

Aldermaston History Group

Annual General Meeting 6 November 2019, 7.30pm, Officers Mess, Hinds Head, Aldermaston

Present: Peter and Natalie Brown, Chris Newman, Cynthia Newman, Dave Shirt, Teresa Thomas, Peter Hulme, Beth Ashbury. Janice Dallison, Tony Girling, James Spackman, Pat and Steve Owen, Julia Cox,

Apologies: Lynda and Stephen Mead, Cathy Jones, Ange Boot, Angela Shirt, Jean Chapman

1. Minutes of the Founding Meeting 7 February 2018
All agreed and matters dealt with through the year. The founding meeting was very much around setting and agreeing our purpose and constitution.
2. Matters arising
 - a. None.
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Simple accounts, with 7 transactions.
 - b. Cash in bank: £1,473.47
 - c. Heritage Fund grant and donations.
 - d. Audited by R. Ebrey
 - e. Financially head above water but need to do something.
4. Secretary Report
 - a. Update provided on the year:
 - b. Five committee meetings held and 5 quarterly meetings held.
 - c. Involvement in 2 Heritage Open Days, plus an exhibition on the armistice.
 - d. Currently 56 people on the mailing list and 89 Facebook page followers.
5. Chairman's Report
 - a. Update on meetings held, objective to make history live and interesting
 - b. Ambitious remit, applied for the heritage programme for a grant, got a grant to create and run a website, training to run the website, training from oral history.
 - c. List of objectives, collections on line, four oral histories to get those on.
 - d. Stuff to do, commissioned a specialist company called community sites to develop and build site, went live September 2019
 - e. Commitment to Populate the site with additional material
 - f. Thanks to committee members for sharing expertise and materials.
 - g. Thanks in relation to the national lottery
 - h. For all ages in all walks of life, make history interesting.
6. **Annual Subscriptions:**
 - a. Provide financial stability to the group
 - i. To build funds to keep website running for several years – 3 years to £100
 - ii. To cover administration fees, public liability
 - iii. To cover small ad hoc expenditure
 - iv. To cover fees to Associations – Berkshire Local History association, free 6 months then £18 per year.
 - b. Budget - see breakdown, which shows potential profit £46.81.
 - c. Decision as to whether to join British Local History Society, which is £75 but includes public liability insurance.
 - d. Budget based on getting 40 people to join.
 - e. Recognise first two years paid already.
 - f. Membership benefits:
 - i. Propose membership fee of £15
 - ii. Supporting the legacy of the History Group

- iii. Free entry to all meetings
- iv. Priority for entry with restricted members
- v. AGM voting rights
- vi. Proposed meeting entry charge - non members £5, members free of charge. Approved.
- g. Proposal of free first meeting, then if want to come to future meetings then would join.
- h. Potential for public liability –Beth Asbury to provide feedback
- i. Vote for subscription: All agreed, with one abstention
 - i. Payment – cheque to Aldermaston History Group, cash, bank transfer, annual standing order, will be sent out with the minutes. Details to circulate with the minutes.
- j. Questions:
 - i. Potential for charity status, which is not being considered at this stge.
 - ii. What people receive for their membership - Variety of events, fund raising, social element.

7. Election of officers and committee

All willing to stand again.

Peter Brown willing to stand, details provided.

Vote and all agreed.

8. AOB

- a. Lock up, some repair being explored.
- b. Update on projects
 - i. Oral history – training completed with good feedback. Recording of 4 sessions.
 - ii. Website - still building content, show how to put on, or get material to the committee who will put on the website.
 - iii. Working with other groups including schools
 - iv. £200 of funds left from the lottery grant
 - v. £300 left in the account
- c. Candle Auction - display

Talk by Beth Ashbury:

Sharing re HER

Archeology development driven, consider any potential assets

West Berkshire HER

Monuments, sources, events finds designations

Conservation areas

Locally listed assets

National designations – defined by historic England

50 listed buildings

3 scheduled monuments- Aldermaston lock, Grims bank – well preserved particularly where AWE is. Excavation has taken place. Some pottery in 1978 excavation.

1978 report – Chris Boott has a copy, Beth may be able to provide a pdf version of the report.

One registered park and garden – Aldermaston Court Charity Gates – Church road, past the church on the bend.

Aldermaston Court grade 2, late saxon centre, medieval church, park, 20th century structures.

1970s – GG Astill did a lot of research, looking at patterns of development, suggested Aldermaston late Saxon origin, minster church means very important, royal manor. Suggested where the dotted line is where the road develops.

Buildings 400 years ago, movement from one part of the village to the other.

Research question – whether original saxon settlement still exists would be looked at if any other development.

Pre and post medieval development of the village.

Two conservation areas.

Obligations for historical buildings. Aldermaston Wharf and Aldermaston

Locally listed building – 1, the one put back on. Village Farm Barn, Fishermans lane, Aldermaston, converted in 1983.

Listed buildings are the responsibility of the planning and conservation teams.

Check re other buildings that have come off and should be go back on.

www.westberkshireheritageforum.org.uk

Formally listed buildings – Aldermaston Mill, church farm house (now called the Gables) dates to 18th century, old kennels – almost opposite Youngs, screened off, Mill may still have medieval sources.

The Old Mill e.g. what buildings should be listed or noted.

West Berkshire Heritage Form produces Historic Environment Action Plan. Identifying what assets are important to the district and what areas are important.

Portable Antiquities Scheme – incidental finds.

@BerkshireFlo – follow on twitter, West Berkshire Museum in Newbury ‘Wednesdays.

Heritage Gateway – on line database here, on line for free, step by step guide to help a Berkshire related record.

Archaeology Data Service, Defence of Britain Database, Britain from above aerial photos, Victoria county history.

Advanced search to find finds found in Aldermaston parish.

West Berkshire Council online. <https://Gis1.westberks.gov.uk/applicationtemplates/onlineimap>

On one enquiry form

If out and about not on HER or record could be enhanced.

Heritage crime

Contact points – generic email address, some useful websites www.westberks.gov.uk/archaeology
www.westberkshireheritage.org/local-heritage

@WestBerkshireHeritage - Facebook

Heritage England – used to be active management plans, but may have been cut. Heritage at risk list.

Local listing – material

National listing – nationally important, unique or rare

Notes:

Email address – addition to History Group

Jd3ways@gmx.com

Information on :From you to me and from me to you, give back, tell all the things that never dared tell before.