

Madeley History Group
Minutes of Management Committee 1st July 2020, 3.00pm
Zoom Meeting

Present: Grant Foden (GF), Gill Green (GG), Dave Woolley (DW), Charlie Boyce (CB) Alan Jones (AJ) John Corrock (JC).

In Attendance: Andy Rose (AR)

Apologies: Cllr Sue Taylor (ST).

2 Minutes of the last meeting on 17th January 2020

The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.

3 Matters Arising

No report.

4 Treasurer's Report:

GF reported that since taking over as Treasurer at the beginning of 2020, the following administrative tasks have been carried out:

- Co-operative Bank account has been updated to show the correct name – Madeley History Group
- Co-operative Bank Account has been updated to remove several named individuals associated with the account who are no longer involved (Janet Doody, Jonathan Lloyd, Rob Pooler, Rev. Keith Osmund-Smith & Steve Leggett)
- Account Signatories have been updated. Current Account signatories are Cllr. Sue Taylor, Gill Green & Grant Foden. Cheques and changes to the account require two signatories
- On-line banking has been set up so that payments can be made and account balances/statements accessed
- A procedure to collect subs for the Tuesday morning meetings and ensure they are passed to the Treasurer for recording and banking has been implemented although this has been suspended during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Invoices from Madeley Town Council for room hire are received by email monthly and paid on-line although again this has been suspended during the Covid-19 pandemic
- New Paying-in facilities have been set up so that cash can be paid in at and Post Office branch (cheques can also be paid in at any Post Office branch)

GF then presented a Report for the Financial Year 2019-20 (see attached). Final outturn **£2,372.78**

GF then presented a Report on the current spend for 2020-21 Financial Year (see attached). It showed income from Tuesday Group subscriptions. Expenditure involved the purchase of materials in connection with Anstice reopening and the fees of the Wrekin Historical Society. Final outturn £2,128.26.

5 Update on Madeley Town Council Projects:

6i: Anstice Hall:

The reopening events in February had been very successful. The MHG exhibition in the ballroom on the history of the building/family and the refurbishment works was very well received. GF also reported good feedback on the photographs displayed in the main corridor. It was disappointing that the building had to close so soon afterwards because of Covid 19.

AR confirmed that his role for Madeley Town Council had changed to a focus on regeneration projects rather than purely on heritage. Councillors wanted more support for Woodside and Sutton Hill estates as well as the Town Centre. There would be continued support for the Anstice and ACT especially given the impact of Covid 19 lockdown.

AR reported that the library was due to reopen in The Anstice next week but with limited opening hours and facilities. No decision yet on when other facilities might reopen. ACT were investigating the possibility of an outdoor seating area that might allow food and drink to be served outside.

6 Update on Madeley History Group projects.

6i Response to Covid 19 pandemic.

AR reported that Jubilee House would be reopening to the public next week but with restricted access to comply with social distancing requirements. The building would be manned by two staff members each day between 9.00 and 1.00. Access for the public would be restricted to one person at a time and they would be met at reception that will have been screened off. No public access to the rest of the building. Public toilets would be opened in the morning.

As regards the resumption of group activities, this will not happen until September at the earliest. Groups will be notified in writing. The details are still being worked up but it is likely that: -

- Only the Marks room will be available
- Numbers permitted in the room will be limited (this will depend on the layout requested)
- There will be no kitchen facility – individuals will need to bring their own drinks in their own bottles/flasks for personal use
- Toilets will be available – cleaned every 2 hrs by MTC staff (there will be surface sanitising stations within each facility for individuals to use if they wish)
- Jubilee House will work on reduced opening hours so only some daytime groups will be invited back
- In some circumstances we may have to offer an alternative day and time to give as many groups as possible a chance to meet
- Strict adherence to booked time (no arriving half an hour earlier or lingering for a chat afterwards) – the room and building has to be prepared for the next group of people coming in
- Strict adherence to social distancing measures that will be in place within the building
- Strict use of hand sanitising stations which will be in all areas around the building

- It is also a possibility that individuals will be required to wear face coverings whilst in the building

The consensus was that it was highly unlikely that the Group would want to return in September given all the restrictions and the continued threat from Covid 19 to people's health.

It was noted that the last meeting of the weekly group was on **Tuesday 10th March 2020** and that all face-to-face activities have been suspended in response to the pandemic. The matter will be reconsidered at the September meeting.

6ii. Future Events in light of Covid 19 pandemic

It was agreed that the History on your doorstep event would be suspended.

It was also agreed that the History on foot programme was not a practical proposition given the social distancing requirements in place.

GF will notify WLSF of our intentions not to participate in local events this year.

RESOLVED – That all face to face activities will be suspended until 2021 when the situation will be reviewed.

6iii TDC photographic archive

GF reported that any further work on the Lottery bid has been suspended. HLF are not taking any new applications until October at the earliest.

6iv Anstice Display

GF reminded members that the first display was only open to the public for 6 weeks so the photographs do not need to be refreshed urgently. It would be sensible to update the accompanying text though as it gives out of date information about group activities.

GF had received feedback that more pictures should be included with people.

It is agreed that members will think about themes which are more people orientated.

GF reported that ACT had asked if two interpretation posters could be added in the Library for the windows at the back and the cast iron flue door in the front wall. These were ready to be installed once the Library has reopened.

7 Events Programme 2020 update

All events are to be suspended until 2021.

GG suggested a news sheet for members to keep them informed and not feel isolated because of the lockdown. It was agreed this was a good idea but distribution to all Tuesday Group members is

problematic as many don't use emails and their postal addresses are not known to mail or hand deliver a news sheet. Potential to post on local notice boards.

AR advised that there will not be an option of having news sheets on reception at Jubilee House.

It was agreed that an update would be sent out to as many members as possible via email (David & John) and via a copy posted on the notice board in Jubilee house (the wording was subsequently agreed).

8ii 2020 AGM.

AR confirms that the constitution indicates that the AGM should take place in October or as soon as is practicably afterwards. May need to consider running the AGM as a zoom meeting. All known members with emails could be invited.

9. Any other Business.

AR mentioned that Brenda had typed up the paper copy of the memorials list which was really useful to search for names. DW had a plan of the churchyard that identified the location of each memorial if anyone wanted a copy. AR mentioned that it would be helpful to merge this information with the paper survey done by members of the group some years ago. That gives information on the condition of each memorial and details of materials/construction etc. It is located in a box at Jubilee House.

A planning application and Listed Building application had been submitted for residential conversion of Upper House into flats. There was concern about whether the owner will carry out a sensitive scheme and if Telford & Wrekin Council had the capacity to properly oversee the restoration of the building.

It was decided there would be no further action on the Buildings of Local Interest List.

DW thanked GF for all his efforts in organising the zoom meeting and helping members set up zoom on their computers. The general consensus was that it had worked well and members valued the opportunity to speak to each other after a period of lockdown.

10. Date of next meeting

Monday 21st September (Zoom meeting) 3.00.

Meeting closed.