



QUEENBOROUGH SOCIETY MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2017 IN THE GUILDHALL AT 7.30 pm

PRESENT

COMMITTEE;

Mr. R. Eatwell

Mrs. L. Vine

Mr. G. Mason

Mr. P. Moore

Mrs. A. Mason

Mr. E. Pye

MEMBERS:

Mrs. E. Hancock

Mr. K. Hancock

1) APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received for Mr. Reckless, Mrs. Harris, , Mrs. O'Callaghan, Mrs. Eatwell and members Mr. & Mrs. Boosey.

2) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman the secretary took members through the meeting. The minutes of the meetings held on the 4th August and 6th October we both agreed to be a true record and duly signed by Mrs. Vine.

3) MATTER ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Footpaths - Four members had taken the footpath from Rushenden to Kings Ferry, they found the path just passable but not marked and no signage to show the start of the footpath. The stile on the route also needed repair. Mr. Mason agreed to write a short report on the condition of the footpaths after the footpath from Neats Court to Furze Hill had been walked. The report would be then sent to the Town Council and KCC Footpaths.

4) CORRESPONDENCE:

None

5) MUSEUM:

Mrs. Vine reported that over 200 children from Queenborough School had visited the museum over one week to learn about various aspects of Queenborough history. Mrs. Vine then attended an assembly where the children presented short reports to the whole school on the history they has learnt.

Mrs. Vine was pleased to report that the Museum had been presented with an award. The Britannia Naval Research Association visited the museum in June and a few weeks ago Mrs. Vine received a telephone call telling her that she was to be presented with the Sir Robert Craven Award for services to the preservation of naval history. The association had been impressed with the information, artefacts and photographs telling the story of Wildfire III. Mrs. Vine and Mrs. Harris attended the

association's annual award evening at the Bear Hotel located in Woodstock just outside Oxford. They had a most enjoyable evening. The after dinner speaker was Ruddy Coleman the current owner of the Golden Hind replica based on the Southwark bank of the Thames. The award in the form of a picture of Nelson surrounded by a laurel wreath and in a large frame will hang with pride at the Museum. Mr. Eatwell wished it recorded that the Society congratulated Mrs. Vine on this recognition which was justly deserved.

6) HARBOUR:

Mr. Moore reported that the specifications for development have gone out to Tender and the Marine Management Plan is being worked on. The current Harbour Controller is leaving his post in January. Visitor numbers are growing year on year.

7) OUT AND ABOUT:

Regeneration development is moving ahead with Phase 1 well under way. Apparently 6 houses have been sold off plan and only 3 days after the sales office was open. The 3 bedroom houses selling for £220,000. Affordable homes have not been built as yet.

Mention was made of Boswain's Stores which is now becoming somewhat derelict. A resident has written to Swale and apparently the structure is stable so the Council cannot do anything about it. Points were made about the property being in a conservation area and trying to approach the Land Registry to find out who owns the property. This will be discussed further in the New Year.

Rushenden Beach and the Galleon was also spoke about again and it is understood that the QFT is looking into this at the moment.

The creek gate is still under construction.

The Vicarage is up for let at a price of £1,050 a month. This revenue goes to the Diocese.

The Church Hall is now paying its way and will not be put up for sale.

8) TOWN COUNCIL REPORT:

Xmas lights switch on this Sunday at 4.00.

Two spot lights are to be put on the rear of the grave yard to reflect on to the path.

Hold up to the play area extension was partly due to English Heritage requesting the ground be checked. Nothing was found.

Mr. Pye spoke about the need for a general hospital and he wanted to run a campaign to this end. The population on the Island was increasing and with talk that Canterbury may close its A & E another hospital was essential. He suggested an area around Swale Halt could be considered. Opinions varied; there was the thought that if another hospital was built then Minster and Sittingbourne would close. The acting Chairman though that the Society needed time to think about Mr. Pye's proposal and further discussion was needed before the Society could commit to a campaign of this nature. This item will be on the agenda for the New Year.

9) SOCIAL PROGRAMME:

There will be no meeting in January. Mrs. Vine will book the meal at Nics for the first Friday in February. With the first meeting set for the first Friday in March.

10) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

11) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 2nd March