

Minutes of the WAS Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Present: Keith Bolton, Alan Beazley, Theresa Griffiths, Cheryl Hutchins, Patricia Leming, John Mills, Connie Shirley, Gill Turner, Donna Wiltshire, Liz Lane.

1. Apologies; Jennie Williamson, Vicky Lillywhite, Nigel Rumble.

3. Stableyard Report is now finished. Copy to National Trust. Rampion 2 is going ahead.

4. GDPR – nothing new.

5. a) Malthouse – History of Malthouse/White House – Research Group to meet for Planning Sessions on Sept 27<sup>th</sup> & Oct 25<sup>th</sup>. 2 – 5pm. (N.B. Research Group to be a separate item on Agenda in future.) Donna

Connie, John and Theresa to visit site tomorrow(13<sup>th</sup>) for John to see what was found, Theresa to do final drawing. Andy Baker has suggested another look at the spoil heap – Connie to invite him and possibly Chris? Connie

There were many more metal finds in 2023 than previous years e.g. metal purse bar – we need to consider conservation.

b) Slindon - Finds Unit currently working on the Sompting Whitehouse finds. There is about 4 times the normal amount of pottery. 2022 Finds about to be put onto the computer.

c) Lancing Prep – Finds will be processed eventually, then Gill will complete the report, as WAS will not be returning. Gill

d) Climping – no updates – currently the whereabouts of the new car park/cafe are in discussion.

e) Sompting Fieldwalk – 30<sup>th</sup> September start. WAS is a ‘relevant authority’ to do the fieldwalk. Mike has given us a fund – can use it to pay a professional expert if necessary/etc.

Connie will use the next Finds day at Slindon to sort out canes/bags etc.

Do we include CDAS? – under their Insurance, and they to provide WAS with contacts etc. Connie

28<sup>th</sup> Sept – establish bench marks.

Metal-detecting – Mike leaves it to us – a side issue, leave to Jim, Val, Andy Baker, Chris?

Rampion 1 crosses the site.

Folk to sign up for collection/finds/surveying.

Car-parking in the middle yard, WAS has access to barn, toilets, etc.

Connie to contact David Staveley to see if he’d be interested. Connie

f) Bignor Finds all recorded - to computer – to catalogue.

Keith and David S did GPR earlier in the camping field. Not very productive. To return in October to try mag.

g) Highdown possible long barrow– wild flowers sown, need to get established.

James S to organise a fieldwalk in 2024 – mainly for the folk who go on his Walks, WAS can be included.

Any further plans a way off, and would be directed by the Museum –WAS to help.

h) EPIC – a very good talk given to Sompting Pastfinders by Connie and Bob.

6/7. Finance – Charity Commission are changing account and account numbers. Annual return to C.C. in May – they will need more generous detail.

8. Membership. Paid in 2023: 90. Paid 2022, not 2023: 17, Life; 15, Hon; 16, 1 Student Member. Total 138.

Liz to contact the 2022 folk to prompt, policy is to give them a year, then they're no longer Members. Liz

9. Newsletter – any items please to Liz– going out end of September.

Journal – Stableyard Report, Martin's CDAS Flint report (Gill to contact CDAS to check), Anthony Brooke article and John M on the Sompting Whitehouse.

10. Study Days – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Sept Bob, November John M, Jan. Simon Stevens, Feb. Bob part 2., March - ?Lisa Fisher on Photography, April Bob part 3,.

Other ideas: Pottery Day School/Coins, tokens/Refresher courses e.g for Surveying. In discussion it was agreed that the rate of £200 for a whole day school should apply to Speakers who are WAS Members, as it does to outside Speakers – with the proviso that there are enough interested folk signing up.

11. Flint Sessions in the Museum Education Room to start on Wednesday Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, and then alternate Wednesdays. 10.30 – 1.30. Assessing and recording from the Museum's flint collections.

12. WAS Walks – James S will do a walk for WAS in 2024.

Henry W will lead a walk round Petworth Park on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>, in the morning.

13. Donna will try to find a venue for our Autumn Social on a Friday in November. (She has 2 provisional dates in December at the Brewhouse, saved – will cancel those)

14. Lectures – Richard has put a poster on Facebook. October Judie English, November Dr Mike Allen. December John Mills.

15. WAS Facebook – nothing to be said....

16. Planning – the Council have turned down Lansdowne's Nursery plan to sell for housing.

17. WAS garments – Liz W looking into this.

18. Other events. None at present.

19. Website – needs more input from folk, please.

20. Worthing Heritage Alliance is bidding for funds for a new website. WAS is a Member. Agreed Liz to write in support on behalf of WAS.

Their website basically had a calendar of events for all groups involved in Heritage in Worthing, contacts, etc., but is no longer working.

21. Next Meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024!