



QUEENBOROUGH SOCIETY
MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER 2018
IN THE GUILDHALL AT 7.00 pm

PRESENT

COMMITTEE;

Mr. P. Reckless
Mr. G. Mason
Mrs. P. Harris

Mrs. L. Vine
Mrs. A. Mason

MEMBERS:

Mrs. E. Hancock

Mr. K. Hancock

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSCENCE:

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

2) TO DISCUSS ANY IMPORTANT ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION THAT AROSE DURING THE ABSCENCE OF THE SECRETARY:

The secretary thanked members for their support following the sudden loss of her husband.

There was nothing of major concern that needed discussion. It was noted that the new speed limit road signage was now in place. Members agreed though, that there did not seem to be any noticeable difference to the speed of vehicles travelling around Queenborough.

3) CORRESPONDENCE/EMAILS:

None received.

4) REPORT ON THE MUSEUM:

MUSEUM:

Mrs. Vine gave a brief report, a fuller one will be given at the AGM.

Visitor numbers for children collecting badges for 'Wheels of Time' are still high and this is still proving a popular scheme.

The Duke of Kent's visit had been an obvious high note in the Museum's calendar. The volunteers had laid a wreath at the Wildfire Parade & Service, and had received high visitor numbers during the 650th and Dutch Invasion celebrations. The Museum is to receive an unexpected boost to funds of £300 to be given from the Council of Kentish Archaeology who are in the process of winding up. The Museum will be closed on the 13th October as volunteers presence is expected at the final conference and Mrs. Vine will be required to give a 5 minute presentation on the Museum.

5) HARBOUR REPORT:

Mr. Mason commented on the amount of work that is being carried out to the harbour. Commercial buoys have gone and more moorings laid. Maintenance to the ATL is being carried out and eventually there will be 60 swinging moorings. Members remarked on the increased use of the harbour and welcomed improvements and growth.

6) OUT AND ABOUT:

Mrs. Harris drew members attention to black bags that had been placed along the pathway to Morrisons. This was not the doing of the Town Council or Swale Borough Council but was believed to be a lady resident living in the Stanley Road area. The bags were attached to fencing and were being used. It was agreed that this should be investigated and the person in question put forward for one of the Society's certificates. Mrs. Harris will see if she can find out who this is.

It had been noted that some tidying up had been carried out on the Bosun's store. It was thought that maybe the Town Council had managed to find out who was responsible for the property. The secretary will e-mail the Town Clerk and enquire.

Mrs. Vine reported that she had been approached by the Town Clerk as to the housing of the boards situated in the Queenborough Social Club which were of local interest and should not be destroyed when the Club closes. Mrs. Vine has told the Town Clerk that room could be found in the Museum Social History room provided that someone could carry out the fixing of them.

There was a short discussion regarding the houses to be built on the plot next to the Social Club, apparently 4 houses with parking behind. There was also conjecture on what would happen to the Club itself.

7) TOWN COUNCIL REPORT:

None

8) SOCIAL PROGRAMME: Next meeting to be held on the 2nd November will be the Autumn Social. Mrs. O'Callaghan had asked the secretary to organise food. The following was agreed.

Mrs. Hancock - sandwiches

Mrs. Vine - cheese loaf

Mrs. Harris - sausage wheels

Mr. Reckless - something sweet

Mrs. Mason - nibbles

Mrs. O'Callaghan - to arrange the wine

Mrs. Boosey - secretary will contact about making sandwiches.

Colin Harvey has been booked to show the film made of the 650 celebrations. The secretary will produce posters. It was agreed that the Charter Committee could present the framed medieval tiles during the evening. Members were asked to provide a raffle prize.

Christmas Meal. The Secretary asked those present if they would prefer the Christmas Meal in December or after in the New Year. Views were mixed so it was agreed to sound out those absent members at the November Social, then go with the majority. It was agreed to invite the 4 members who regularly attended the meetings, being Mr & Mrs Hancock and Mr & Mrs Boosey.

9) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Noted that Peel Ports are still looking into expanding the car storage at the Coal Washer.

It was reported that the newly installed light, meant to shine on the path through the churchyard next to the Church Hall, was in fact shining into the tree branches. Mrs. Vine will raise this with the Town Council Clerk.

10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 3rd November - Autumn Social

John Jones
33 Coronation Road
Sheerness
Kent
ME12 2QW

17th January 2019

The Queenborough Society
Queenborough Town Hall
44 High Street
Queenborough
ME11 5AA

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Queenborough Society,

Queenborough Town Council have advised me to contact the Queenborough Society concerning a Sheppey Heritage Trail.

I don't have to tell you the rich and diverse history to which Queenborough and Sheppey can lay claim. Our history is even greater than many of us imagine. Only recently I have discovered that Captain James Cook and his ship the Resolution were at Sheerness for over a month prior to his second voyage of discovery. During this time the eminent botanist Sir Joseph Banks visited the Resolution at Sheerness.

I have been running the Wildfire III website for about four years now. It can be found at <http://www.wildfire3.com/> It got nearly 7,000 visits last month alone. Every week I receive three or four e-mails and on average two of these will lead to more information for the Wildfire III website. The ship database is probably the most important part of the website which lists the ships which served at Queenborough and Sheerness during World War Two. It not only helps to give Queenborough the recognition it deserves, it also helps the children and grandchildren of those who served at Wildfire (Sheerness) and Wildfire III (Queenborough) to find out about their Dads and Grandads and the vessels on which they served.

For the last eighteen months I have been campaigning for a Sheppey Heritage Trail which will bring many benefits to our Island.

Local people, Sheppey Museums and the Swale Borough Council all agree that a Sheppey Heritage Trail is a good idea, but it would seem, that if we want a Heritage Trail, we must do it ourselves!

I have researched, written and compiled the information for our heritage trail, but most importantly, I now have planning permission from the Swale Borough Council for a Sheppey Heritage Trail.

Planning permission is for six flat heritage signs at Queenborough Sea Front, ten lectern signs along Sheerness Sea Front and two lectern signs at the entrance to Beachfields.

Funding now needs to be raised for our heritage trail and to do this I require the support of an organization such as the Queenborough Society.

Will the Queenborough Society support a Sheppey Heritage Trail?

To support a Sheppey Heritage Trail will not require any additional work by the Queenborough Society. I will do it all myself. I cannot raise any funding on my own! Funding will require an established, trustworthy organisation with a chairman, treasurer and committee. Fundraising must be seen to be open and honest. Your treasurer would have to look after any monies we raise.

Should we be able to raise the funding, Sheppey will have an impressive and noteworthy Heritage Trail which will promote our extensive and remarkable history. It will give Queenborough and Sheppey the recognition it so justly deserves. It will draw tourists and day-trippers to our Island who will spend their money in our shops.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Jones', written in a cursive style.

John Jones,
E-mail: johntenthousand@yahoo.co.uk