



The Chepstow Society

Notes of an Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 via Zoom

Present: Guy Hamilton (Chair), Keith James (Vice Chair), Sallie James, Angela Middleditch, Harry Middleditch, Geoff Sumner, John Burrows, Annie Rainsbury, David Nicholls, Nicky Bailey. Rebecca Tyson present from item 7.

Apologies: Simon Maddison,

1. Chairman's Welcome

Guy welcomed everyone present.

The notes from the meeting held on Wednesday 1st June had been circulated and were agreed.

2. Matters arising from the above meeting

- a. James Stephens plaque, Guy is continuing liaising with Ned to clarify the details for installing on the Almshouses. Annie has supplied a copy of the 1835 map needed for the plaque.
Action: Guy
- b. St Mary's Church, Guy is maintaining communications with the church about the History Day and Chepstow Society events.
Action: Guy
- c. Guy said that he still has the box of books and will endeavour to sell them. There was no response to his item in the bulletin.
Action: Guy
- d. Guy reported that he and John had met with Trevor Fishlock and contributed to an ITV programme that is to be broadcast early next year about the history and culture of Wales. John added that they have received a payment of £125 to the Society

3. Treasurer's report

David had circulated the latest Society accounts, there were no questions relating to these accounts.

Angela still needs view only facility to keep up to date with membership renewals.

Sallie suggested that the signatories for payments need to be updated with a view to making online payments.

It was agreed that Guy and Sallie would become signatories as well as Geoff remaining on the list. David would arrange a meeting at the bank to complete the paperwork.

Action: David

4. Membership Secretary's report

Angela reported that there were 126 members, 24 have not re-joined yet, but it is difficult to keep track without the view only facility (see item 3c) and there are 2 new members.

5. Arrangements for future monthly meetings

Speakers have been booked for the autumn, and it was decided not to have a meeting in December. Geoff agreed to contact the speaker on the formation of the NHS, which also celebrated 75th anniversary next year.

Sallie said that she has contacted several other speakers, but was waiting to agree on a format for the history day before booking them.

John said that he is working on a talk about William and Isobel Marshall's connection with SW Ireland. Members agreed that sounded very interesting and they were looking forward to John's talk. Sallie said she will produce a programme.

Action: Sallie

6. Drill Hall

The DH will be getting its own Zoom account, but members were still concerned that it could still be problematic. It was agreed that there would be another trial run before the meeting. Guy, Angela, Keith and Sallie would meet Ned on Friday at 11am to test the equipment.

7. History Day

Guy reported that progress was being made and the idea was taking shape. He went through the ideas from the meeting held at the Beaufort Hotel on Wednesday 29th June. Guy has now booked the DH for all day on Saturday 20th May, as well as Wednesday 17th (usual monthly meeting) Thursday 18th evening and Sunday 21st evening.

There then followed a long discussion about CADW and the Castle. Guy and Rebecca met Phil Brown, the custodian at the Castle to discuss the Castle's involvement in the history day. Rebecca, organises a national Norman re-enactment group and has several ideas and suggestions. She will discuss with Phil Brown how best to implement and fund any event.

Action: Rebecca

John feels strongly that the people of Chepstow should have 'occasionally' free admission to the castle and that maybe it is something that Chepstow Society should champion by lobbying AMs MPs etc. It was felt that this was something that needs further discussion and would be included in next executive meeting.

Due to Covid Keith has been unable to contact Matt at the bookshop or his Sealed Knot contacts.

Action: Keith

Annie agreed to involve the museum and is happy to help with providing photographs etc. She, also, gave an up-date on the WW1 nurses project that will be displayed at the museum next year. Annie reported that she and Ned have copies of the Son et Lumieres and the documentary film made about Echoes in the Stones.

Action: Annie

Another meeting to discuss the plans for the day will be held on 2nd August. Sallie will book a room at the Beaufort.

Action: Sallie

8. William Marshall statue

Nothing to report

9. Town Walks

Guy said that they are due to start next Monday, but in view of the extreme weather forecast it was agreed to cancel the first one on 18th July.

10.Excursions.

A new member has contact Keith and Sallie showing an interest in organising excursions and holidays. Keith and Sallie will meet next month.

Action: Keith and Sallie

11.Civic and Amenity

Guy said that a meeting will be arranged with the new town councillors for early autumn.

Action: Guy and Simon

12.Museum and TIC

Nothing to report

13.Publications

Guy said that we would shortly need more copies of the Tintern walk printed.

Action: Guy

14.Secretaries report

Nothing to report

15.AOB

Guy suggested that the Society joins the British Association for Local History. The membership fee is £75, members agreed that it was worth joining for a year. Guy will arrange payment of the fee.

Action: Guy

Guy has been contacted by Emma McKinley from Cardiff university about a project that she is involved in concerning the relationship between local communities and the maritime environment.

Action: Guy

Nicky asked if the Society has responded to the Chepstow Transport consultation, Guy replied that he has sent a personal reply, but not one from the Society. Guy agreed to have another look.

Action: Guy

16.Date of next meetings:

History Day: Tuesday 2nd August at the Beaufort Hotel at 7.15pm

Executive Committee: Wednesday 14th September via Zoom at 7.15pm

The meeting closed at 9pm