

MILTON KEYNES HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MKHA MEMBERS MEETING

Monday 23rd November 2015. Woburn Sands Memorial Village Hall
7.00pm for 7.30pm

PRESENT

David Muston (Chair)	Calverton Records Project
Dianne Sutton (Treas.)	Bradwell Parish Heritage Group
Neil Loudon (V.Chair)	Milton Keynes Museum Society (formerly Stacey Hill Society)
Cheryl Butler (Minutes)	Deanshanger Village Heritage Society
Geoff Dawe	Two Villages Archive Trust
Joy Dawe	Two Villages Archive Trust
Roly Doggett	Bletchley Archaeological & Historical Society
Ruth Meardon	MKC Libraries - Local Studies
Aggie	MKC Libraries - Local Studies
Athina Beckett	Bucks Canal Society
Paul Cox	Woburn Sands Collection
Peter Skelton	Woburn Sands & District Society
Alistair Ewing	Woburn Sands & District Society
Vanessa Skelton	Woburn Sands & District Society
Roly Doggett	Bletchley Archaeology & Historical Society
Brian Giggins	Towcester & District Local History Society
Sue Blake	Castlethorpe & Haversham
Marion Hill	AHA & Living Archive
Tony Kesten	CLASP
Robert Excell	Individual Member
John Clarke	Woburn Heritage Centre
Diana Kesterton	Bow Brickhill History Society
Helene Hill	Buckingham Old Gaol
Kay	Buckingham Old Gaol
Peter Barnes	Simpson & History Group
Sue Messham	Woughton Heritage Group
Tim Skelton	MK Forum - Visitor

APOLOGIES

Shane Downer	Milton Keynes Council - Heritage Development Officer
Nick Crank	Milton Keynes Council - Senior Archaeological Officer
Henk van Aswegen	MK City Discovery Centre
Jennifer Cooper (Hon. Sec.)	New Bradwell heritage Group
Alan Cooper	New Bradwell Heritage Group
Anna McEvoy	Stowe House Trust
Sheila Fitchett	Road Local History Society
Mike Neale	Olney & District Historical Society
Roger Emery	Wolverton & District Archaeological & Historical Society
Ruth Roy	Tingewick Historical Society
Chris Stapleton	North Crawley Historical Society
Richard Pearson	Newport Pagnell Historical Society
Bill Andrews	National Badminton Museum

Speaker: Simon Peart

Milton Keynes Council – Local List

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
1.0	<p>Welcome The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting thanked the hosts Woburn Sands Collection and Woburn Sands & District Historical Society who have kindly put on display items from their collections for all to see. Dave outlined the agenda for the evening and welcomed Paul Cox to talk about the Woburn Sands Collection</p>	
2.0	<p>Woburn Sands Collection – Paul Cox Paul welcomed everyone to Woburn Sands, a town on the outskirts of the County. He first started the Collection in 1989 after attending the MKHA website training course. In the 10 years since the site was launched the site has had over 85,000 visitors and over 300,000 hits on pages from all over the world - Greenland is the only country not to have looked at the site. Woburn Sands growth and prosperity is based on its transport links and health industry. It was a toll on the Hockliffe to Newport Pagnell road and then came the railway at Hog Sty End. The town boomed during the 19th century as Woburn Sands climate was considered to be better for TB than most European Countries. This resulted in the gentrification and house building with a wealthy influx of visitors and a strong tourist trade – especially postcards and crested china which forms much of the collection.</p>	
3.0	<p>Guest Speaker: Simon Peart, Manager, Milton Keynes Council Conservation and Archaeology Dept, - The Local List Dianne introduced the speaker Simon Peart</p> <p>The Local List about to be embarked upon is a listing of MK assets a building a monument, site place, area or landscape that can be identified as having a degree of significance and is different to those that qualify as official Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM), or covered by Conservation Area status. It does not have to be a building but must be part of the New Town.</p> <p>Simon outlined the problems of getting the proposal of a list through MK Cabinet as there were strong anti concerns about any listing affecting development and economic growth. He gave an overview of some of the buildings and areas given protection in the area from 1982-2012 which included SAM Bury Field Newport Pagnell Civil War ramparts, the historic site Royal Train Shed, Wolverton and Bletchley Park code breaking associated buildings amongst many of the New Town buildings.</p> <p>Considerations will be assessed under 2012 English Heritage Good Practice for Local Listing Guidelines by the MKC Local List Committee. His Department will now liaise with key partners from the area, prepare a bid for HLF grant complete the research phase and define the selection criteria. MKC Arch Dept will now (under new planning regs) not have to commit so much resource to Planning Applications.</p> <p>Simon discussed with the Members ideas that might be added to the MK New Town List Suggestions included Balancing Lakes, local traditional micro brewery pubs, lamp post street furniture, Peace Pagoda, Port Cacheres Sculptures – public art e.g. Mobias Band outside Ashton & Norfolk House buildings. Landscapes and green spaces, bridges and grid roads</p> <p>Local List status would not necessarily protect item for all time but would require detail records and considerations being made before removal/alteration, etc. Simon stated Committee would welcome representations from organisations such as MKHA and is aiming to have the system operating by 2017</p> <p>Simon was thanked on behalf of the members for an interesting and most informative talk by Dianne and the Chair</p>	
4.0	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting The minutes of the last meeting 23rd June 2015 at Castlethorpe were approved</p>	
4.1	<p>Matters Arising 12.1 Northants CC proposal to outsource (semi-privatise) County Records Office, Tony Kesten asked that this happened to MK/Bucks area what would MKHA position and action be? Dave said this would be a serious matter</p>	

5.0	<p>Members Reports</p> <p>Please email photos and copy i.e. captions, notes, bullet-points for the update on the activities and events of your organisation as part of the Members Reports for the next meeting to Dave Muston david@davidmustondesign.co.uk Email them no matter what size. Preferred that you do not to send in Power point format</p> <p><i>Members Reports are limited to 2mins each so a picture is worth a 1000 words!</i></p>
5.1	<p>AHA-MK Great War MK – Marion Hill</p> <p>Slides of the activities of the joint arts and heritage projects were given including detail report from Deanshanger and Simpson. A report of the Showcase Finale 6th November a performance of heritage, dance, music, arts, and film on stage and in the foyer at The Venue Walton High was a great success. The exhibition panels are available for loan if required - contact Living Archive.</p>
5.2	<p>Buckingham Canal Society – Athina Beckett</p> <p>Volunteers from Santander have been assisting the Society and slides show them put to good use at Cosgrove siphoning water into dry sections. Bridge No 1 and abutments have been uncovered and more remains than originally thought and now need clearing.</p> <p>Concern re MK Dons FC proposal to build Football Academy Training Centre, 10 pitches and accompanying buildings on existing farmland. Planning is yet to be applied for. They will need to talk to BCS re access across the Canal from one side to the other. The Canal land otherwise is unaffected.</p>
5.3	<p>Simpson – Peter Barnes</p> <p>Great War MK project refurbished the War Memorial and the Memorial plaque in the Church. A re-dedication service was held and each person named on the memorial is commemorated on the anniversary of their death. Poems were performed on stage at the Grand Finale</p>
5.4	<p>Calverton & Wolverton Arch & Historical & District Society – Dave Muston</p> <p>Slides show visit by two groups to MK Western expansion site. Guided tour by Border Archaeology was successful and they were shown many interesting finds and an air of suppressed excitement over the uncovered cobbling to date, but more work required. The Groups were invited to return at a later date to view final outcome.</p>
5.5	<p>CLASP – Tony Kesten</p> <p>Leaflets produced with MKHA sponsorship were tabled with thanks. Tony welcomed comments on the style of them etc.</p> <p>Nether Heyford Graves – metal detectorists have uncovered Shield Boss. Male and female skeletons uncovered at Whitehall and will go back and dig site. Currently cleaning finds from Bannaventa.</p> <p>CLASP has been asked to assist Flore by-pass works</p>
5.6	<p>Woburn Heritage Centre – John Clarke</p> <p>Woburn Festival in September was successful and Open Gardens Day and Scarecrow competition went well. WHC participated in Herts, Beds & Essex Museum Passport deal however it didn't start until July and only sold 5 and received no users from those purchased via other museums</p>
5.7	<p>Deanshanger Village Heritage Society – Cheryl Butler</p> <p>Deanshanger Feast 2016 was the final one to be organised by DVHS - as we're all getting to old to manage and run it. We went out on a bang with nigh on 3000 people attending along with Mayor of SNC and Andrea Leadsome MP. We raised over £1000 for The Air Ambulance matched with another £1K by Santander (via employee status qualifier) and £300 for the village Day Centre. We are currently looking to find other providers within the village in the hope that the Feast will continue.</p>
5.8	<p>Woughton Heritage – Sue Messhan</p> <p>Groups debut exhibition on local church had over 400 visitors in the 3 days a most encouraging start to the group. Made use of local expertise in the area and family to produce the graphics.</p>

<p>5.9</p>	<p>Buckingham Old Gaol - Helene Hill Slide showing Silver Penny 978-1016, Athelred. Example of hoard found at Lenborough (village outside Buckingham). Lenborough Anglo Saxon coin hoard appeal pledge forms tabled. Bucks County Museum is trying to raise money to purchase to keep it within the County. The hoard is the 3rd largest found and the largest Saxon hoard found.</p> <p>Slide showing Queen Victoria's Shawl this has been conserved thanks to MKHA for contribution. Next process is to purchase a showcase and promote its existence in the collection.</p> <p>Old Gaol had record number of visitors in August. Next project is to reprint <i>Around Buckingham</i> leaflet (MKHA grant application in progress)</p>	
<p>5.10</p>	<p>Archeaology Day CMK Library Not as popular as previous years but still good turn out. Sessions included 17th Century Warship excavations Cotswold Archaeology Must Farm (Pompeii of the Bronze Age) – Cambridge Archaeology Dept. Usual activities upstairs with exhibition about <i>Discovering Archives</i> and activities for young people. Stalls and small exhibitions from CLASP etc for visitors were also on show.</p> <p>No other reports received</p>	
<p>6.0</p>	<p>MKHA / MKC Grants Money received from MK Council £3465. Members were urged to make applications. Neil has completed report on 2014-15 grants for the Council and the Business Plan required by the Grant conditions is in its final stage and will be approved at next Exec meeting</p>	
<p>6.1</p>	<p>Current Grants to members: Grants to members 2014/15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bucks Canal Society: Walking Trail Leaflet £750 - <i>wip</i> • North Crawley: Great War Project display and booklet £500 - <i>wip</i> • Simpson Historical Society: WW1 Booklet £500 – <i>wip</i> • Towcester & District Historical Society: £150 children's writing competition – <i>complete</i> • Two Villages Archive Trust - Promotional Bookmark £200 - <i>complete</i> • Hanslope & District Historical Society – scanner and external hard drive £200- <i>wip</i> • Living Archive re print Calverton project - <i>completed</i> <p>Please apply and remember MKHA Executive Committee members are available to help you with applications. Download application form on MKHA website</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Use the MKC Grant or we lose it!</u> Contact: mkha@buckspoint.org.uk</p>	
<p>7.0</p>	<p>MKHA IT Training Update : Dave Wednesday shared experience sessions continuing at MK Museum feel free to come along</p>	
<p>7.1</p>	<p><u>Wordpress Training</u> More Word Press workshops will be arranged to start in New Year</p>	
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report – Dianne Young Heritage Hunters HLF project now completed and £3k returned unspent. Dianne is looking into better % return than currently receiving from deposit account.</p> <p>Dianne demonstrated the remote personal microphone as discussed at AGM. Now available for loan to members.</p>	
<p>9.0</p>	<p>MKHA Business Plan Report Responses have been added to the revised draft from MKHA Exec and will be approved at next Exec Meeting. Thanks to all those who have contributed. This is an on-going working document</p>	

10.0

Membership Secretary Appointment

Robert Excel has taken on the role of Membership Secretary for the Exec. His job is to liaise with member groups and promote MKHA, He has already contacted several groups, visited Tingewick and spoken with Sulgrave Manor Director.

11.0

AOB

11.1

Dianne has met with Mike John of Secklow Sounds who has offered the opportunity for members to host a regular Heritage spot on the radio. If interested a microphone would be loaned and you would undertake the interviews, however it has to be a regular commitment weekly/monthly etc. Contact Dianne if interested

12.0

Next Meetings – *Details will be circulated nearer the date*

Mon 21st March 2016 Milton Keynes Village Hall

Tues 21st June 2016 Yardley Hastings

All meetings are at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start

If any member organization would like to host a main members meeting please let us know – we are able to meet charges for hiring of halls.

Contact Jennifer Cooper. mkha@buckspoint.org.uk