

Madeley Living History Project

Minutes of the meeting held 16th June 2004, at Madeley Library, Russell Square, Madeley and commencing at 7.30

Present: Dave Davies, Gillian Weaver, Janet Doody, Len Roberts, Daphne Roberts & Gwen Groves.
Kath Petty, Shelagh Lewis

Following the AGM of Madeley Parish Council, the nominated representatives will be Councillors Gill Green, Janice Jones and Mike Swift.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Ben Whittle, Jonathon Lloyd, Marilyn Higson, Barbara Harman & Della Bailey.

In the absence of the Chair, Kath Petty offered to chair the meeting.

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 15th April were agreed and signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

3. **Treasurers Report**

Little change in the accounts since the last meeting, the report was noted.

4. **Charity Commission Update**

Correspondence had been received from the Charity Commission informing us that they did not consider the objects of Madeley Living History Project to be entirely charitable. It was very disappointing to receive this news, particularly as the application has been under consideration by the Commission for almost 12 months and as the objects were formulated with advice from a Charity Commissioner. This had been pointed out in a letter, but to no effect. To become registered as a Charity the project must re-word its Objects and this must be done at a meeting of the membership.

The Committee felt that it was not practical to call a Special Meeting for this purpose alone. It was therefore: -

Agreed – To alter the wording of the Objects at the Annual General Meeting.

5. **Update on Projects**

5.1 **Sutton Hill Book**

The launch of the book took place on May 17th and was a very successful, well attended occasion. The main contributors to the book were each given an original framed cartoon illustration from the publication.

It was gratifying to hear that a number of people, through the process of producing the book and the presentation evening, had re-established contact with old friends and neighbours.

40 copies of the book were sold on the night and a number have since been sold through the library. They are also available at Jubilee House and Sutton Hill Community Centre, and will shortly be on sale in the major bookshops. It was

also suggested that they could be made available through the Shropshire Family History Society, Shropshire Archive, Telford Information Centre and the museum. Shelagh will investigate.

5.2 The Nine Men

The leaflet on the Nine Men has been proofed and is almost ready. The education booklet for children is now complete and awaiting printing. Thanks were given to Joan Beard for her invaluable help.

5.3 Graveyard Survey

The survey continues to make progress but is not yet complete.

5.4 War Memorial

Jan Doody reported that she will be producing two booklets and these will be complete by the end of the month.

5.5 Work with Schools

A metal detecting activity has been arranged to take place at Bartlett Gardens on 23rd June with Sir Alexander Fleming School. Colin Ayling has kindly offered his services.

5.6 Beeches Project

Four new people have joined the group, including a previous manager. A site visit has been arranged to photograph the site.

There was general discussion about the newspaper article informing of plans to demolish the building for housing development. The committee felt that the building is of architectural and historical interest and that efforts should be made to preserve it. Immediate actions are: -

- To check whether Planning Permission has been granted (Shelagh)
- To write to the Gorge Parish Council to inform them of the proposal and invite them to join the Living History Project in it's efforts to save this important building (Kath).

5.7 Brooke Memorials

Shelagh will be assisting with the educational material. Revd Henry Morris has a number of other ideas; in particular he would like to have the bells working again.

5.8 The Coach House

The project has been informed that the Coach House used to belong to Moors Bakery. Since the meeting we have further discovers that it previously belonged to the (now demolished) Three Horseshoes Inn. There are no current plans from the parish to do anything with the building.

5.9 Mosaic Tombstone

The Local Studies Group have requested Shelagh's help in completing the grant application forms for Lottery Funding. Shelagh is attending the next meeting of the group to discuss this further.

5.10 Graveyard Trail

Shelagh is working on a graveyard trail for St Michael's Church, which will also include information on the ecology of the site.

5.11 Town Trail

Gwen Groves, Barbara Hardman and Hilary Whittle have all contributed information to the Town Trail which has been collected as part of the Heritage Open Days research.

Shelagh is hoping to find a local graphic artist who can supply pen and ink illustrations to accompany the book. Jan Doody has a contact that she will check out.

5.12 Madeley Court

No further information to report.

5.13 Woodside Family Activity Day

Rather a disappointing turn out with only 7 attending. Those that did take part enjoyed the activities but thought will need to be given as to how work on Woodside is progressed.

6. Future Projects

6.1 Heritage Open Days

No additional information.

A workshop will be held on Saturday 26th June, Shelagh, Gwen or Barbara will attend.

6.2 National Archaeology Day

To take place Saturday 17th July at Russell Green.

7. Friends of the Living History Project

Membership is now 75.

The next trip is to Boscobel House to the Civil War encampment and will take place on 23rd June.

8. Information from Committee Members

The Local Studies Group computer is now located in the library and available for members of the public to use.

9. Time and Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Living History Project Management Committee will take place on Thursday 2nd September at Madeley Library, commencing at 7.30pm.

The AGM will take place on Thursday 4th November. Shelagh will check if the offer to use Madeley Court is still open.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed..... Dated.....