

**Madeley Living History Project Management Committee
Minutes of the Meeting Held on 27th June at Madeley Library**

Present: Ben Whittle (Chair), Frances Jones, Cllr Gill Green, Cllr Rob Breeze, Marilyn Higson, Jonathan Lloyd.

Kath Petty, Fay Bailey, Pat McCarthy.

Apologies: John Powell

1. Minutes of the Last Meetings

1.1 Public Meeting – 8th May 2002

The minutes of the public meeting were agreed as a true record.

1.2 Management Committee – 14th May 2002

The minutes of the last Management Committee Meeting were agreed as a true record.

2. Future Projects

The Chair asked the meeting to consider ideas for future projects, stressing that it was of particular importance to target the new estates. There are a number of ideas that could be taken up for Madeley but at this relatively early stage in the project it is important to ensure that Woodside and Sutton Hill are not excluded from the project. Ideas for Living History Projects are less obvious in the newer parts of the parish so it will be necessary to be proactive in these areas.

The meeting contributed their ideas for possible future projects: -

The Chair informed the meeting of an incident that took place early in the last century, whereby an aeroplane made an emergency landing on land that is now Sutton Hill. In a previous discussion with Kath Petty, they had talked about the possibility of this incident being a starting point for a commissioned community play, possibly involving school pupils and members of the community.

On the theme of plays, a number of other suggestions were made: -

- The Nine Men of Madeley.
- One of the three stories by local author Anne Turnbull.
- Reminiscences of local people.

Fay Bailey informed the meeting that following the inclusion of a photograph of the queen at Sutton Hill, in the last issue of Madeley Matters, there had been a very good response. A number of people who had known the couple have made contact, all of these people have lived on Sutton Hill from its beginnings and have photographs, memorabilia etc. Other committee members also had contact with a number of long term residents

Rob Breeze pointed out that a number of relatively recent events have been almost forgotten, such as Madeley carnival and various public campaigns on Sutton Hill.

Pat McCarthy suggested that the Woodside Regeneration Group had access to funding and may be interested in some joint work that documented the process of the rejuvenation of Woodside.

Jonathan Lloyd made reference to Sutton Hill of 30 years ago, and the context in which it was built. At that time the estate was seen as an innovative solution to housing needs and many people, both professionals and residents, were totally committed to the ideal. The meeting discussed the values and concept behind the design of the estate and agreed that this could be of interest today. In addition, in the subsequent 30 years, there is a wealth of stories from local residents.

The meeting discussed prominent people from Telford Development Corporation who are still living in the area or contactable. Frances Jones suggested that if a project developed in this direction, the WEA study group might be interested in looking at this piece of research.

Oral history and some community archive work has been previously collected. WSM radio, and by Telford Community Arts. It is likely to be still in existence, but its whereabouts need investigating. The library holds a small archive on a T.V. programme about the area, that was made in the 1960s.

Fay Bailey has met with Jim Waterson from the Severn Gorge Countryside Trust, who has proposed joint work around the Anstice Hall and the Anstice family. The building is just outside the parish boundary but within easy reach of a number of the schools and could possibly be an interesting school project.

John Powell had forwarded his suggestions by letter, which were to point out that 2003 was the 30-year anniversary of Blists Hill and there may be scope for joint work. Additionally, to bear in mind that the William Reynolds bicentenary is in June 2003.

Kath Petty suggested that she and Fay Bailey would discuss the ideas further and forward a proposal to management committee members.

The new project will take place alongside current commitments, which include: -

- The project to design a logo.
- Membership
- The Nine Men of Madeley Memorial
- Russell Road (to be completed November 2002)

3. Project Managers Report

Fay Bailey submitted her report to the meeting (attached). Ben Whittle, who had been involved in the 'Old Town New Town' project, informed the meeting that he and his wife had been delighted with the reception and the reaction of the children at both the schools. The teacher's packs were on display for the meeting to view.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting of Madeley Living History Project Management Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday 5th September, 7.30 at Madeley Library.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm.