

Worthing Archaeological Society

Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd August 2022 in St Botolph's Church Rooms, Heene

Present: Mr Keith Bolton (Chairman), Mrs Gill Turner, Mrs Liz Lane, Mr Nigel Rumble, Mrs Patricia Leming, Mrs Theresa Griffiths, Mrs Jennie Williamson, Mrs Vicky Lillywhite, Mrs Donna Wiltshire, Ms Amie Friend and Mrs C Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Connie Shirley, Dr Jacqueline Lake and Mr Brendan Wyatt.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Were accepted.
3. **Matters Arising:** Under Finance, at the end of the paragraph, Mrs Patricia Leming will do a review of other banks and charges instead of applying to other network banks to avoid charges by HSBC.
4. **Field Unit Update:**
 - a) **EPIC:** The Committee showed its appreciation of all the effort and research Mrs Connie Shirley has undertaken for the production of the EPIC report which has been very well received by the archaeological community. It was agreed to remove the EPIC paragraph from the next Agenda.
 - b) **Malthouse:** Mrs Lillywhite advised that Mrs Shirley is planning 3 trenches, one over the possible WW2 air raid shelter, another over the empty linear feature possibly from WW1, and the third to pick up the wall shown up last year. More geophysics is also planned, if time allows, and possibly some test pits. On the south side of the road, the areas of resistance picked up by Dave Staveley (possible posts for the County Show sign) will also be looked at. It was agreed that fieldwork will continue on Fridays after the end of the dig until it is no longer feasible. Geophysical surveying will be on 5th and 12th August. Ms Friend has agreed to direct fieldwork on 21st August.
 - c) **Slindon**
 - (i) Finds: It was agreed to remove this item from the next meeting's Agenda
 - (ii) Stableyard: Mr Bolton is working on the report of the trench. It was agreed we should send a copy of the report to Mr John Green when completed. **Action: KB/CH**
 - (iii) Mr Bolton advised that there is no further news on either Warren Barn field or Queens Field.
 - d) **Rampion 2:** It was agreed to remove this item from the next meeting's Agenda.
 - e) **Climping:** Mr Bolton advised that activity will be postponed until the autumn. He will check with the Environment Agency whether they routinely monitor the beach. Mr Bolton will also contact Luke Barber to discuss a day school. **Action: KB**
 - g) **The National Trust Changing Chalk Project:** Mr Bolton attended a programme of activities. This is planned as a 4-year programme and consists of 18 collaborative and interconnected projects under one of 3 themes:
 - (a) restoring Chalkland biodiversity, (b) connecting Downs and Towns, and (c) Hearts and Histories of the Downs.The western boundary of the programme is the River Adur. The archaeological element consists of a small dig undertaken at Butts Brow, Eastbourne (Neolithic Causewayed enclosure), and a "Big Dig" in Eastbourne is planned for 2023 with the aspiration that other communities will be inspired to undertake a similar exercise in 2024-25. Existing data is being used to identify new monuments in the landscape and there will be opportunities for individuals to take part in ground-truthing exercises. There will be roles for individuals but Mr Bolton thinks it unclear what role a society such as ours would have.
 - h) **Blacksmith's Corner:** It was agreed that Mrs Gill Turner should contact Mr Brannlund on a suitable occasion. **Action: GT**

- j) **Measured Survey at Steyning:** It was agreed to remove this time from the next meeting's Agenda.
- k) **Brinsbury:** Mrs Turner will check finds for accession, probably a winter activity.
- l) **Bignor:** Mr Bolton will send out an email listing activities. There will be one further weekend for digging and the final weekend will be for recording. On 18th August it is planned to collect equipment from Bignor and move it to Sompting. Ms Friend will ask her father whether he can help with removing the tent and will let M Chris Lane know. **Action: KB/AF**
5. **Finance:** Mrs Leming has circulated the current accounts before this meeting and she took the meeting through the figures. She advised that under Income the Society raised the excellent sum of £1,100 from the sale of Mr Peter Skilton's equipment. Membership subscriptions are increasing, and a £100 from Lancing College has boosted donations. Day Schools have covered expenditure. Expenditure includes printing and stationery, the new item of fees for hire of room for Committee Meetings as well as College room hire for lectures, insurance, etc. Mrs Leming has conducted a review of banking facilities and recommends that we keep our present arrangement with HSBC and periodically review it. The Committee agreed. **Action: PL**
6. **Membership:** Mrs Lane advised that we have 107 paid members, 17 life and 18 honorary members, making an increased total of 142.
7. **Newsletter:** The last Newsletter has just been circulated and Mrs Lane was congratulated on its new look which is down to Alan Beazley, to whom many thanks.
Journal: Mrs Hutchins advised that a list of new articles is being compiled.
8. **Website:** Mrs Griffiths advised that the website has been updated. There are now photos of the Bignor dig as well as up-to-date information. The number of visitors to the website increased over the Bignor period.
9. **Study Days:**
10. Wednesday 12th October - Dr Ben Jervis, Mrs Turner and Mr Bolton will be evaluating the kilns excavations by Con Ainsworth in the 1960s and WAS' 2005 tile kiln excavation at Binsted.
19th November 2022 - David Rudling on Roman Funerary Practices – details later
These days will be in the Education Room of Worthing Museum.
Mr Bolton and Mrs Turner on practices and procedures in fieldwork – unpicking how to run an excavation some time in December and possibly at Slindon's new office base – tba – followed by fieldwork.
Mrs Shirley will give an introduction to Geophysics on a half-day on 22nd October (paid event) at Worthing Museum, followed by on site exercises in the New Year at Slindon on the resistivity meter and software, the total station and software, and using the magnetometer. Details tba.
11. **Lectures:** Mrs Griffiths advised that all the lectures dates for 2022 are filled and 2023 dates will also be filled shortly. Mrs Leming advised that parking at the College will be arranged differently but details are as yet unknown. **Action: TG/PL**
12. **Training:** It was agreed that this will be an item on the next meeting's Agenda.
13. **GDPR:** Mrs Donna Wiltshire has brought our position up-to-date and will send it to Mr Keith Bolton. **Action: DW**
14. **Trustees:** Mrs Leming has to supply additional information and it was agreed this is in order. **Action: PL**
15. **Any Other Business:** None
16. **Date of Next Meeting will** be on Tuesday 25th October 2022 at 7.00-9.00pm at St Botolph's Church Rooms.