

Worthing Archaeological Society

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 5 Smugglers Walk, Goring on Tuesday 20th October 2015

Present: Mr Keith Bolton (Chair), Mrs Gill Turner, Mrs Jacqui Lake, Mrs Margaret Maroney, Mrs Liz Lane, Mr Andrew Bell, and Mrs C Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Mr John Green, Mrs Connie Shirley, Ms Amie Friend, Mrs Josephine Thornton, Mr Roy Plummer, Mr John Mills and Mr Ian Robertson
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Were accepted.
3. **Matters Arising**
 - a) the reinterment of the baby burial at Walberton is still on hold,
 - b) there is a problem at the bank in consolidating bank accounts which will be addressed.

Action: CS/LL

4. **& 5. Future of WAS Excavations and Field Unit Forum**

Mr Bolton and Mr Pete Brannlund have discussed this and although Mr Brannlund will no longer take part he made the following suggestions:

- a) There should be a long term project organised over 2/3 years. This could be through Mr Tristram at Sompting or Mr Wishart at Binsted.
- b) The first Saturday in the month project should be resurrected.
- c) Field Unit roles and responsibilities made more formal and the project/site director involved from the start.
- d) Field Unit members' annual meeting – arranged for February 2016.
- e) More members of Field Unit at Field Unit Forums to be involved, with roles.

The Committee would like to see Mr Brannlund remain involved, perhaps as mentor to Ms Friend.

5. **Field Unit Update**

- a) **Norfolk Estate** - It was agreed that a week-long excavation should take place at Goblestubbs at Easter 2016 with Mr Gordon Hayden and Ms Amie Field as site directors. It was suggested that Mr Robertson be approached for assistance and Mr Brannlund be appointed mentor. Mr Bell offered to help with supervision/report writing. Mr David McOmish and Mr Hayden will be responsible for access/permission and Mr Hayden will prepare a project design. **Action: GH**
- b) **Slindon** - Mr Domett will arrange a National Trust dig on Field 20 with WAS and other members from the Petworth digs invited.
- c) **Angmering** - Finds are being processed and a community meeting is being organised for 28th November at Angmering Village Hall **Action: AF**
- d) **The Friday Group (formerly Lambleys Lane Limekiln)**
 - i. Conservation work is being investigated at the Lime Kiln.
 - ii. The geophysics survey on Murrells Field in Barnham is completed and revealed remains of 20th century glasshouses and paths.
- e) **Research Group** – Nothing to report.
- f) **Binsted Pottery** : Collection is now all at the museum and catalogued. Mrs Lake estimates a report would cost ca £3000. Grants for small sums are only available to students. Mrs Turner will contact Mr Duncan Brown and ask whether he knows of a student who would undertake analysing the collection.

Action: GT

6. **Finance** Mrs Shirley has provided an up-to-date statement which was circulated.
7. **Membership** Current membership is 142 including 98 paid, 26 life and 18 honorary members. Mrs Jane Russell is now an Honorary Member
8. **Secretary's report** Mrs Maroney, Mr Bolton and Mrs Hutchins attended Mr Eric Anderson's funeral.
9. **Newsletter** - Nothing to report.
Journal - The special World War 1 edition is almost completed. Mrs Hutchins has received 4 articles for the 2015 annual edition
Action: CH
10. **Website** It was agreed that Ms Friend's report on St Nicholas' Churchyard should be put on the website.
Action: JG
11. **Planned events:**
25th October – Brenda's walk to Highdown.
31st October – Mr Green is leading a walk through Binsted woods.
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.
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 Maroney. It was agreed there will be no draw. Mrs Maroney will give up organising Socials from this year. **Action: MM**
Mrs Lake will take over organisation Day Schools from Mrs Turner from 2016. **Action: JL**
12. **Any Other Business**
i) Keys to Slindon shed should go to Mr Green and Ms Friend.
ii) Stephanie Smith has recommended WAS to the organiser of a Big Dig at Telscombe for advice on the planning at Walberton. Mr Green will contact. **Action: JG**
iii) Brinsbury College have asked for their finds back. They are at present with David Field awaiting completion of the report.
iv) Mrs Lane will write a letter to Worthing & Adur Planning Dept. Asking whether they have plans for employing someone to overview archaeological work in the area. **Action: LL**
v) Agreed that there is no need for an oral history date for the Secrets of the High Woods in Worthing.
vi) Secrets of the High Woods would like to interview past WAS diggers re archaeological digs. **Action: AB**
13. **Date of Next Meeting** will be Tuesday 1st December 2016 at 35 First Avenue, Worthing. Mrs Lane was thanked for her hospitality.

Keith Bolton, Chair
21st October 2015