

Madeley Living History Project

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2005, 7.30 pm at Madeley Library

Present: Jonathan Lloyd (in the chair), Joan Beard, Cllr. David Davies, Jan Doody, Cllr. Gill Green, Doug Hardman, Barbara Hardman, Marilyn Higson, Sue Laflin, John Powell, Cllr. Mike Swift.

In Attendance: Shelagh Lewis, Kath Petty.

Apologies: Cllr. David Edwards, Della Bailey, Derek Williams.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2005:

The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.

1.i Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

2. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer reported that the balance at bank stood at £2828. 01 and that we had donated £196 each to the British Legion and SAFFA as a result of the VE Day concert. Some bills relating to the concert and to National Archaeology Day had not yet been paid as invoices had not been submitted. Some of the VE Day funding would have to be returned as some activities had cost less than expected. The Treasurer expressed concern that we were being taxed on our account interest and will follow this up.

3. Update on Projects (carried out by MLHP and others)

3i Mosaic Tombstone (Local Studies Group)

The exhibition has been on display in Madeley Library and it is hoped that it will visit other venues (e.g. the church in the new year. An article about the memorial has been written by the HLF publicity officer, Helen Griffie and is due to appear in the December issue of Shropshire Life.

3ii The Beeches

English Heritage had still not visited the site when last checked on 1st December. The committee felt that further action should be taken and the project manager agreed to contact the EH head of listing and the local MP.

3iii Graveyard Survey and Trail

The team are in the process of selecting memorials for inclusion in the proposed Trail and we hope to apply for funding early in the new year.

3iv Town Trail

The illustrator aims to finish the drawings in January. The basic text is ready and it is hoped the trail will be launched in May 2006.

3v War Memorial (Jan Doody)

Work is now almost completed.

3vi Lee Dingle Bridge

We are in the process of organising an official meeting with Glen Lawes after which we will be in a position to proceed. JP suggested information should be copied to Alex Medhurst (site manager, Blists Hill).

3vii Woodside Project

An exhibition was put on in the library for Christmas Lights. A great deal of material has been brought in over the past few weeks possibly as a result of this or because of a piece in *Madeley Matters*.

3viii Madeley Pubs

Eric has made a good start on editing Kevin McLean's text. Some more illustration research would be necessary.

3ix Schools Projects

As usual Haughton School was making good use of the project facilities although other schools make little contact.

4. Events in 2005:

4i HODS / World Heritage Site Event

We had a very successful quiz night with fish & chip supper at Jubilee House on the Saturday evening. On the Sunday a walk around Madeley Court attracted nearly 60 people as a result of extra publicity distributed *via* the World Heritage

- Site Event. The WHS event was also successful despite problems with the weather. It is being repeated in 2006 over the weekend of 23rd – 24th September.
- 4ii **VE Concert**
Over 200 attended the concert which was much enjoyed by all concerned but had been very hard work. It was agreed that the funder should be approached to see if the surplus funding could be used for something like a commemorative booklet.

5. 2005 AGM:

A very good evening with an excellent talk and demonstration but not well-attended (fewer than 20 people). It was felt that the event probably clashed with other activities. Mrs Roberts had been contacted after the AGM and had indicated that other commitments necessitated her stepping down from the committee. The project manager asked that her thanks for Mrs Roberts' help with past projects be recorded. It was agreed that the vacancy should be advertised in the next newsletter.

6. Friends of the Living History Project:

Membership still stood at 104. The next newsletter will be coming out in March and the project manager invited contributions from committee members. It was agreed that we should try to arrange a spring trip and a number of suggestions were made (Hodnet, Dudmaston, Chillington etc) but Shipton (to include a meal at the property) was the most popular and will be explored.

7. Information from Committee Members:

- 7i Mrs Laflin reported that her medieval group was meeting on a monthly basis and progress towards a publication was being made. In the future we will include a progress report on the group's activities in 'Project Update'.
- 7ii Mrs Higson reported that the WLSF display will take place in the Town Centre on Saturday 20th May 2006. She also reported on the libraries Home Front Recall Project and said the event was a great success, over 102 reminiscences had been collected and these were being used to compile a booklet.
- 7iii Ms Petty reported that an approach might be made to Tesco regarding some form of public art in the refurbished centre. Some reference to Basil Brooke had been suggested and Mrs Higson suggested John Randall.
- 7iv The project manager told the committee that BBC Radio 4 will be visiting Madeley on 15th December to record a programme in a new series on 'Forgotten Mining Areas'. She will let the committee know when the broadcasting date is announced.

8. 2006 Meeting Dates (all meetings are on Thursdays, 7.30 pm Madeley Library):

19th January
2nd March
27th April
8th June
7th September
19th October (AGM)
30th November

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 19th January 2006, 7.30 pm at Madeley Library