

## **Alveley Historical Society**

Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Present:** Bill Scriven, Stuart Hunt, Carol & John Wall, Barbara Spragg, Margaret Clayton, Pam & Keith Stanton, Andrea Edwards

### **Apologies** nil

The meeting was opened by Bill Scriven who asked if there were any further comments on the minutes of the last meeting or on the members comments on these, both of which were circulated before this meeting. It was agreed that the minutes should stand as they are and the Society now to move forward.

Minutes of Last Meeting were accepted.

### **Storage**

Pam told the meeting that the grant we had applied for had been granted and that Andrea Hirons, treasurer of the Howard Thompson Bequest would be forwarding a cheque shortly. So we can now go ahead with building storage cupboards in the Village Hall to house our Archives. Bill and Keith had measured up and Bill had worked out a price to build these in plywood. This is a bit expensive but will give the strength needed. He has also had a quote for £10 per door, mortice locks and handles included. The total came to approximately £250.

The meeting gave the go ahead to purchase the materials and build the cupboards. Bill agreed to do this and Keith offered to help.

### **Tim White's book on the Chapel**

Tim has recently phoned Stuart. Contrary to what Tim had said previously he has not taken out the references to the Historical Society from his book. It is now all in order to be printed. He has priced spiral bound copies which will be two and a half inches thick. These work out at £14 per copy to print in black and white. Some pages would benefit from being printed in colour but that puts the price up to £15 per copy. These figures are based on 25 copies being printed. The meeting discussed whether it would be cheaper per copy if we had a greater number as has happened in the past. The difference was negligible so a greater number was ruled out. Stuart reminded the meeting that one copy must be donated to the Howard Thompson Bequest and one copy to the Chapel. We still have enough money from the grant to fund this. Andrea wondered if we should also give one copy to the Shrewsbury Archives but it was decided against this as we have

had difficulties accessing material we have housed there in the past.

It was agreed that we would have 25 colour copies printed and Stuart said he would ring Tim to see if that is agreeable to him.

### **Resignations**

Bill answered Andrea's query about these by saying that we had gone through the situation at least three times and there was no need for further discussion. It is time for the Society to move forward now. Keith explained to Margaret about the disagreements and resignations as she had missed these meetings.

Andrea said that Chris Noble would look after the web-site until some-one else is found. He was hoping for something to be resolved at this meeting.

### **Acquisition of Loans**

Andrea had asked for this to be on a previous agenda and it had not been discussed. Pam told the meeting that a letter had been sent out late 2015 asking individuals and organisations if they held any of our artefacts. The Severn Valley Country Park holds most of the Mining Artefacts and replied that they still had them. The display boards which were loaned to the church are no longer in existence – they were rather old and probably fell into disrepair. Andrea asked about Mandy Burgess's photographs. Bill said they were quite probably on his computer and he would look but please to remember how time consuming it is looking through hundreds of photos.

### **Mining Update**

Andrea wanted to know if the Highley Colliery Band had been paid for the performance at one of her events. Stuart said that the cheque has gone through.

### **Any Other Business**

Keith showed the meeting a copy of a letter which is on sale on e-bay. It concerns a Mr Samuel Mofs, deacon of the parish of Alveley offering himself to the Lord Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield for the order of priesthood. It is dated 18th July 1725 It has a £40 reserve on it + £8 post & packing. The meeting thought this was too much. Keith will contact the seller to see if he is prepared to accept much less.

A gentleman named Kez West has taken a photograph of the aerial ropeway wheel at the Country Park and is going to put it on

Flicker. He would like to link it to our web-site. Keith is to reply to Kez to tell him that we agree.

Margaret Sheriden has helped the AHS with lots of information over the years. Bill proposed that she be made an honorary member of the Society. Pam seconded the proposal and the members agreed.

Margaret Clayton told the meeting that Elizabeth Thompson has passed away. The news was greeted with great surprise as several had seen her just before Christmas when she appeared really well. Pam is to send a letter of condolence from the Society to James Thompson at Astley Farm.

**The Mining Heritage Project** is to become a separate Society. Stuart told Andrea that she still has £260.76 left out of the Council grant of £400 and £150 from the SVCP. This money is still in our account but could be used to set up a separate account for the Heritage group.

Bill said that Andrea has made her own contacts and has her own logo and that it is time to withdraw our name from the project so she can do things the way she wants to. Andrea agreed.

Keith said he felt that more practical things can be started now. In view of the many deaths in the village since Christmas it is becoming very important that the memories of those elderly residents remaining be committed to paper.

It was agreed that we would start with Bill's sister and Betty Painter. Pam & Carol said they would contact Betty.

Bill talked about Eric Tipper and the finding of the Old Romsley Chapel. We need to find from our Archives anything relating to this and compile it for future reference.

Meeting closed at 9.15 Next meeting Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 7p.m

Future meetings: 16<sup>th</sup> March, April 20<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup>

