



# The Chepstow Society

Notes from the Executive meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023, at the Beaufort Hotel.

Present: Guy Hamilton, Keith James, Sallie James, Angela Middleditch, Patrick Gale, David Nicholls, and John Burrows.

Apologies: Geoff Sumner, Rebecca Tyson, Simon Maddison, Nicky Bailey, Marion Huckle, Jackie Neal and Annie Rainsbury.

1. Guy opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. The notes from the meeting held at the Drill Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 had been circulated and were agreed.
2. Matters Arising – all included in agenda
3. Treasurer's report

David informed the committee that as at 8<sup>th</sup> March there was £4099.17 in the current account. He continued by updating the committee on the current signatories for the different accounts.

Lloyds: Keith and Guy, David now added and Angela has access to view the account.

Monmouth BS: Guy, Keith and David. Henry Hodges and Geoffery Sumner need to be removed as signatories.

Barclays: Patrick, David and Keith. This account is still not fully functional and in the interim Keith and David Barber will sign cheques.

Action: Keith will arrange to sign cheques with David Barber

Action: David will be the main signatory on Lloyds and Monmouth payments in order to keep track of these accounts.

4. Membership Secretary's report:

Angela reported that 22 people have already re-joined and a few have indicated that they no longer want to be members.

It was decided that the Society will issues membership cards, these can be used to obtain the reduced membership for Cadw. Angela has a good supply of cards from previous years.

Angela also suggested that we introduce a digital registration form with basic information.

Action: Guy will contact John Waters who set up the website about linking to registration form.

There followed some discussion about recruitment literature, Guy said that the current leaflets will need updating.

Action: Guy will liaise with Marion and Emma Nicholls

Patrick suggested 'extended' membership, everyone agreed that this was a good idea and would be discussed later in the year in preparation for 2024 memberships.

## 5. AGM

After considerable discussion it was decided to start the AGM at 6.30pm and finish no later than 7pm Guy outlined the format for the AGM as follows:

Prior to the AGM

- Members notified of AGM at the beginning of April
- Nominations for President/vice President by 30<sup>th</sup> March, voting and approval at April meeting
- Nominations for Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Auditor at April meeting  
AGM, at May meeting
- Chairman's report
- Treasurer's report
- President requests election of Chairman and Vice Chairman, proposed, seconded and elected.
- Chairman takes over meeting and proposes, individually, Treasurer, Secretary and Auditor, all seconded and elected.
- Chairman identifies other committee members who are duly proposed, seconded and elected
- Nominations for committee members at AGM, May meeting

Action: Sallie will give produce nomination forms for the above positions

## 6. Speakers and meetings

Keith reported that the January Lunch went very well, 40 members attended and all the feedback has been very positive with requests for a repeat next year. It was suggested that a summer social be held, and various options were considered. A canal trip on the Sharpness canal with a bring your own picnic was suggested.

Action: Patrick to investigate canal trips.

There followed a brief discussion about reserving seats at meetings, and it was agreed that this was not necessary nor desirable.

## 7. Drill Hall

John reported that there is a meeting planned for next Monday, and indicated that the future of the DH was looking very positive.

Action: Feedback from DH meeting from John

## 8. History Day

Guy explained that this would be kept brief as there was a History Event meeting planned for Monday, where the programme and events would be discussed in detail. However, the launch was discussed and agreed that town councillors, the Mayor and other local dignitaries should be invited. No final decision was made as to who or where this will take place.

Rebecca has expressed her concerns about two events in and around the Castle and has requested a meeting to discuss further.

Action: Guy and Keith

Timeline, John is in the process of producing a comprehensive documents that will form the basis of a booklet and pull up display board.

#### 9. Town walks

To be discussed at a later date. Guy explained that there are leaflets available from the TIC for walks around the town. And that once the History event is over we can concentrate on adding walks, i.e. around the Church as well as Chepstow Pubs.

Guy informed the committee that a request has been made to provide walks for a group on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September, John volunteered to help.

#### 10. Excursions

Patrick updated the committee on the arrangements for the visit to Worcester on 28<sup>th</sup> March. He was concerned about how the payments can be made while the account is being sorted.

Action: David will liaise with Patrick re payments

Patrick suggested that in addition to the visit to the Botanical Gardens in Carmarthen and the train trip from Toddington he organises a short break to Exmouth next spring. The committee all thought that this sounded a good idea.

Action: Patrick to explore short break possibilities

#### 11. Civic and amenity – nothing to report

#### 12. Museum and TIC – nothing to report

#### 13. Publications

Guy said that he was planning to produce the next bulletin in early April.

#### 14. Secretaries report – nothing to report

#### 15/16. AoB

David asked that Henry Hodges be removed as a trustee.

He has received a request for any photographs of the cemetery. It was suggested that she be referred to the Museum and library.

John reported that it has been suggested that a plaque is erected to the memory of Henry, this would be a join project with the town council and Chepstow society. All agreed that it was a lovely idea, and it would be fully supported by the Society.

Guy added that the James Stephens plaque is progressing.

Angela informed the committee that there is a Wales Night Out event in Mathern on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, the topic is Marie Curie

#### 17. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, at 7.15pm venue to be confirmed

The meeting closed at 9.30pm