

Worthing Archaeological Society

Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 25th October 2022 in St Botolph's Church Rooms, Heene

Present: Mr Keith Bolton (Chairman), Mrs Gill Turner, Mrs Connie Shirley, Mrs Liz Lane, Mr Nigel Rumble, Mrs Patricia Leming, Mrs Theresa Griffiths, Mrs Donna Wiltshire, and Mrs C Hutchins

1. **Apologies:** Mrs Jennie Williamson, Mrs Vicky Lillywhite, Ms Amie Friend, Dr Jacqueline Lake and Mr Brendan Wyatt.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Were accepted.
3. **Matters Arising:** Under Field Unit Update (d) Rampion, Mrs Lane advised that a reduced plan had been submitted and she holds all the information.
4. **Field Unit Update:**
 - a) **Malthouse:** Mrs Shirley advised that the site has yet to be backfilled and that data processing is on hold until this and the surveying is finished. **Action: CS**
 - c) **Slindon**
 - (i) Stableyard: There is no further report on this.
 - (ii) Mr Bolton advised that there is no further news on either Warren Barn field or Queens Field and will chase the National Trust. **Action: KB**
 - e) **Climping:** Mr Bolton advised that the project plan needs to be revisited. The Environment Agency will be monitoring erosion and reshaping of the beach so we will no longer be involved in this. He will ask a member to head up a smallish group whose remit will be to record archaeology on the beach on suitable low-tide days. This will then be recorded onto Citizen's database. There is a possibility of examining Mr Bob Watkins' finds which eventually need to be housed in a museum. **Action: KB**
 - g) **The National Trust Changing Chalk Project:** Nothing new reported.
 - h) **Blacksmith's Corner:** Nothing new reported.
 - k) **Brinsbury:** Nothing new reported.
 - l) **Bignor:** Mr Bolton will contact the Trust to find out about backfilling and when we can have our fencing back. He will also enquire about the possibility of further work next year. **Action: KB**
5. **Finance:** Mrs Leming has circulated the current accounts before this meeting and she took the meeting through the figures. While costs in general are increasing, especially for the Field Unit (£924), and we have the added cost of hiring rooms, she advised that membership and donations are increasing and that income is still above expenditure. She has made an application for Gift Aid, Study Days and Training Courses are expected to break even, and we have raised money through the sale of Mr Skilton's equipment. Field Unit Equipment Maintenance expenses were less than last year. To date, income is £5302 and expenditure £4379, an excess of £923 in our budget.
6. **Membership:** Mrs Lane advised that we have 101 paid members including 4 students (10 paid in 2021 but not yet in 2022), 15 Life and 16 Honorary members, making a total of 142.
7. **Newsletter:** The last Newsletter has just been circulated.
Journal: Mrs Hutchins advised that a list of new articles is being compiled, and that Mr Bolton promised one on the Binstead Pottery & Tile Kilns. **Action: KB**

- 8. Website:** Mrs Griffiths advised that the website is up 28% on page views and 72% on unique visits in the last 30 days and everything is progressing well.
- 9. Study Days:**
- 19th November 2022 - David Rudling on various aspects of Roman Life in the Education Room of Worthing Museum.
 - Barb McNee on Pottery – more details later.
- 10. Lectures:**
- 8th November 2022 – Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture – The Stiances Archaeological Project by Simon Stevens at Worthing College
 - 13th December 2022 – James Brown from the National Trust on a subject to be agreed, at Worthing College.
 - 10th January 2023 – Longitude by Robert Turner at Worthing College
 - 14th February 2023 – John Pull Lecture – Dr Miles Russell on Holding out for a Nero; new work on the Roman imperial sculptures of Sussex at Worthing College
 - 14th March 2023 – Women in Archaeology by Amie Friend at Worthing College
 - 11th April 2023 – Recording our Past by Jane Clark, Finds Liaison Officer, Sussex PAS at Worthing College.
 - A possible lecture for next year by Laurence Shaw.
- Mrs Leming and Mrs Griffiths will visit Worthing Library with a view to using it for lectures. **Action: PL/TG**
- Walks**
- Mr Bolton will lead a walk around the sites on Bignor Hill in March 2023. **Action: KB**
 - Mrs Shirley will lead a walk around the EPIC site in April 2023 **Action: CS**
- 11. Training:** As part of Mrs Shirley's surveying course, a day with Mr Bolton and Mrs Turner on pro- and post-excavation will take place in the New Year. Mr Bolton is also investigating possible sites for surveying training. A drawing course will be discussed. **Action: KB/GT/BT**
- 12. GDPR:** Mrs Donna Wiltshire has circulated an up-to-date statement.
- 13. Trustees:** Mr Bolton is looking at the Constitution as the Committee would like to recruit a new Member. **Action: KB**
- 14. Any Other Business:**
- (a) Mrs Lane will hire a larger room for the Autumn Social, due to increased numbers. **Action: LL**
 - (b) Mr Alex Vincent has sent 6 copies of the centenary booklet to the British Library and Mr Bolton will acknowledge this. **Action: KB**
 - (c) Worthing Museum is undertaking changes and this will affect on the Society in 2023, however, the museum believes it will be able to accommodate us.
 - (d) Mrs Lane advised that there will be a Heritage Festival from 10th-18th June, put on by the Worthing Heritage Association, and Mrs Lane will investigate the Society's participation. **Action: LL**
 - (e) A site visit is arranged to Patching. **Action: KB**
 - (f) Mr Bolton has passed some archaeology books to Mrs Lane for sale at the next lecture. **Action: LL**
- 15. Date of Next Meeting will** be on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7.30-9.00pm at St Botolph's Church Rooms.