

Worthing Archaeological Society

Committee Meeting held on Monday 17th January 2022 at 35 First Avenue, Worthing BN14 9NJ

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

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Jennie Williamson, Mrs Vicky Lillywhite, Mrs Gill Turner, Mr Nigel Rumble and Mr Brendan Wyatt
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Were accepted with the following alterations: Under Finance line 1 should read Mr John Sayles, not Sale; and Mrs Vicky Lillywhite's name does not have an "e" between "l" and "w". Under c. Slindon Mrs Lane commented that Mr John Green was not enthusiastic regarding the use of horse urine theory suggested by Mr Robin Upton.
3. **Matters Arising:** See below.
4. **Field Unit Update:**
 - a) EPIC: Mrs Shirley has received a donation from EPIC which will be used for the additional work on the total station. She and Mrs Turner have nearly completed the report. The formal report is awaiting illustrations. Mrs Griffiths and Dr Lake will liaise regarding these illustrations with Mr Bob Turner, and the report can be published on the WAS website and on OART's website. OART are looking at the Old Salts Farm drainage channels with a view to excavation. Mrs Shirley will help with Lidar and she asked for someone to look up work done there by Con Ainsworth in the past. **Action: CS/TG/JL/Bob Turner**
 - b) Malthouse: Mrs Shirley would like to extend geophysics as soon as possible while the site is clear. It was agreed that a geophysics weekend should be organised. It was also agreed that the excavation will take place on the last 2 weeks of August and this can be publicised after Mrs Shirley has obtain the landowner's permission. Ms Amie Friend will organise a children's and parents' day at the site. **Action: CS/AF**
 - c) Slindon
 - (i) Finds Shed: It was agreed that the Finds Shed will remain closed for February in view of Covid.
 - (ii) Stableyard: The trench has been backfilled and the drawings by Mrs Griffiths completed. The surface report will be complete when Mr Chris Lane finishes his drawing of the west wall. Mrs Hutchins has almost completed the finds report. Mr Bolton is working on the report for the trench. **Action: KB/CH/CL**
 - iii) Mr Bolton has spoken with Mr James Brown of the National Trust about access to Warren Barn Field and Queens Field for the field walking and resistivity survey projects. **Action: KB**
 - d) Rampion 2: Mrs Lane advised there is nothing to report as the consultation deadline is past.
 - e) Climping: Mr Bolton is in contact with Mr Bill Watkins and is arranging a meeting with him on 3rd/4th February. Much prehistoric pottery is coming up and Mr Bolton is trying to contact David McOmish about the situation. **Action: KB**
 - g) The National Trust Chalk South Downs Project, named "Changing Chalk": the post of Heritage Officer is being advertised for this project. Mr Bolton has registered the Society's interest with Mr James Brown of the NT. **Action: KB**
 - h) Blacksmith's Corner: Mr Bolton has not heard from Mr Pete Brannlund. **Action: KB**
 - j) Measured Survey at Steyning: Julie English has not been in touch with Mr Bolton who will now leave it until spring. **Action: KB**

k) Brinsbury: The editor of Sussex Archaeological Collections will send a PDF copy of the Brinsbury article to Mr Bolton for distribution to the membership. Mrs Turner, Mr Bolton and Mr Pete Brannlund will visit the college, and will speak to Mr James Sainsbury of Worthing Museum regarding deposition of finds.

Action: GT/KB/PB

l) (i) St Nicholas' Church, Angmering: Ms Amie Friend has been approached by Mr David Rudling with regard to giving a lecture on St Nicholas' Church at the next Symposium. Mrs Lane will send a hard copy to the Parish Council and Ms Friend will send a PDF to the lady at Angmering in Bloom.

Action: AF/LL

m) Mr James Kenny has contacted Mr Bolton regarding WAS' assistance in the resurrection of the Activity Weekend at Bignor Roman Villa. Mr Bolton is to contact Mr Kenny.

Action: KB

5. **Finance:** Mrs Leming summarised the close of year accounts for the AGM. Covid has affected the Society's activities but we resumed fieldwork in the summer and autumn with excavations, a half-day study day, a QGIS mapping course, lectures in person and on Zoom, and a Christmas Social. Subscriptions, donations and grants have been good and most entries broke even and even made a small profit. Expenses included a high printing and stationery bill (mostly for 2 editions of the Journal), and the continued use of Zoom Pro. Liability Insurance has increased at £727, and Field Unit expenses were £939. Trustee insurance has gone up. On the Balance Sheet all equipment suffered almost no depreciation as it is all now old. The Society has a total of £8,861 in the bank. Mrs Leming has discussed the Expenses Account with Mr Turner and it was agreed to rename it the Bursary Account as this is clearer. It was agreed that the accounts will be emailed to the membership for the AGM. It was agreed that Mrs Leming should back up her work on her new laptop to the Cloud. Mrs Leming would like to move the Society's accounts to the internet to avoid excessive charges by HSBC and this will be discussed after the AGM.
6. **Membership:** Mrs Lane advised that 43 Ordinary members have paid for 2022 to add to the 18 Life and 15 Honorary members. The Society has 74 paid up Ordinary members last year. Mr Gordon Hayden has been made a Life Member. Peter Skilton has donated his surveying equipment to WAS, now that he is no longer able to participate in field unit activities. The committee agreed that he should be given honorary life membership in recognition of his dedicated work for the society over many years. The chairman will write a personal letter to thank him. Mrs Shirley will be making an inventory of this equipment which is at the shed at present. **Action: KB/CS**
7. **Newsletter:** Mrs Lane advised that the next Newsletter will go out at the end of the month. Mrs Lane advised that Mr Alex Vincent's booklet is being printed and she will ensure that every member gets a copy. **Action: LL**
Journal: The Journal has been circulated.
8. **Website:** It is suggested that the Society, in addition to the U-Tube channel, has a Society-only page on Webley for £7 a month. This would be a restricted page. It was suggested that as more than 100 members would register and this would be met by an upgrade to Business at £15 a month. It was agreed that this will be discussed at the Field Unit Forum next month.
9. **Study Days:** 7th May 2022 – Dr Ben Jervis on the Binsted Pottery.
Dr Lake will also arrange for David Rudling to give a study day on Burial Practices.
These days will be in the Education Room of Worthing Museum.
10. **Lectures:** Matt Pope on The Next 100 Years of Archaeology in Sussex on at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th February at Worthing Sixth Form College
Keith Bolton on A Romano-British Settlement near Gumber Farm, Slindon at 7.00pm on Tuesday 8th March at Worthing Sixth Form College
Tuesday 12th April at Worthing Sixth Form College tba.
No refreshments will be available at lectures in the Sixth Form College and parking is free.

- 11. Other Events:** (i) The next Field Unit Forum will be held on 15th February at St Botolph's Church Rooms, Heene, 7.30-9.00pm.
(ii) Walks are being arranged by James Sainsbury and of the Downs around Storrington.
Action: TG/JL
- 12. GDPR:** Mrs Leming will prepare a statement for the AGM. Mrs Donna Wiltshire will be nominated as a Committee member at the AGM and will hopefully take over GDPR and also help out Dr Lake with organising the Study Days.
Action: PL
- 13. Trustees:** Mrs Leming will prepare an up-to-date statement for the AGM. **Action: PL**
- 14. Any Other Business**
- (a) Ms Friend has received photographs of a ring-sized Sussex Loop which has been found in Warwickshire. She will pursue this and write something for next year's Journal.
 - (b) Mrs Griffiths has emailed Mr Bolton to say that ArchTools no longer have a website and it was agreed that it is not necessary for the Society to advertise a tool supplier.
- 15. Date of Next Meeting will** be on Monday 28th March 2022 at 7.30pm at De Bonheur, 1 Longlands Grove, Worthing BN14 9FJ Worthing BN14 9NJ. Dr Lake was thanked for her hospitality.

Keith Bolton
Chairman

18th January 2022