne's church notes which was a welcome addition. It was confirmed that Dr Coope's Newstead compilation volume would be part of the Record Series and would probably be completed by March 2013. The Grimm drawings of Newstead, also in the British Library, would be a useful enhancement. Adrian and Pete Smith would liaise on the volume.
- c) Newsletter - Howard Fisher reported that the next edition would probably not be as long as the last. The deadline was 1st November.
- d) Bibliography - Andy Nicholson reported progress on the Notts Bibliography Online and asked Council to test the prototype on the Notts History site at <http://www.nottshistory.org.uk/nottsbibliography.php>. He asked members to let him know of omissions etc., including publications by local history societies. The

launch of the bibliography was likely to be at Bromley House in the spring.

- e) Date of next Publications Committee meeting - to be held on 30th November at 5pm at Nottingham Trent University.

6 EAST MIDLANDS HERITAGE CONFERENCE

Howard Fisher and Barbara Cast reported on this excellent conference, held at the Roundhouse, Derby, which in itself was well worth visiting. David Knight was to be congratulated on the day. The report, which had been circulated to Council, would be edited for inclusion in the newsletter.

7 HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Luncheon 2012 - 3rd November at Ye Olde Bell, Barnby Moor. 75 people were to attend and Rebecca Speight, National Trust Director for the Midlands would be our guest and would speak on Octavia Hill. Next year it was to be held at Kelham Hall.
- b) Spring Meeting and AGM - this was to be held at Ravenshead on 27th April 2013.
- c) Correspondence - a small number of items were circulated around the table including the Notts Historian.
- d) The Constitution - the amendments approved at the AGM had been accepted by the Charity Commission. This would be reported at the next AGM.

8 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

The accounts had been circulated by the Treasurer who reported that some payments had been made and further invoices were to pay since it was drawn up.

9 HONORARY PROGRAMME SECRETARIES' REPORT

- a) Excursions and Lectures - David Hoskins had circulated the draft programme for 2013 which he and Alan Langton had drawn up. Pete Smith commented that the symposium proposed to mark the 400th anniversary of Robert Smythson's death may not be viable as there seemed to be little new research on him. The Society of Architectural Historians was organising tours of his buildings and some lectures and these may be available to our members.
- b) Appointment of Chairs of Lectures - January to March - the November lecture will now be chaired by Pete Smith rather than John Beckett. The following Chairs for 2013 were agreed:- January - Alan Langton; February - Penny Messenger; March - John Beckett.

10 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

- a) Membership - Judith Mills had circulated a report - there had been several new members since the last meeting and John Wilson confirmed that most renewals were completed.

- b) Society leaflet - this was now at the printers.
- c) Member contact - it was intended to draw up an email circulation list of members. A unique email address for members was now on the website.

11 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- a) Archaeology - David Knight had sent a comprehensive and most interesting report on recent archaeology in the county which included that investigated during the A46 road improvements. Some of the report would be included in the Newsletter.
- b) City Planning - Ken Brand reported on a number of matters: especially of note were the loss of the Trent Lane Depot; the competition to revamp Trinity Square; proposals at Talbot House, an important period building; developments at the Forest. There was increasing concern re the care and maintenance of the Council House now that the City Council had located most of its internal business elsewhere. John Beckett updated Council on the work of the Castle Working Group which included the aim of attracting patrons for the development.
- c) Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust - projects continued, including the campaign re the Robin Hood site in Newark. Ceril Little would shortly take over from Barbara as representative.
- d) Nottinghamshire Local History Association - Philip Jones reported on the day school to take place on October 20th. The proposals for a joint day school on the Great War in 2014 were also mentioned. Grants were now being made available to local history groups for publication.
- e) Thoroton Response Group - the Blyth Conservation Area appraisal had been commented on and welcomed. Representations had been made to Nottinghamshire MPs on lead and metal theft legislation and on the Trent Lane Depot. Comments had been made on the HMRC consultation on VAT and listed buildings. Support had been offered to the campaign to save the Manor House at Bingham.

12 DATES OF FIRST COUNCIL MEETING AND AGM IN 2013

- a) 22nd February 2013
- b) Spring Meeting and AGM 2013 - 27th April - venue Ravenshead