

Worthing Archaeological Society

Committee Meeting Minutes held on Tuesday 15th January 2019
at De Bonheur, 1 Longlands Grove, Worthing

Present: Mrs Connie Shirley (Acting Chair), Mrs Liz Lane, Mrs Teresa Griffiths, Mr Brendan Wyatt, Mr Nigel Rumble, Mrs Patricia Leming, Dr Jacque Lake, Ms Amie Friend and Mrs Cheryl Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Gill Turner and Mr Keith Bolton
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting** were accepted.
3. **Matters Arising:** None
4. **Field Unit Update**
 - a. **Slindon Finds/Tools Sheds** - The Committee thanked Mr Chris Lane, Mr Bob Turner, Mr Richard Storey and Mr Nigel Rumble for the restoration of the new tools shed. Mrs Lane will formally thank all who assisted in moving equipment. **Action: LL**
The National Trust is to be asked whether they would like the medieval stones from Field 54: **Action LL/CS with NT**
The modern stone head is to remain in the finds shed and the future location of the pad stones will be discussed.
Mr Wyatt will research carpet offcuts for the new working area. **Action: BW**
 - b. **Slindon Field 20:** Mrs Turner advised by email that Finds processing will start as soon as Sompting is complete. Mr Hayden has agreed to assess the pottery. **Action: Ongoing**
 - c. **Rough Copse:** It was agreed that Arundel Museum should be approached regarding the deposition of the archive. **Action: AF**
 - d. **Binsted Pottery:** Mrs Gill Turner advised by email that 4 days are organised at Worthing Museum after which Dr Ben Jervis will look at how much further work is necessary.
 - e. **Brinsbury:** Mrs Turner advised that the report has gone to referees for inclusion in 2019 SAC.
 - f. **Sompting:** Mrs Turner advised that the flints are being worked on by the Finds Team. Mrs Shirley is writing the report and will finalise plans for the summer excavation with Mr Hayden. She has researched a Malthouse which replicates the plan of the Malthouse Field site. She will book in 4 days of resistivity with Mrs Maggie Williams. **Action: CS**
 - g. **Blacksmiths Corner:** Mrs Turner advised that she has emailed Mr Ian Robertson again as Mr Pete Brannlund hasn't heard from him, and Mrs Sue Nelson has offered to help with the archaeological report. **Action: Ongoing**
 - h. **Fittleworth:** Mrs Turner advised that she has almost finished entering WAS data and is awaiting a joint meeting with CDAS. **Action: GT**
 - i. **Records:** Mrs Turner advised that Mr Bolton has produced spreadsheets of all WAS excavations and fieldwork. Mr Wyatt has been researching future grants for specialists' reports and advised that we have missed this year's deadline. **Action: BW next year**

- j. **Forthcoming work** - The next Field Unit Forum is on 4th February at Mrs Lane's house.
- i) Amberley: Mr Robert Hutchinson is liaising with Mr Bolton. **Action: KB**
 - ii) Wallace Avenue, Goring – a small scale excavation is being planned following an Iron Age find. **Action: tba**
 - iii) West Chiltington – Mrs Lane advised that Mrs Caroline Wells would like to be involved in any work around West Chiltington as it has similar geology to Beedings Castle. It was agreed that Dr Matt Pope should be advised. **Action: LL**
5. **Finance:** Mrs Shirley circulated the draft accounts for 2018. We have depreciated all our equipment and future purchases need to be funded. We have paid for another year with the website platform. Subscriptions and donations are good. Visitor numbers at lectures are increasing but few join the Society. Amie suggested a running slide show showing WAS activities should be screened as the audience fills the lecture theatre (**Action: AF**). And everyone needs to approach visitors and make them feel welcome (**Action all**). We are saving on a combined Trustee and Excavation insurance (we are using Export & General Insurance instead of Towergate) and have a provisional surplus of £328. The accounts will be passed to Mr Turner for auditing. **Action: CS/RT**
Next year the library may be unavailable for lectures due to building works from March to September.
6. **Membership:** Mrs Lane advised that 67 members have paid for the 2019, and there are 21 life members and 22 honorary members.
7. **Secretary's report** – Nothing to report.
8. **Newsletter** - Mrs Lane will send out the next Newsletter at the end of the month. She advised that Mrs Annie Induni, a previous Officer in many capacities of the Society, has passed away.

Journal - Mrs Hutchins has gratefully accepted Mrs Turner's kind offer to proof-read next year's Journal and apologised for errors in the current Journal. **Action: GT/CH next year**

9. **Website** – Mrs Griffiths reported 360 hits in the last couple of days. She has updated the calendar and the events page and all the day schools are listed. **Action: Ongoing: TG**

10. Planned Events

Day Schools

Mr Gordon Hayden – Late IA and Roman Pottery on 4th May 2019

Dr Judy English – Food and Feasting through the Ages on 8th June at Downs Barn (subject to confirmation)

Mr Simon Stevens – The Archaeology of Death and Commemoration on 23 November 2019

Mr Andrew Bell wishes to withdraw from the final chase up of lectures and their introduction. It was agreed that Mr Wyatt, Dr Lake and Mrs Griffiths will share these duties together with taking responsibility for the laptop's powered up availability. Mrs Lane will continue to supply prompts. Mr Bell will be happy to be involved to a lesser degree and the Society is grateful for his assistance in introductions and behind the scenes work.

Lectures 12th February – John Skelton on 'BHAS investigations of medieval remains in Hog Croft, Ovingdean' – the John Pull Lecture

12th March – Following the AGM – Tom Dommett on ‘The Clandon Park Project’

9th April – Roger Cordiner and Anthony Brook on ‘Medieval Building Stones in Parish Churches of the Worthing Area’.

11. **Data Protection** Mrs Leming advised that all members need to check that their personal details are correct. Mrs Lane will include this in the Newsletter. **Action LL**

Mrs Leming will give a short update at the AGM, and will also attend the Sussex University GDPR Group’s next meeting. **Action: PL**

12. **Trustee Data Update:** Mr Brendan Wyatt will head a sub-group on forming a Safeguarding Policy as outlined in Mrs Patricia Leming’s circulated paper and required by the Charity Commission. **Action: BW**

Mrs Leming will mention this new policy at the AGM. **Action: PL**

The website should be updated after the AGM. **Action: TG**

13. **Any Other Business:**

a) Mrs Lane advised of the availability of old SACs donated by Mrs Jackie Phippard, the widow of Mr Norman Phippard who passed away in 2013. Mrs Hutchins will write and thank Mrs Phippard. **Action: CH**

b) Mrs Lane will give Steyning Museum’s address to the person who has reported archaeological interest in that area.

c) Mrs Lane advised that there are 2 possible walks the Society can take advantage of:

i) An Arundel Museum walk in the spring

ii) And a summer outing to Seaford to look at a medieval house and gardens.

Mrs Lane will pursue these. **Action: LL**

d) **AGM:** The AGM Notice of Meeting will go out in the next Newsletter. **Action: LL**

Those members of the committee present agreed to stand for re-election.

Mr Bolton to be contacted regarding re-election and the Chairman’s Annual Report. **Action: LL**

e) Ms Friend is involved with an Aspire workshop for children and adults in the spring which she suggested could appear in a forthcoming Newsletter. It was agreed to wait until later in the year. **Action: AF tbc**

f) It was agreed to keep subscriptions at £25 and to introduce a voluntary bucket for people on excavations to make a donation to cover dig expenses.

14. **Date of Next Meeting** Will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 25th March 2019 at 5 First Avenue, Worthing. Mrs Leming was thanked for her hospitality.

Post-meeting note:

Re Any Other Business d) AGM - Mr John Mills will again stand as President and will chair the AGM. Mr Robert and Mrs Gill Turner are willing stand for another year as the Independent Examiner and Finds Officer respectively.

Connie Shirley
Acting Chairperson

22nd January 2019.