

Madeley Living History Project
Minutes of Management Committee 17th August 2015, 6.30pm
Jubilee House

Present: Jonathan Lloyd (JL), Janet Doody (JD), Grant Foden (GF), Cllr Sue Taylor (ST), Steve Leggett (SL), Cllr Robin Coates (RC).

In Attendance: Andy Rose (AR)

Apologies: Cllr. Gill Green (GG), Veronica Jubb (VJ), Keith Osmund Smith (KOS), Rob Pooler (RP).

1. Minutes of the last meeting on

The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Only very small items had been incurred since the last meeting in June.

3. Update on Madeley Town Council Projects:

3i: Lumley Hall:

The Regeneration Partnership had decided that the £50k building fund should no longer be ring fenced for Lumley Hall.

3ii: Anstice Hall:

ACT has formally registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, to be known as the Anstice Community Trust and 9 members of ACT are selected as Trustees.

The Regeneration Partnership has ring-fenced £10,000 from the £50k Building Fund to cover consultation and feasibility work on the Anstice. Further money can be ring fenced if the Building Survey reveals the need for urgent works.

The Town Council has set up a Building Working Group that will be charged with overseeing any works to the building. It will be co-ordinated by Andy Rose.

The people that have been invited to sit on the Working Group are:-

Cllr Peter Taylor (chair of Environment Committee)

Stella Jamieson (Conservation Officer – Telford & Wrekin Council)

Grant Foden (rep from LHP)

Paul Boden (local community rep)

Ian Duffy (local community rep and caretaker of building)

Dylan Hartley (local community rep)

Ernie Gillespie (local community rep)

Jon Morgan (local Community rep)

Robert Turner (local community rep)

The Asbestos Survey and Building Survey have been completed. No urgent repair works were identified. Copies will be provided to each member of the Group.

A fire risk assessment is currently underway.

Telford & Wrekin Council has established a Pride in your Community High Street fund. £100,000 has been provisionally allocated for bids from Madeley (£80k for the main fund and £20k for an Innovations Fund). Deadline for bids is the end of September 2015.

A bid is being prepared to the main fund to restore the porch and front façade of the building. This will involve restoring the stonework which is currently painted, as well as the iron gates and tiles. Chris Pike, a local conservation engineer, has been commissioned to provide an initial preliminary report on the structure and stone fabric, providing outline recommendations for any necessary repair and a brief management and maintenance plan of action. Eura Conservation Ltd is advising on treatment of the Iron Gates. It is important that we follow a sensitive conservation strategy, ahead of any major restoration.

Consultants have been invited to submit tenders to carry out an options appraisal for the building. Four companies were invited, after taking advice from Lucie Oakley at AHF and Ian Bapty. We set a target price of £8k.

The only response was from **PCPT** architects who are linked with **Peter White**.

The other companies that were approached were

- **Holland Heritage**
- **Rodney Melville & Partners Ltd**
- **Heritage Architecture**

The only tender is well over the budget estimate, coming in at £15,650. They have also offered to carry out a pared back scheme for the £8,000, but we would like to get at least another submission to compare theirs against to ensure we are getting value for money.

A couple of the bidders have been re-invited to submit a tender as the reason for their withdrawal could be overcome. If they don't resubmit a bid, we shall have to widen the net and go to other companies.

One of our local working group (Paul Boden) is producing a survey of the building. He is a lecturer at Wolverhampton University and is tying the surveying in with a student project. He shares the scanner usage with a colleague so needs to juggle diary commitments to allow time out of the office with the equipment. Most of the internal scanning is completed and he will start work on the exterior. He has been asked to get the information together if at all possible so it can be offered to the consultant carrying out the options appraisal.

The ACT Communications and marketing Group have a number of fund-raising projects that are going to take place before Christmas. They include:-

- **Walk for the Anstice - 13th September**
- **WHS Festival stall – 19th September**
- **Green Day stall – 20th September**
- **Soul Night – 19th December**

A bid is being made to the Innovations fund to contribute towards the cost of a Community Play and other events next year. ACT has asked if the Living History

Project might be willing to front the bid for the Anstice Community Play given its support for the successful Nine Men of Madeley project last year.

Resolved

That LHP will front a bid to the Pride in Your Community High Street Innovations Fund for an Anstice Community Play.

3iii: War Memorial & Commemorative plaque

A funding bid to War Memorials Trust was also unsuccessful.

It has been decided to make a bid to Telford & Wrekin Council Pride in your Community High Street fund. £100,000 has been provisionally allocated for bids from Madeley (£80k allocated to the main fund can cover physical works).

If this is unsuccessful, the project will need to be taken back to the Town Council F & GP Committee to decide if they want to cut back the scheme.

Resolved

That Madeley Town Council will front a bid to the Pride in Your Community High Street Main Fund for the refurbishment of Russell Green.

4. Update on Madeley History Group projects

7. Future projects

7i TDC photographic archive

AR had circulated a paper (see attached) ahead of the meeting, which set out two options for the digitising and cataloguing of the TDC photo collection.

Following a discussion, it was decided to go for a variation of option 1, which would involve a lottery bid, but only cover the Madeley Centre photographs (1,000+) rather than the whole Parish collection of 2,500. This would get the volunteers trained up and familiar with the equipment and working arrangements. We could then look to do further phases (the Woodside & Sutton Hill folders) at our leisure. It would not overcommit the volunteers to taking on too big a task that they might fail to deliver, with all the resultant problems.

AR will sound out Mary McKenzie on whether there is any flexibility on the days that the members could use the camera at Shropshire Archives.

7ii 100th anniversary of the death of Thomas Parker

AR had circulated a paper (see attached) ahead of the meeting, which set out the progress to date on the Thomas Parker initiative.

To meet the very tight deadline, a Lottery bid had already been submitted to cover the cost of restoring the Thomas Parker grave. Members were asked if they might allocate some money from their account as matched funding. This was agreed.

Resolved

That the Living History Project will contribute £500 towards the Thomas Parker project.

Jon Lloyd reported that a Thomas Parker page had been added to the European Route of Industrial Heritage website. See page under the Biographies section <http://www.erih.net/biographies.html>.

7iii 200th Anniversary of the death of Mary Fletcher

Since the last meeting, AR had been investigating possible speakers to talk on the topic of Mary Fletcher at the AGM in October. This was to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the death of Mary Fletcher in 2015.

A positive response has been received from Dr Peter S Forsaith, Ph.D., F.R.Hist.S. who is a Research Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, based at Oxford Brookes University.

Having lined up such a distinguished speaker, it was decided to open up the event to anyone who is interested. Both Alan Walden and Graham Sturdy (from the Telford Methodist circuit) have been contacted and are very supportive. Both will promote the event. Alan Walden has also kindly agreed to host the meeting at St Michael's parish church, which is very fitting given the Fletchers involvement in the church.

8. AOB
None

9. Date of next meeting(s)

Thursday 29th October (St Michael's church)(AGM – 6.00 start)
Thursday 10th December (Jubilee House)(6.30)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.