

Worthing Archaeological Society

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 35 First Avenue, Worthing on Tuesday 28th July 2015

Present: Mr Keith Bolton (Chair), Mr John Green, Mrs Connie Shirley, Mrs Gill Turner, Mrs Jacqui Lake, Mrs Margaret Maroney, Mrs Liz Lane, Mr Andrew Bell, Ms Amie Friend and Mrs C Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Josephine Thornton, Mr Roy Plummer, Mr John Mills and Mr Ian Robertson
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Were accepted.
3. **Matters Arising** Under 4(e) David Rudling's garage "Mrs Lane" should read "Mrs Lake".

4. **Future of WAS Excavations**

It was agreed that the St Nicholas dig in Angmering had been very successful which was due to the hard work of the site directors, Mr Brannlund and Ms Friend, and liaison with the parish through Mrs Green. There was a discussion on how WAS should conduct future digs.

Mrs Turner would like to stand down as finds officer in the field as she needs to concentrate on the backlog. In future it was agreed that depending on the site no finds from the topsoil should be kept; this should be decided at the project design stage and can be adjusted later, if necessary.

Ms Friend suggested liaison with sixth form colleges in order to recruit young members.

A changed role was seen for Mr Brannlund, if he is agreeable.

Mrs Shirley advised that Mr Tristram has a number of projects on his land.

Mr Bolton will find out if there are any possibilities at Fontwell for WAS in the future.

Action: KB

Ms Friend suggested asking Mr Robertson to act as mentor in passing on his excellent skills in planning.

5. **Field Unit Forum** - It was agreed that Field Unit Forums will be reinstated with the inclusion of Ms Friend.

6. **Field Unit Update**

a) **Slindon**

- i. Mr Bolton has spoken with Mr Dommett regarding geophysics work on Field 20 over the villa and the barrow cemetery sites together with 5 evaluation trenches.
- ii. Geophysics will also take place over the barrow previously fieldwalked in Field 21.
- iii. Mr Bolton will contact Mr Wardle re clearing of the Downs Barn yard now the birds have left.

Action: KB

- b) **Angmering** - A meeting will take place shortly to discuss the write-up. A community information sharing evening is being co-ordinated by Ms Friend for October.

c) **The Friday Group (formerly Lambleys Lane Limekiln)**

- i. Mrs Shirley has given Messrs Nutshell, the builders at Lambley Lane, a specification for consolidating the limekiln. The final measurements and drawings will be completed this Friday.
- ii. There will be a geophysics survey on Murrells Field in Barnham starting on 21st/22nd August. This is next to that excavated in 2014 by Archaeology Southeast where Roman ditches were found.
- iii. Mr Tristram would like a geophysics survey of a field opposite Nutshell where there is a possible Roman road.

- d) **Research Group** – Nothing to report.

- e) **Binstead Pottery** Mrs Lake advised there are ca 14,000 pottery sherds at Worthing Museum to be evaluated. She estimates a report would cost £4000-5000 and raising this sum would be difficult. Mrs Turner will send an email to Luke Barber asking for advice. **Action: GT**
- f) **Saxon Burial ground at Sompting** Mr Green has been contacted by Mr Brian Drury about this Adur-owned site. It was agreed that excavation of such a site was beyond WAS' capability but that we could offer help if a dig takes place. Mr Green will respond. **Action: JG**
- g) Mr Bolton is to attend a Lidar Committee Meeting this Friday. **Action: KB**
- h) **Walberton** – Mrs Turner asked whether it would be possible to reinter the remains of the baby burial on Mr Wishart's land. This was placed on hold.
7. **Finance** Mrs Shirley circulated the latest accounts. Day schools have raised money. The trustee insurance has been paid and all Committee members must be registered on the Charity Commission website. It was agreed that bank accounts would be consolidated into 2 accounts, 1 current and 1 savings.
- 6 **Membership** Current membership is 137 including 96 paid, 26 life and 15 honorary members. Eight Angmering diggers paid £5 a dig, and 1 new member paid today, another's subscription is forthcoming.
7. **Secretary's report** Nothing to report
8. **Newsletter** Mrs Lane is formulating the Aug/Sept issue. Mr Hutchins to write a piece on the Binstead Strawberry Fair. **Action: LL**
Editor Mrs Hutchins is compiling a special World War 1 edition consisting of 5 articles by Mr Gunner. Any further articles on WW2 can be included in ordinary journals as and when they are produced. **Action: CH**
9. **Website** Ms Friend gave everyone a CD with pictures and commentary on the Angmering site which can be included on the website. **Action: JG**
10. **Planned events:**
- 6th September – Ms Friend has arranged a day at the Mary Rose for £12 pp. Mrs Lane will co-ordinate numbers and possible minibus **Action: LL**
 - 23rd August – Chanctonbury Limekiln walk **Action: CS**
 - 20th September – Petworth Park . Numbers to LL **Action: LL**
 - 25th October – Brenda's walk to Highdown. Mr Bolton to send notes to Mrs Hutchins **Action: KB**
 - 14th November – Bob & Gill Turner to do a day on flint recognition. **Action: GT/BT**
 - Miles Russell is invited for January, date and subject to be arranged. **tba**
 - 13th February 2016 David Bone on Historical Building Stones of West Sussex.
 - 5th March 2016 David McOmish on prehistoric landscapes.
 - There will also be a soil analysis day with Mike Allen next summer. **tba**
 - Autumn Social at the Gardners' Arms on 27th November to be arranged by Mrs Mahoney **Action: MM**
11. **Any Other Business** - none
12. **Date of Next Meeting** will be Tuesday 20th October 2015 at 180 Upper Brighton Road, Worthing. Mrs Lake was thanked for her hospitality.

Keith Bolton, Chair

29th July 2015