

Worthing Archaeological Society

Committee Meeting Minutes held on Tuesday 31st July 2018
at Pike House, Honeysuckle Lane, High Salvington, Worthing

Present: Mr Keith Bolton (Chairman), Mrs Connie Shirley, Mrs Gill Turner, Mrs Liz Lane, Mrs Teresa Griffiths, Mr Brendan Wyatt, Mr Nigel Rumble, Ms Amie Friend and Mrs Cheryl Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Patricia Leming and Dr Jacquie Lake

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting** were accepted.

3. **Matters Arising:** None

4. **Field Unit Update**

a. **Maintenance and possible expansion of Finds/Tools space:** The Society needs to give the original shed at Slindon a coat of Cuprinol under our agreement with the National Trust. The Society would also like to take over the garage next to the shed, renovate it to a standard and using materials agreed with the NT to use as a tools storage area. This would free up the finds shed to accommodate the increasing size of the Finds Team and the NT has agreed in principle. It is suggested that the 2 works are treated separately: first Mr Chris Lane (Project Manager) and Mr John Crane (costing advice), with the assistance of a team of workers, will take on the garage. The tools can be then be moved. Mr Bob Turner has costed the removal and re-erection of the shelving in the Finds Shed; the costs are minimal and the project only needs a work team. A kind volunteer sponsor has been found to pay for the Cuprinol for the original shed. Mrs Lane will approach the NT for their agreement. **Action: LL**

b. **Slindon Field 20:** Mr Bolton will write the report. A discussion followed about the advisability of returning next year as the Society is agreed that the site is an industrial one associated with grain, and further work will not increase the information we already have. Mr Bolton will contact Mr John Mills to see whether there is a standard layout for reporting completed excavations on the HER. **Action: KB**

c. **Rough Copse:** Ms Amie Friend and Mr Brendan Wyatt agreed to meet on Monday 20th August to complete their report on Rough Copse, for publication in this year's journal. **Action: AF/BW**

As Mrs Connie Shirley is involved in all the outstanding write-up work, Mr Bolton confirmed a priority list for her ie 1. Brinsbury, 2. Rough Copse, 3. Malthouse, 4. Field 20.

d. **Binsted Pottery:** Mrs Gill Turner advised that the next 2-day session will be on 8th/9th August and there will be similar 2-day sessions in September, October and November. Mr James Sainsbury of Worthing Museum will advise her of available dates. The Society has been offered half of the surplus boxes ordered by Cardiff University (Worthing Museum to receive the other half). Dr Jervis will hold one more day tying the project up with the Society. Mr Turner will give a day school on illustration when some sherds will be drawn. The pottery dates to the 13th/14th centuries and into the 15th century.

e. **Brinsbury:** Mrs Turner reported that the second draft is due out this week. Mrs Shirley advised that the maps are in black and white. Mr Turner has completed the drawings, and Mrs Turner has completed the post medieval/modern pottery reports, and Mr Gordon Hayden has done likewise with the Roman pottery. Mr Paul Foskett formerly of

Brinsbury College will be acknowledged, as well as Mr Pete Skilton and Mrs Shirley as surveyors. The final version will be submitted to Sussex Archaeological Collections by mid-September.

- f. **Sompting:** Mrs Shirley will write up the excavation report. The pottery has been identified as of a 13th/14th century Binsted-type. It is intended to return there for the main 2-week dig at the beginning of June 2019. It was agreed that Margaret Dean's drone pictures and video can appear on the Maggie and Ian Williams' Sompting Paddocks website and also on ours. **Action: TG**
Mrs Lane will contact Paul Holden, editor of the Worthing Journal to confirm publication of pictures with WAS members. **Action: LL**
Ms Friend reported that the children from her school archaeological club had enjoyed their visit immensely.
- g. **Fittleworth:** Recording is continuing and Mr Steven Cleverly will write up the main report.
- h. **Records:** Mrs Sioned Vos is working on behalf of WAS at Worthing Museum on compiling information on the outstanding excavations. A Field Forum Meeting is arranged for Monday 3rd September at Mrs Lane's house to discuss these and deposition of finds. **Actions: Mr Bolton** to contact Mr Hayden and Mr James Sainsbury of Worthing Museum.
Mrs Lane to email a link to list of sites (on SAS' website) covering east and west Sussex.
- i. **Walberton reinterment:** The Society needs to ask Mr Luke Wishart whether it can dig a hole as near to the former burial as possible. **Action:** further discussion at Finds Meeting
5. **Finance:** Mrs Shirley advised that to date the current account holds £1692.78, the savings account holds £4309.07, and that of the charities' £2257.81. Up-to-date accounts are on a separate sheet.
6. **Membership:** Mrs Lane advised that 101 members have paid up and 97 have sent in GDPR forms. There are 21 life members of whom 19 have sent in GDPR forms and 13 honorary members (12 GDPR forms), making a total of 135 members.
7. **Secretary's report** – Nothing to report.
8. **Newsletter** - Mrs Lane will be sending out the Newsletter on 1st August. **Action: LL**
Journal - Mrs Hutchins hopes to have excavation reports on Rough Copse and a preliminary report on Slindon Field 20 for the 2018 Journal. She will contact Mr Hayden re a possible article on Malthouse. **Action: CH**
9. **Website** – Mr Griffiths reported approx. 35/40 views per day throughout the year. The Society agreed to the minor changes he wishes to make. His concern about the Society being charged too much by Whibley was solved by the evidence that Mrs Shirley had paid for 2 years up front. He will look again at finding a cheaper platform. **Ongoing**
10. **Planned Events**
Day Schools & Lectures:
Lectures are arranged for the 2018/2019 season and the first one in the autumn of the 2019 season. Further lectures are being investigated.

Day Schools: Mr Jeremy Clarke – Introduction to Timber-framed Buildings in the Weald on 29 September at Worthing Museum - 11 bookings
Mr Gordon Hayden – Late IA and Roman Pottery on 4th May 2019 - 1 booking

Mr Simon Stevens – Death and Commemoration on 23 November 2019 - 1 booking.
Future day schools are subject to discussion.

Mrs Shirley suggested a guided walk around Steyning Rifle Range. **Action:** Mrs Griffiths to contact Jane Russell to ask for details of the guide.

11. **Data Protection:** On behalf of Mrs Leming, Mrs Shirley drew the Committee's attention to the procedure for reporting a rule breach. It is agreed that a report from a Society member to the Secretary will be passed to the Membership Secretary. The Membership Secretary will make an investigation. Mr Bolton is doing a Risk Register. Mrs Shirley is happy with the template. Contact with members has been completed for this year and it is suggested that next year an email be sent asking if any circumstances have changed. Further discussion can take place at the next meeting when the committee consider planning the AGM and how to present any further action to the membership at that time. **Ongoing**

12. **Trustee Data Update:** Mrs Shirley advised that all legal names of Trustees will be displayed on the Charity Commission's register. At present her personal details are listed for public display as a contact and in future it was decided to use the email address on the website instead.

13. **Any Other Business:**
 - a) Mrs Hutchins drew the Committee's attention to 2 blocks of Roman mosaic found by the owners of a house in West Chiltington. Mr Bolton undertook to contact the owners. **Action: KB**
 - b) Mrs Shirley advised that the new contract with Worthing Library for the lectures forbids the drinking of alcohol. Mrs Griffiths will change the details on the membership form. **Action: TG**
 - c) Ms Friend will be working part-time on her business running school clubs in archaeology and the Society is happy for her to use donated artefacts when necessary.
 - d) Mrs Lane advised that Edwin Wood is no longer the Finds Liaison Officer.
 - e) She also mentioned that a crime writer has been investigating the demise of John Pull and wants to raise money for a headstone. John Pull's granddaughter is aware of this and has suggested that any money raised be donated to WAS as, contrary to facts stated in his article, John Pull is not buried in an unmarked grave.

14. **Date of Next Meeting** - Will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th October 2018 at 108 Upper Brighton Road, Worthing. Mrs Griffiths was thanked for her hospitality.

Keith Bolton
Chairman

1st August 2018