

Whitchurch Town Council

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HERITAGE COMMITTEE

**Minutes of a meeting of the Heritage Committee held on TUESDAY 9th
FEBRUARY 2021 virtually via Zoom commencing at 10:30am.**

Present:

Cllrs: J. Martin, S Hamlyn, W. McDonnell, Dr J Hoyle, Mr T Fry.

In Attendance:

Gillian Bailey, Locum Support Officer
Morris Clive, Facilities Manager

36. Apologies

Cllr R Snell – Ill health
Cllr B Duffy – previous engagement

37. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

38. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr McDonnell and **HC/18/2021 RESOLVED** confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2021 as an accurate record of that meeting.

39. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

40. Heritage Accounts

In response to a question from Cllr McDonnell it was confirmed that the expenditure code 4717 in the amount of £5,000 is the annual grant from Whitchurch Town Council to the Heritage Centre for expenditure on running costs.

Expenditure code 4988 in the amount of £11,440 is the transfer of funds from Whitchurch Town Council to replace the cupola.

The committee requested information on the expenditure code 4999 in the amount of £5,076.

It was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr McDonnell and **HC/19/2021 RESOLVED** to accept the monthly Income & Expenditure Reports for Months 8, 9 and 10.

41. Heritage Resolution Register

It was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr McDonnell and **HC/20/2021 RESOLVED** to sign off as complete resolutions HC/07/2021, HC/14/2021, HC/15/2021.

42. Craft Centre Alarm

It was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr McDonnell and **HC/21/2021 RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Securacore Ltd to split the Heritage/Craft Centre alarms into two systems at a total cost of: £1,528.26.

Mr Fry advised that the Whitchurch Museum and Archive Trustees have agreed to fund the Main Museum Fire Alarm monitoring in the amount of £248.57.

43. Heritage Centre Maintenance Outstanding

Damp patch at top of cellar steps needs more attention.

Peeling paintwork on windows facing courtyard. Fire Door to courtyard needs replacing.

Water ingress into downstairs.

Completed

Stained ceiling in Ladies toilet has been painted.

New

Re-occurrence of water ingress into downstairs toilet (looks to be entering through missing/cracked pointing).

Mr Clive confirmed that he has arranged for a contractor to attend to look at the rear fire door, the front gate and the loft ladder.

Dave will be returning to work from annual leave and will look at the other outstanding items.

44. Museum and Archives Update

Volunteers

Since the last committee meeting there have been no volunteers working regularly in the building. Just the curator calling in for 4 hours every Tuesday & Thursday to check on security, temperature, humidity, mail and phone messages.

Visitor numbers & Volunteer hours

Volunteer hours were 407 for October, 223 for November, and 284 for December No visitors during December or January

Social Media

A significant increase in Facebook interactions. Our page <https://www.facebook.com/WhitchurchHeritageCentre> has 488 followers, an increase of 28 from last meeting. Also likes up by 27 to 427. All comments posted very positive

Collections

New acquisitions since December meeting include:

- 1952 bus timetable
- 18th century print - view of Whitchurch
- Matchbox label for Prees shop
- 1820s Whitchurch banknote

Activities

Since last meeting

- Curator in contact with Finds Liaison Officer for NW England re.recent finds of medieval silver coins at Marbury
- Two dehumidifiers purchased for downstairs in museum as concern over humidity levels
- New website www.whitchurch-heritage.co.uk up and running with links to our other websites <http://thegreatwar.whitchurch-shropshire.co.uk>, <http://workhouse.whitchurch-heritage.co.uk>, <http://www.allourstories.whitchurchheritage.co.uk/>
- Volunteers are working from home adding extra information to websites
- Volunteers are researching the following topics: Whitchurch Soldiers who fought in the Crimean War, Patents granted to residents of Whitchurch and the surrounding area, Soldiers from Whitchurch who served in Canada 1750 to 1870
- A 35 page illustrated booklet has now been prepared using the patent information and will be published by the end of this month
- The collection cataloguing system is being upgraded from Modes Compact to Modes Complete

Mr Fry advised that a recent complaint regarding comments on social media had now been resolved. He requested that in future any complaints be referred to the Trustees for resolution.

45. Confidential Business

There was no confidential business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:03am

Signed

Date