



QUEENBOROUGH SOCIETY
MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON 1ST MARCH 2019
IN THE GUILDHALL AT 7.00 pm

PRESENT

COMMITTEE:

Mrs. L. Vine	Mrs. P. Harris
Mr. G. Mason	Mrs. A. Mason
Mrs. M. O'Callaghan	Mr. P. Moore

MEMBERS:

Mr. K. Hancock	Mr. C. Boosey
Mrs. J. Boosey	

VISITORS:

Mr. J. Jones	Mr. R. Silk
Ms. C. Hazeldene	

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSCENCE:

Apologies were received for Society member Mrs. Hancock.
Mrs. Harris chaired the meeting.

2) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5th October 2018 were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

3) ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Secretary had contacted the Town Clerk regarding the lights in the churchyard not shining on the path but up into the trees. It was confirmed that this had now been corrected.

3a) CORRESPONDENCE/EMAILS

One letter had been received from Mr. Jones which had been circulated.

4) PRESENTATION BY MR. JOHN JONES

Mr. Jones was welcomed to the meeting. The Queenborough Town Council had suggested that Mr. Jones contact the Society concerning a Sheppey Heritage Trail. His letter explained about the Trail but Mr. Jones gave further information to the committee and those present.

It was noted;

- Mr. Jones felt that a lot of Island history is not known to the majority of residents. He, himself, only learnt recently of a connection with Captain Cook and Captain Bligh.
- Although the Island has a number of good museums he would like to see a Heritage Trail that could be used by children, residents and visitors alike.
- Mr. Jones also commented on the lack of blue plaques on the Island especially where aviation was concerned.
- Mr. Jones has obtained planning permission for 6 heritage signs at Queenborough, 10 lectern signs along Sheerness and 2 at the entrance to Beachfields.

- He has been doing some costing. Blue plaques are around £500 to a £1,000 depending on materials used. Whereas 3D printing on plastic cards are a fraction of the cost and can be easily placed in a window for example, then with a code reader on a mobile phone a video can be accessed. Heritage signage is around £50,000.
- Mr. Jones problem is the financial aspect of the project. As an individual he cannot raise money on his own but needs a trustworthy organisation with Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer to handle the monies.

There followed a discussion among those present and the following was noted;

- The Society only has a small building society account with no cheque book or cards. Handling the large some of monies expected could prove difficult. It would be unlikely that the Society could help in this respect. However Mr. Moore, associated with the Queenborough Harbour Trust, is in a different position and being a Community Interest Company helping another community based project would come into their remit. He was sure they could help Mr. Jones in this regard and will exchange contact details after the meeting.
- It was also pointed by Mrs. Mason that the history side of Queenborough is not part of the Society's constitution. The Society keeps an eye on the developments in Queenborough, the general appearance etc. and the Museum is the arm of the Society which preserves the history of Queenborough. So plaques and Heritage Trail is not part of the Society's remit. It was also pointed out that there are plaques in Bluetown. In Queenborough there are information points at the Library, park, Well Bank and sea wall the Society therefore would like to be informed as to where the new information would go and the design. On a positive side the Society would support the project especially if letters were needed to go alongside any grant application.
- The Museum would also offer support and was pleased that the Harbour Trust maybe able to help with the financial side as the Museum also runs on a small account.
- Visitor Ms. Hazeldene commented on her attempts to tidy up Queenborough's litter and the creek. She would like to see a new Sluice Gate, the return of the swans and has already installed more litter bins along the sea wall. Her problem is the same as Mr. Jones regarding the money; she is hoping to form a CIC. Again Mr. Moore said the Harbour Trust could probably help her as well and they too would exchange contact details.
- The Society asked Ms. Hazeldene if she would to attend meetings to keep the Society informed of her progress and to see what support the Society could offer.

5) REPORT FROM MUSEUM

No report from the Museum which will re-open again in April.

6) REPORT ON THE HARBOUR

Mr. Moore reported. Having received the £500,000 grant for the new moorings there was a very tight deadline, therefore SBC are acting as banker for the Trust meaning there is no set end date. The walkway has been secured with piling. The concrete lighter was condemned for mooring use.

This has now been sold and a replacement steel lighter will be in place later in the year.

7) OUT AND ABOUT

- i) Noted; an unsubstantiated report that Weatherspoon's have been looking into the Queenborough Club site.
- ii) There is a petition in the Post Office in support of the sighting of the Post Office in Queenborough Stores.
- iii) Mrs. Mason reported that Ashley Shiels had shown interest in joining the committee. He would be able to supply any important matters from the Town Council as he is serving on the Town Council at the moment.

8) AGM

Mrs. Harris agreed to exchange roles with Mr. Reckless. Mr. Boosey said that he would be willing to join the committee. Mrs. Vine and Mrs. Harris offered to supply a few cakes and Mrs. Boosey offered to make a plate of sandwiches. Tea and coffee will be available. Meeting would start at 7.00. The Secretary to put out the required posters.

9) AOB

None

10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING - AGM 5th April

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