

Worthing Archaeological Society

Committee Meeting held on Monday 11th January 2021 via Zoom

Present: Mr Keith Bolton (Chairman), Mrs Connie Shirley, Mrs Gill Turner, Mrs Liz Lane, Mrs Theresa Griffiths, Mr Nigel Rumble, Mrs Jennie Williamson, Dr Jacqueline Lake, Mrs Patricia Leming, Mr Brendan Wyatt, Mrs Vicky Lilleywhite and Mrs Cheryl Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Ms Amie Friend
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Were accepted.
3. **Matters Arising:** Will be dealt with separately below.
4. **Field Unit Update:**
 - a) EPIC: The EPIC team have been given permission to extend the project, and they would like WAS' cooperation with the drawing boards. A meeting is scheduled via Zoom on 13th January to discuss the content which should be finalised by April, including illustrations by Mr Turner and Mrs Griffiths of selected flints, Lidar data, and photographs. Mrs Shirley is working on the structure of the report. **Action: CS et al**
 - b) Malthouse: Mrs Shirley has visited the site and a dig will be planned for this summer, if Covid rules allow. The man with the digger is happy to do trenches. Dr Lake has finished the Malthouse flint report. **Action: CS**
 - c) Slindon – Finds Processing mornings at Slindon are on hold until further notice.
- Stableyard clearing/recording is also on hold until further notice.
 - d) Rampion 2: The next meeting is 2nd February and Mrs Lane will report back to the Committee. **Action: LL**
 - e) Climping: Dr Pope has advised that Citizen's staff is on furlough. If anyone visits the area, would they please take photographs.
 - f) Fittleworth: Mr Nicholas Smith's collection will be included in the WAS report which will shortly be sent to Mr Steve Cleverley and published by both Chichester & District Archaeology and WAS next year. The majority of flints are mid-late Mesolithic and the knapping sites are also Mesolithic. Mrs Turner continues to liaise with Mr Cleverley. **Action: GT**
 - g) The National Trust Chalk South Downs Project: WAS' interest in being involved has been forwarded to Mr James Brown of the National Trust.
 - h) Blacksmith's Corner: Mrs Lane has the records from Mr Robertson, and Mr Peter Brannlund and Ms Sue Nelson are using them to write up an addition to the 2009 Interim Report. Mrs Turner and Mrs Williamson will bring the catalogues up-to-date. Mrs Shirley advised that Mr Brian Drury's aerial input appears to show an area of WAS' past excavations. **Action: GT/JW**
5. **Finance:** Mrs Shirley has circulated the year end accounts to committee members. She, Mr Turner and Mrs Leming are organising a suitable online "sign off" with a transparent audit trail. **Action: CS/PL/BT**

Insurance: Mrs Leming suggested an annual reduction of man hours to 500, and members agreed. She will seek quotes. She will also liaise with Mr Rumble about time sheets. As the shed at Slindon is not accessible at present, she is unable to make a maintenance

check for insurance purposes.

Action: CS/PL/NR

She and Mrs Shirley will discuss a report for the AGM when Mrs Leming will take over as Hon. Treasurer from Mrs Shirley.

Action: CS/PL

6. **Membership:** It was agreed that subscriptions should remain at £25 per year. Mrs Shirley reminded members that if anyone is unable to afford this they should apply to the Treasurer for a reduction. Mrs Lane advised that 10 people have paid for 2021 and that we have 76 ordinary members, 19 Life and 14 Hon, making a total of 110. Mr Rumble and Mrs Griffiths will put a link for the Battlefield Trust on WAS' website and the Battlefield Trust will reciprocate.

Action: NR/TG

7. **Newsletter:** Mrs Lane asked for pieces for the forthcoming Newsletter. The Journal is in the process of being proof-read and will shortly be available.

Action: LL/CH

8. **AGM:** The AGM will be held on Zoom on Tuesday 9th March from 6.45-7.15pm. The lecture by Daryl Holter, Sussex Heritage Community, on "Threats to our Heritage" will be held Facebook at 7.30pm and arranged by Mr & Mrs Griffiths. Mr Bolton will contact Mr Mills to ask if he will continue to stand as President. Mrs Shirley will become a Committee Member in support of the Treasurer and Mrs Leming takes over that role. All other members agreed to continue to stand for office.

Action: KB/TG/RG

9. **Study Days:** To be arranged when situation is clearer.

10. **Lectures:** Mrs Griffiths advised that WAS has run 4 online lectures seen by 50+ people. Tomorrow evening John Mills will speak on The Old Swan Bridge at Pulborough. Ms Amie Friend will speak on the SOE in World War 2 on 9th February, and Daryl Holter will speak on Threats to our Heritage following the AGM on 9th March. Dr Lake will contact Dr Ben Jervis to ask him to speak on 13th April on Material Culture in Medieval Rural Households.

Action: TG/JL

11. **GDPR:** Mrs Leming advised that after Brexit this is known as UKGDPR but there is no change. The Society has paid £40 for the ICO annual registration.

12. **Trustees:** Mrs Leming advised that she will update the website of Trustees' details after the AGM.

Action: PL

13. **Any Other Business**

- a) Mrs Lane advised that there is an article in the Worthing Journal on the Bathhouse on Highdown Hill suggesting that WAS should continue digging there. This is not possible.

A maritime archaeologist has offered to set up training courses for WAS members but Mrs Lane will thank him but advise that we are a land-based society.

Action: LL

- b) Mrs Leming will arrange for a copy of the Society's Constitution to be uploaded onto the website under Policies.

Action: PL/TG

14. **Date of Next Meeting will** be on Monday 15th March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom. Mrs Shirley will arrange Zoom access.

Action: CS

Keith Bolton
Chairman
12th January 2021