

**Madeley Living History Project
Annual General Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 4th November 2004, 7.30 pm
at Madeley Library, Russell Square, Madeley.**

Present:

Committee Members:

Janet Doody, Gwen Groves, Barbara Hardman, Marilyn Higson, Janice Jones, Susan Laflin, Jonathan Lloyd, John Powell, Daphne Roberts, Len Roberts, Paul Wolfe.

Friends and Members of the Public:

Ron Miles & Jayne, June & Edward Boden, Len and Violetta Wade, S. K. & P Ferrington, V. Wilson, D. Hardman, G. Dolton, D. Edwards, S. Kilbane, A. Shaw, J. Bowdler, R. Jones, J. Wilson, J. Howes, J. Beard, Aubrey & Glenys Evans, Rae Evans, Dorothy Wright, Colin Muddiman.

Officers of Madeley Parish Council:

Kath Petty, Shelagh Lewis.

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from:

Derek Williams, Ben & Hilary Whittle, Della Bailey.

Ben Whittle (Chair MLHP Management Committee) had sent his apologies and, with the permission of the meeting, Marilyn Higson took the Chair.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting, held 16th October 2003

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising that would not be covered by other Agenda items.

4. Chairman's Report.

In the absence of the Chair, Marilyn Higson submitted a report on his behalf.

Ben and Hilary Whittle had now moved to Spain for part of the year and Ben had therefore tendered his resignation as Chair and from the committee. Ben had been Chair since the project began and Mrs. Higson asked that thanks be recorded for all his support and hard work.

Mrs. Higson went on to thank the committee members for their efforts over the past 12 months and introduced the more recent committee members to those present. She also recalled the sad and sudden death of

committee member Gillian Weaver who had done so much to interest people in local history.

Since the last meeting the project had been extended for a further three years from September 2004. Membership of the Friends now stood at nearly 90 and the project had a new logo which was on display at the back of the meeting. The Sutton Hill book had been published and an information leaflet and an education pack telling the story of the 'Nine Men of Madeley' and the restoration of their grave were both now available. A number of successful events had taken place during the year and it was hoped that some of these – such as National Archaeology Days and Heritage Open Days -would become regular features of the Madeley calendar.

Mrs. Higson concluded by pointing out that as item 6 on the Agenda the meeting would be asked to vote for amendments to the Constitution which should enable Charitable status to be achieved by the project in the near future.

5. Treasurer's Report.

Mrs. Doody reported a quiet year on the financial front with a donation to St. John's Ambulance being the main movement. She reminded members that it was time to renew subscriptions. Her written end of year report was circulated. **(attached)**.

Mrs. Higson thanked Mrs. Doody for her contribution during the past year.

6. Amendments to Constitution.

The Committee proposed the following amendments to the Constitution in order to comply with Charity Commission requirements.

“It is proposed that Clause C of the Constitution shall be changed to:

The Charity's objects (“the objects”) are

1. *To advance the public's education in the local history of Madeley Parish;*
and
2. *To preserve and protect the artefacts, archives and features of historic or archaeological interest in the area of benefit*

and that Clause D of the Constitution shall be amended to include the following powers in furtherance of the above objects

- *power to stimulate public interest in local history;*
- *power to promote community education projects; and*
- *power to collect and maintain archive resources”*

Acceptance was proposed by Mrs. Laflin and seconded by Mrs. Groves.

The proposals were carried *nem. con.*

7. Project Update.

Shelagh Lewis reported on the achievements of the Project and plans for the future. **(report attached)**.

She concluded by thanking all those whose continued support was so important to the project – the Friends, the Committee, Madeley Parish Council and the Staff of Madeley Library. In particular she offered a special thanks to Joan Beard for her very able assistance during the past year and to Ben & Hilary Whittle and Dennis Jones who had been staunch supporters of the project since it started but who were now leaving the area.

8. Election of Management Committee.

Mrs. Higson reminded the meeting that some places on the Committee were filled by nominated representatives of partner organisations. There was now a vacancy for a representative of the Local Studies Group since Mr. Whittle had moved to Spain. It was agreed that Mrs. Groves should replace him. Those existing community members who had agreed to stand again were re-elected *nem. con.* and Mrs. Joan Beard was elected to the vacancy created by Mrs. Groves nomination as an organisational representative.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7. 50 pm.