

800 Charter Celebration

Minutes of a meeting held on March 21, 2011, Queen Elizabeth School, Godmanchester

Present

Stephen Spencer (chairman), Alan Hooker (Treasurer), Richard Brown, David Busk, Malcom Cohen, Trish Harewood, John Hoile, Charles Looker, Jo Mackenzie, Alan Martin, Brian May, David Stokes, Alan Suter, John Thackray, Tina Tilley, David Underwood, Sue Young, Peter Heseltine (Minutes)

Apologies

Ken and Pam Sneeth, Jonathan Young, Peter Irving, Ken Savage, Gordon Allgood, Colin Hyams, Nigel Pauley, Ros Brown, Mary Stokes, Trish Harewood.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the chairman. Proposed Alan Martin, Seconded John Thackray

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes

Correspondence

There was no relevant correspondence.

Financial Matters

Grant applications

John Thackray had asked Ken Sneeth and Alan Martin to join him on the Heritage Grant Committee. Before the application was made the committee needed to be clearer about what was intended and the costs. The application would be made in September. Charles would contact Friends of the Muir for a grant.

Club 800

Alan reported that hard work was in progress to reach last year's figures. So far there were 630 re-sold shares. Members were asked to print-off and distribute a flier. The schools have sent out the forms with Parent Mail.

Sponsorship Committee

Brian May had produced a flier (attached) which would go out to local businesses. There were 78 companies related to Godmanchester who would be contacted with the possibility of additional ones in Huntingdon. These would be mailed with a leaflet followed by a phone call. The chairman had been in-touch with FSB and their members would be contacted during an exhibition in April at Wood Green. They could be involved as a supporter or as an event sponsor. Jo Mackenzie offered to join the committee

Forecast / Budget

At present we are on target with £28,000 available at present for the event. Alan suggested it we would be possible to have £33,000 by the time of the event with an eventual possible sum of but ideally would need £43000 to fulfil the current wish list. Alan's current budget is attached to the minutes.

Work outline and Programme

This needed to be tied down and costed more precisely. A Steering Committee of John Thackray, David Underwood, the Chairman and Alan, was formed. Six or seven people were envisaged. This would cost events and activities more closely and make sure work was more co-ordinated. It would help to ensure people were co-ordinated and, if necessary, stimulated.

Living History Event

A minimum of £10,000 + vat was the figure set aside for the week-end activities on the recreation ground. This figure excluded the Friday school day which would be additional £ 5000 if wanted .There were additional items available which could be added on in £2-5000 blocks if finance became available. Alan estimated at least £5000 extra would be required for other items Godmanchester had to provide other than on the recreation ground . The proposal for the event had been circulated to members

Proposed John Thackray and seconded by John Hoile that an initial fee of £5000 + vat be paid to Historical Promotions and Events Management subject to a satisfactory financial check at Company House

Medieval Market

Gordon Allgood reported that this was proceeding well. A street closure would be required and carried out by a professional organisation. Food would be provided by Daphne Evans who had offered to donate 20% of their take to the Celebration. It was anticipated that the event would be self-financing. Discussions had to take place with the Fish and Chip shop. A generator would be required to provide power but it was suggested power could be supplied from businesses along the Causeway.

Historical Signs.

David Stokes reported that the sites had been agreed, subject to owner's permissions. Wording and design would be supplied to a future meeting. An initial eight signs were envisaged. A report is attached.

Activities and Events

Staffing

A large number of people would be required to staff the events. Each group should identify the people required. The Steering Committee would look at this further.

Study Day

The proposal for a study day on the history of Godmanchester was agreed. Details were attached to the Agenda.

Literary Competition

Trish reported that the Hunts Post had offered to provide a leaflet. The details would be supplied to the Steering Committee.

Town Sign

Peter Irving reported a design would be available by the end of the week and would be circulated.

Twinning Committee

The Steering Committee would ask the Twinning Committee to firm up their offer of Hungarian Dancers and the arrangements.

Children

A commemorative mug for each child would be provided. Additional mugs could be sold. Malcolm suggested a commemorative plate.

Parish Church Events

A Thanks-giving Service would be arranged. A concert was arranged for June 30 in the church.

Any other Business

David Busk said a formal link with a Uganda school (Kyabutashe) and St Ann's School was being agreed. Ramsey Parish Church had begun the link.

Publicity

This would be the responsibility of the Steering Committee.

Olympic Torch

John reported he had been in touch with the Olympic Committee and that the town was might be added to on the list of possibilities for a visit. John Thackray was to formalise the request.

Future meetings

These would be scheduled for the third Monday of each month: April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21 and December 19.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 18 at the QE School at 8.00 pm