



QUEENBOROUGH SOCIETY  
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON  
FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE AT 7.00pm

PRESENT

COMMITTEE;

Mrs. P. Harris (Chairman)  
Mrs. L. Vine (Secretary)  
Ms. C. Wilson (Membership)  
Ms. M. Pye

Mr. P. Reckless  
Mr. G. Mason  
Mrs. A. Mason

Mrs. Harris opened the meeting by welcoming those present and informing the committee that along with Mrs. Vine she had attended Mavis's funeral and a donation had been made to the MacMillan nurses of £25 on behalf of the Society.

1) APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received for Mrs. J. St. John Knight

2) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were agreed to be a true record by those who had been in attendance and duly signed by the Chairman.

3) MATTER ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

One item which would be covered in the Treasurer's report.

4) MUSEUM:

A full report was given at the AGM so Mrs Vine gave a short run down on attendance to the Museum. The normal opening times had been increased to accommodate the visit to Queenborough by Jetstream who were running a boat trip from Southend. The Museum now opening on a Thursday from 12.30 – 3.15 to coincide with these trips. Opening dates are posted on the Museum website. There have been a number of visitors including a nice couple from Colombia and Gran Canaria. There had also been two visits from different reporters working for The Telegraph. Two classes from Queenborough Primary School were due to visit on this coming Monday.

Mention was made at the AGM of the Museum using as donation card reader similar to the one used by the Church. Mrs Vine went into the Church for the name of the company which supplied theirs and found that you have to buy or rent the machine and the company take 2.5% plus 10p fee for each transaction. Not everyone will make a donation where as everyone pays their 50p and very often make a donation as well. It would also be some time before the outlay would be recovered. Another factor would be the opening hours of the museum; being closed for 5 months of the year. The Museum piggy backs off of the Town Council internet service which can be

on the slow side and may cause a problem as the machine operates from Wi-Fi. Taking everything into consideration Mrs. Vine did not think this would be a viable proposition and most of the committee agreed. This would not mean that Mrs Vine would stop making enquiries and would look to investing in a purpose made donation tin possible with the Museum logo and updating the current poster pointing out the voluntary nature of the museum and asking for donations.

5) TREASURER

Mrs. Vine reported that herself and Mrs Harris had spoken with Mavis's daughter at the funeral who informed them that some paperwork relating to the Society was available for them to collect from the house. Unfortunately, it was found that the paperwork consisted of old bank statements and three pass books that he been closed. Mrs. Vine went back to Nationwide with the books but once again no record could be found, and it was confirmed that the latest book had been closed but there was no way of telling if this had been by cash or cheque. On the cashier's advice Mrs. Vine paid a visit to TSB to see if there was an account there. But once again no account was held in the Society's name. It now means going back to Michael who unfortunately is not well and can't get to the door, so unless it is open we know he is not there, which he has not been for some time. There was talk of him going to his sister, but we do not have an address. I have still to try Lloyds Bank to see if they have the account so will report back at the next meeting.

6) WELL BANK EVENT FEED BACK

We had a table at the Coronation Picnic on the 7<sup>th</sup> May to promote the Society and Museum. We took a few leaflets and some souvenir items, and we managed to sell a few DVD's.

7) MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Ms. Wilson reported that she had been contacting lapsed members and had produced a short form for new members. At the moment there was 16 paid up members with more expected to pay in November at the Social. It was agreed after discussion that paid up members would receive free admission to the Museum once a year.

There followed a lengthy discussion about what the Society was offering for membership. It was noted that;

- The Town Council is now the go to body in Queenborough for residents, and receives planning applications to comment on. When the Society was first formed there was no Town Council and the Secretary received regular reports on planning and the local plan from SBC. Hardly any correspondence is received now.
- The Town Council is not concerned with the history of Queenborough.
- It was agreed after discussion that the Society should remain active but with a different purpose; that of conservation and preserving Queenborough's history. The Society could be rebranded at the Autumn Social as the Queenborough History and Conservation Society. Graham and Marie to look into drafting a new constitution and mission statement.

- 8) SOCIAL PROGRAMME:  
Allocation of food responsibility to be sorted at the next meeting along with raffle prizes, speakers etc.
- 9) ANY OTHER BUSINESS  
None
- 10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023