

Minutes of the BVADC meeting on the 12 June 2018 held at the Almonry

Present – Lesley Samms, Caitlin Wheatley, Allan Russell, Glenna Favell, Margret Kiloh, Mary Midgley with Tina and Peter Green giving apologies for arriving late.

Apologies – Carol Harris

Minutes were approved.

Lesley Samms gave a Report as follows:

Finance subcommittee – The evaluation report drafted for submission to Heritage lottery fund (HLF) by Lesley Samms and Mary Midgley has been approved by HLF which in turn has released the final 10% of the fund which is kept back until the reports' submission. This has meant that the time capsule to be sited beside the orb can be purchased. It will be a lead capsule which should be weatherproof. The committee agreed unanimously to the purchase.

A discussion then took place as to what should be engraved on the lid and it was unanimously agreed that the following wording would be appropriate:

Battle Heritage Time Capsule 2018

The time capsule will be cemented in and it was agreed that we will check with Carol that when she orders it she checks if it is necessary for anything such as silica gel to be added.

There are 2 stone sculptures still to be erected, and the chosen sites were both on land owned by East Sussex County Council (ESCC), one by Marley Lane Roundabout and one by the bus stop at the entrance to Uckham Lane. ESCC has asked for a license fee of £700 and a survey fee of £300 for each site and that we would need to use an approved contractor to install these sculptures from their list. (unknown cost). The finance committee agreed that should we choose to still install these sculptures on the agreed sites, it could only be done for one of the two sculptures and it was agreed that the sculpture with the way markings on needed to stay at the proposed site in Marley Lane. Lesley therefore proposed that the other marker relating to the church should be moved to Cherry Gardens which is town council ground. This was agreed unanimously. It was suggested that Carol should take this to the next town council meeting to get approval for this.

Glenna asked if it was possible to site the Marley lane sculpture in Lake field i.e. just the other side of the fence. This is National Trust ground, and it was agreed that Mary would ask Carol to approach the National Trust to see if this was possible and what if any fees would be due.

Mary will chase Gavin to see how the two marker sculptures are coming along and Elliot to get an idea as to when the orb will be installed at the Almonry.

Lesley went on to say that we have as a team done lots of research and found lots of things that still need to be further researched and recorded. Such things as the Beauport Bloomery for which there are lots of artefacts in the Almonry cellar which it was suggested perhaps should be catalogued for the Heritage List – permission should be sought from the museum for this and it is possible that it has already been done.

Mary has been by chance conversation offered the loan of a painting of the high street which was painted circa 1870. This could perhaps be used for an exhibition, or indeed an image taken for promotional use.

Lesley, Margret and Peter are off to Smarden to see how they have achieved a digital archive, and Lesley wondered if they would be able to scan the painting for us. The council would need to insure the painting for the day, and Lesley will ask Carol about insurance. Lesley will also seek permission from the owner of the painting for this and discuss what she and her husband would be prepared to let us use the painting or an image of it for. Carol may need to produce a letter of permission regarding what the agreed outcomes are with the owner.

The council have taken over the sale of the activity books which are now on sale, and they are currently available in two shops in the town.

Margret asked about the map which was to be produced as part of the project. Lesley advised her that because of our limited budget, a deal was struck with 1066 marketing group to produce the map, and this would mean a wider circulation and a larger amount printed. It will be A4 sized and is currently at the printers and should be out in the town by the end of June. Lesley will circulate the draft.

The launch of this project was also discussed. It was proposed that the launch should happen in 1st week September and that an invite would be given to all the councillors, and all those involved in the project to attend. It was thought that the launch would consist of a walk round the children's trail an unveiling of the orb/time capsule and some tea and cake in the Almonry afterwards. The films could be shown in there whilst tea is being served.

The films will be uploaded to Geotourist once the app has been upgraded to take films.

One outcome of the project is to note the lack of photographic evidence kept and the danger of losing the industrial history aspect of the town.

The health walk group have asked someone to take them round the long trail route, and it was proposed that Loraine from Beat the Street may be willing to do this.

The finance committee will have its last meeting to wrap up the final bills of the project on 4th of July at which point the project will officially close. At that point, the committee from the BVADC, its papers and assets will transfer to the Heritage Education Project working group. The committee was happy with this proposal.

The first meeting of the Heritage Education Project has been held and Margret who chairs this committee will provide a date for the next meeting shortly.

An open day has already been undertaken highlighting the current project as well as the community tapestry and the Heritage Education project. It was thought about 40 people came along, and several surveys for the new project were undertaken. Further surveying needs to be done and to that ends, the survey has been launched online and promoted on social media, and a stand at the Batel Bonfire Boyes fete has been acquired. Lesley asked for assistance on that date. Carol is to be asked to request the assistance of the other councillors, and to find out if there is a contingency plan for wet weather. Peter has offered to put up a laminated poster at the edge of the recreation ground advertising the survey.

Lesley thanked everyone involved in the project for their time and help, and the meeting was closed.