**Notes of a BLHS Meeting held on 13 March 2023 at 25 Church Street**

**Present:**

Richard Storey Chairman/Secretary

Barry Jobling Dep Chairman

Clive Thompson

Les Button

Nicky Gibbs

**1. Apologies for Absence**

- Eric apologised for his absence as he had been rushed to A&E the morning of the meeting. The committee wished him well.

- Fiona tendered her resignation owing to family reasons. The Committee unanimously thanked Fiona for her valuable contribution to the BLHS over the years. **The Secretary was to raise the vacancy at AGM.**- The Chairman welcomed Nicky to the Committee.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- The previous minutes from the meeting held on 16 March 2021 were accepted as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising**

- There were no matters arising from the previous meeting not covered here.

**4. Chairman’s Report**

- The Anglo Saxon Exhibition held last year was a great success. The Committee recorded a vote of thanks to Barry for all his work in preparing and organising it and the Chairman thanked all members of the Committee and members who gave up their free time to support it.

- Barry thanked everyone for their support during his time as Chairman.

**5. Secretary’s Report**

- Richard has started to advertise in the Villager magazine which could be one reason why talks were well attended.

- Richard was about to start planning for the new season talks so asked if anyone wanted to give a talk or knew or recommended anyone to please let him know. **The Secretary agreed to follow-up MOLA on any updates and workshops and Liz Davies at the St Neots Museum.**

- Richard reported issues with the school book tokens. Despite making arrangements at the end of the summer term all dates were cancelled and the school failed to return any emails for new bookings in the autumn term. The book tokens were left at the school for the attention of the Deputy Head but Richard had no feedback. It was proposed that the BLHS does not engage with the school in future, which was agreed.

- The articles for the roundabout magazine were well received.

**6. Treasurer’s Report**

- Eric confirmed that we have 42 registered members this year, which is about as many as we can accommodate in the room comfortably. At this level we will have to consider an increase in the subscription as the income generated will not cover our running costs. We have been lucky this year to have had some speakers who did not want a fee but in a normal year speaker costs would be higher and we would be running at a loss. We are living on our surplus from earlier years and funds in hand are £2245, with about £150 expenses still to pay before the end of the year.

- There was doubt that all the member’s details were correct. **It was agreed that the Treasurer was to print the membership list to allow members to check their details at future meetings.**

**7 . Annual Liability Insurance**

- This insurance covers the Society’s third party liability, damage claims and personal liability. It was agreed that it would be renewed for another year.  **Barry to arrange renewal with Zurich Insurance and be reimbursed by the Treasurer.**

**8. AGM**

- All committee members agreed to stand for re-election at the AGM, and we would ask for other committee members. **Barry agreed to stand as Vice Chairman in the place of Clive.**

**9. Banking Details**

- There was doubt over whether the Banking details have been amended to reflect the new Committee structure.

- **The Treasurer was to confirm when the banking details had been amended.**

**10. Any other Business**

- **IT**. There was unanimous agreement that we did not need to upgrade the PC.  **It was agreed that the Secretary was to look at a small PA system for speakers.**

- **Summer Visit**. It was agreed that a summer visit should be organised.  **Nicky kindly agreed to organise a visi**t for some time **in July/August.**

- **St Mary's Graveyard.** Les offered the information on the St Mary’s Graveyard, collected some years ago. It would involve a large amount of work to capture on the website but much of the information was already in the public domain. **The Secretary agreed to contact Les in the near future.**

- **Archive Information.** Barry had a large volume of archive information which ideally required re-housing. **Barry was to identify what he had and liaise with the Secretary.**

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

- The AGM was to be held on 7th June 2023.

Richard Storey

Chairman/Secretary

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