

# MILTON KEYNES HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF MKHA MEMBERS MEETING

Thursday 25th June 2018 at Stowe House  
7.00pm for 7.30pm

### PRESENT

Robert Excell (Chair)	Individual Member
Dave Muston (Vice Chair)	Calverton Records Project
Dianne Sutton (Acting Treas.) (Hon. Sec.)	Bradwell Parish Heritage Group
Cheryl Butler (Minutes)	Post Vacant
Charlotte Hall (Exec)	Deanshanger Village Heritage Society
Neil Loudon (Exec)	Woughton Heritage Group
Anna Mc Evoy (Exec)	Milton Keynes Museum Society
Helene Hill	Stowe House Preservation Trust
Kay Meadows	Buckingham Old Gaol
Chris Stapleton	Buckingham Old Gaol
Michael Held	North Crawley Historical Society
Lynn Kent	Two Villages Archive Trust
Peter Kent	Two Village Archive Trust
Tony Kesten	Two Village Archive Trust
Dave Hayward	CLASP
Mike Wittle	CLASP
Peter Barnes	St Mary's Church, Bletchley
Amanda Molcher	Simpson Historical Society
Shane Downer	The Cowper and Newton Museum
Janie Burns	Milton Keynes Council – Senior Heritage Development Officer
Ian Michie	Milton Keynes Council
Peter Blake	Individual Member, & Chair Of MK Public Arts Trust
Sue Blake	Castlethorpe & Haversham
4 x Volunteers	Castlethorpe & Haversham
1 x Staff Member	Stowe House Preservation Trust
	Stowe House Preservation Trust

### APOLOGIES

Bill Griffiths (Hon President)	Milton Keynes Museum
Alan Cooper (IT Officer)	New Bradwell Heritage Group
Jennifer Cooper (Social Media Officer)	New Bradwell Heritage Group
Athina Beckett	Buckingham Canal Society
Catherine McIntyre (Exec)	MK City Discovery Centre
Tim Skelton	MK Forum
John Clarke	Woburn Heritage Centre
Judith Jeffcoate	North Bucks Decorative & Fine Arts Society (NBDFAS)
Representative for	Road Local History Society
Nikkii Beales	Greek Orthodox Community
Mel Jeavons	Living Archive MK
Aggie O'hara	MK Libraries – Local Studies
Brian Giggins	Towcester & District Local History Society & Towcester Historic Survey
David Morgan	Individual Member, Shenley
Representative for	Stewkley

Item	Matters Discussed	Action
1.0	<p><b>Welcome</b> Anna McEvoy, House Custodian, Stowe House Preservation Trust welcomed everyone and gave a guided tour of the House and refreshments were taken before the meeting started.</p> <p>Robert Excell welcomed all to the meeting thanking Anna, her staff and volunteers for an excellent tour and a rather grand and spectacular venue for a Main Members meeting. Robert then outlined the agenda, thanking Dave for providing the media screen content for the meeting.</p>	
2.0	<p><b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b> Minutes from the last meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at Newport Pagnell were approved.</p>	
3.0	<p><b>Matters Arising – MKHA Exec Committee Succession</b> <b>MKHA Officer Honorary Secretary/Administrator and Committee posts for Education and Marketing</b> The Committee still has vacant posts above. Please could you pass on the information to your members, if more information is required please contact any of the Exec Committee</p>	ALL
4.0	<p><b>MKC Senior Heritage Development Officer's Report – Shane Downer</b> <b>MK: Design City Presentation</b> The 6<sup>th</sup> Main Point of the Report made by the MK Futures 2050 Commission, outlined culture (including heritage) should be profiled at the highest level and it should be exploited for the way forward MK. A new Creative and Cultural Strategy, led by Shane, has been developed its premis being MK is more than a new town and is to include the greater MK area (along the footprint of MKHA). Any and all heritage projects will contribute to the MK:Design City project. The USPs for Design City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grid City - the new city</li> <li>• Green City -parks lakes wildlife corridors etc as well as 'green' environmental conditions which MK once led and must now recapture</li> <li>• City of People – MK has always had and still has a migration and diverse populace and is recognised as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Wave New Town</li> </ul> <p>Heritage is to be used to inform policies, developments etc of the MKC &amp; stakeholders future strategies. Thus making Heritage and Arts the hub for any progress. MK: Design City proposed events: IF - the international biannual arts festival now in its fifth event will continue this year and beyond 2018 The European Year of Culture - Sharing Culture programme underway 2019 - Creative Urban Living Festival (Aug-Sept) a high quality key event to focus on Design including an Architectural Design competition (like those held before e.g. Home World) 2021 Different by Design – proposal working towards MK becoming an UNESCO Creative City of Design 2022 Support Almere (MK's twinned Belgium City) when it holds a world expo <i>Floriade- From Garden City to Green City</i></p>	ALL
4.1	<p><b>MKC Grant to MKHA</b> Shane announced he has confirmed to MKHA Exec the continuance for this and next year of the MKC grant to support MKHA member activities Robert thanked Shane on behalf of Members for the continued support and for the presentation and was sure Members would support the Design City projects where possible</p>	
5.0	<p><b>Treasurer's Report – Dianne reported</b> Current Account £12,595.33 Deposit Account £3431.64 Long Term Deposit £5149.49</p>	
6.0 6.1	<p><b>Grants - Neil</b> <b>MKC Grant</b> Neil thanked MKC for the next tranche of £3465 year grant as announced by Shane. Neil has presented the final report for the previous year's grant money and Shane was happy with the outcomes. There was over-spend but the previous year's under-spend offset this.</p> <p>Thus Exec now has grant money available to Members of up to £750, forms downloadable</p>	

<p>6.2</p>	<p>form MKHA website. Applications must meet the Grant criteria (laid down to compatible with with MKC's own conditions).</p> <p><b>Members' Grants</b>  £250 - £750 Grants are available through applications there are some qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants apply to those members outside of MK unitary as well as within</li> <li>• Must be a member for at least 18mths</li> <li>• No grant will be offered within 18mths for a repeat grant – with possible exceptions for special events, e.g. HODs</li> </ul> <p>If you need assistance contact any Exec Member or contact: mkhabuckspoint.org</p> <p><u>Most recent Grants awarded</u>  £400 to North Crawley History Group for display screens  2 more applications pending with conditions and criteria to be approved  2 ring-fenced <i>Conflict to Cosmopolis</i> outstanding awaiting completion by the end of 2018</p> <p>As an example of a recent grant award, Anna tabled a copy of <i>The Buckingham &amp; Stowe Times</i> historical news pamphlet, for which Stowe was a grant recipient when it partnered with Buckingham U3A to produce the publication. Buckingham Old Gaol sells the publication and reported it was a 'good seller'.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>7.0 7.1</p>	<p><b>MKHA News</b>  <b>MKHA Website Update &amp; Newsletter</b>  Alan has been working on a new design for the MKHA website and Dave attempted to show work done to date although using scroll tab on laptop hindered the demonstration. He did show how to access members sites via a location map and a drop down box. The list of members was now so large it won't fit easily on one page. A drop down box with an alphabetical list will be accessible when clicking on 'Members' at a later date.  NB Alan to be advised CLASP not included via map access pin and Haversham missing on the dropdown Family History site  Advantage: With the use of Anna's phone it was demonstrated that the format automatically changed to be viewed on all e-devices and Dave emphasized that statistically around 34% of users access websites via mobile phones.  Neil stressed, in Alan's absence, that the new site was still a work-in-progress. Please could all members access the site and advise Exec of any elements yet to be transferred across see www.mkheritage.org.uk</p> <p>Members are reminded that they must transfer their sites to our new host provider by the end of the end of December 2018. We would therefore encourage you to transfer your site to Wordpress rather than use existing software which is more compatible to today's users.  <b>NB all sites will be migrated across from December 2018</b> and some system links may no longer be operable on your site. The onus is on each group to monitor its own site. If you have any queries please contact: alan@buckspoint.org.uk</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>7.2 7.3</p>	<p><b>MKHA Newsletter</b>  Circulated every Monday, since GDPR requirement to re-sign up MKHA users have dropped from 200 to 170 recipients - a good turn around. These numbers don't allow for it being forwarded within Member's own groups. If you do forward it is advised: remove the 'unsubscribe' footer or another may well unsubscribe you as the original recipient.</p> <p>Thanks to Alan for the varied content and updates and if any member has an event remember let Alan know and he will add it to the next issue: alan@buckspoint.org.uk</p> <p><b>MKHA Training &amp; Information Papers</b>  Following on from the last meetings suggestions for possible training sessions if you have any other suggestions/requests please let the Exec know in person or at: alan@buckspoint.org.uk It is intended to re start training sessions in the autumn  Listed to date:  GDPR and Privacy Policy  Archiving training on physically undertaking (conservation materials, handling, storage etc)  IT skills  Digital Archiving  Exhibition/Display skills  Use of Cameras  Desk Top publishing – producing on-line publications and printed promotional material  Marketing  Copyright regulations and guidelines on acknowledgments and credit lines</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	<p>Care of photographs, documents etc</p> <p>Catherine, Archivist MKCDC and Heritage MK, has updated the MKHA guideline paper on Care and Preservation of Paper Documents and Photographs. This will be branded and added to the new website and Newsletter as a downloadable PDF. Work is continuing upgrading other themed papers.</p> <p><b>8.0 ARCH-MK: Anna &amp; Neil</b>  Members were asked, via a show of hands, whether they remembered the project that the Exec had been developing. Only a couple of hands were raised! Neil and Anna gave a brief outline:  A project (application to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to be submitted that deals with important issue of safeguarding, protecting and recording the 2-dimensional material that Members have in their collections. Items probably stored in cupboards, under beds in attics and basements etc and all at risk!</p> <p>Appointed professional project staff will assist and train a selected number of group's representatives in a pilot study. These Members are to choose a part of their collection for digitisation, create professional documentation and public access records and will have use of a provided back-up storage vault to host their collections. The trained representatives will be tasked with continuing the work and training others in the systems, processes and procedures. The project is open to <b>all</b> MKHA groups not just those within the unitary authority. There is obviously a level of commitment required from participants.</p> <p>The Exec has been working on preparing the outline brief, costs etc and working up the HLF application, some confusion over which HLF grant has arisen but is seeking help from HLF Regional Officer. The project will compliment the proposed MKC plans for a future planned City Archive.</p> <p><u>Workshop:</u> A Saturday afternoon informal workshop in October (date tbc) is to be held for Member's in order to refresh, update and inform Members about the project. An atmosphere created for sharing successes and failures of systems/processes/procedures currently used and members are invited to bring along any examples of these to further the discussions.  <b>Look out on MKHA News and emails for workshop date</b></p> <p><b>9.0 Heritage Open Days September 2018</b>  Currently around 90 events spread fairly evenly across the two weekends of Sept 6<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Alan is uploading information to the website and the brochure is about to go to print. In addition to the varied events there are also downloadable walks and trails that can be undertaken at anytime.</p> <p><b>10.0 Member Reports</b>  <i><b>Remember images tell the story of your event/activity much better. Please send to Dave prior to the next meeting: david@ davidmustondesign.co.uk</b></i></p> <p><b>10.1 CLASP Presentation of On-line Atlas of Hillforts of Britain and Ireland by Dave Hayward, Chair</b>  <a href="http://www.hillforts.arch.ox.ac.uk">www.hillforts.arch.ox.ac.uk</a>  A live 15 minute demonstration was given by Dave about the new site revealing how much detail and information is now available about our hillforts put together by many voluntary groups, including 13 sites by CLASP, led by professionals at the Universities of Edinburgh and Oxford. Members were shown how to access the site, the levels and detailed information available and shown images of Danes Camp, Aspley Guise via Google Earth &amp; Maps. There is also a facility to add supplementary information on-line even though the project is now complete.</p> <p><b>Update on recent CLASP activities</b>  Bonnaventura Town on-site work has restarted, interesting early religious activity being uncovered  White Hall Farm Roman Villa now includes an Anglo Saxon cemetery with skeletons in N/S alignment. Stone cists still to be opened to reveal their secrets  Further Geophys survey work with MOLA on and Iron Age site is underway despite dry, hardened ground proving difficult.  Work continues on the deserted medieval village</p>	<p>ALL</p>
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<p><b>10.2</b></p>	<p><b>Buckingham Old Gaol – Helené Hill</b>  Current 'Odd Fellows' exhibition ends 7<sup>th</sup> July. The Organisation has a large banner in poor condition that needs conservation and storage. Can any Members help/advise how the Society might proceed? It was suggested that Newport Pagnell Historical Society, which also has Odd fellows material may be of assistance.  Buckingham Old Gaol is embarking upon a fundraising campaign to purchase Museum Standard display cases to house their Tudor artefacts, most notably the 'Queen of Aragon's" crucifix panel.  Helené tabled a copy of their recently produced Volunteers Handbook for information and help if others want to produce this useful aid.</p>	
<p><b>10.3</b></p>	<p><b>Two Villages Archive Trust – Michael Held</b>  Michael showed presentations of the Trust's last few activities. April 9<sup>th</sup> AGM and farewell to Geoff and Joy Dawes, original members of the group who have now moved away from the area.  TVAT visit to Roman Villa at Piddington, a visit well-worth making!  An enjoyable TVAT Guided Village Walking Tour of Sherington by kind hosts Sherington Historical Society  Coming up in July: Canal Walking Tour of restoration work undertaken by Bucks Canal Society</p>	
<p><b>10.4</b></p>	<p><b>Calverton Records Project – Dave Muston</b>  Dave's updated the work-in progress of reinstating the original Green and Village Pond that disappeared</p> <p>Last weekend Calverton Records Project participated in village Fete and led with a display, previously used at History Festival that most villagers would not have seen and a quiz, only one person had nearly all the correct answers.</p>	
<p><b>10.5</b></p>	<p><u>The remainder of reports were verbal</u>  <b>Simpson History Group – Peter Barnes</b>  Research for the book about Simpson's Great War soldiers is progressing. Most recent discovery was soldier who was a POW and demobbed injured in 1919 and went on to die of inflicted wounds and therefore eligible to be listed on memorials.</p>	
<p><b>10.6</b></p>	<p><b>The Cowper and Newton Museum, Olney – Amanda Molcher</b>  The Museum is 6 months into its HLF supported project; the Barn is being restored and will house displays with Audio Visual. Front of the building onto Market Square is now covered by scaffolding. Two new stores will be created and there will be a new gallery about John Newton to reinforce the fact that he lived and worked in the town and that <i>Amazing Grace</i> was written in Olney!</p>	
<p><b>10.7</b></p>	<p><b>Living Archive MK - Tabled report:</b>  <u>50 People's Stories Project</u> the exhibition showing period is coming to an end in The Events Space, CMK Library. Access now via on-line website: <a href="http://www.mkpeoplesstories.co.uk">www.mkpeoplesstories.co.uk</a>  <u>Discover MK:</u> MK's 80s Music Scene has been the most popular exhibition to date, according to library and social media. Show period has now been extended at the venue upstairs in CMK Library. <a href="http://www.discovermiltonkeynes.co.uk/80s.html">http://www.discovermiltonkeynes.co.uk/80s.html</a>  Due to success of 80s Music Scene exhibition, LAMK now wants to embark on <u>90s Music scene</u>. Can Members help do you have information, photos ephemera – please Get in touch? <a href="mailto:admin@livingarchivemk.org.uk">admin@livingarchivemk.org.uk</a>  <u>MK Trails:</u> Wolverton and now Olney online trail are both available via smartphone.</p>	
<p><b>11.0</b> <b>11.1</b></p>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b>  FREE to any member is a floor-standing pull-up projector screen. Contact Dianne: <a href="mailto:dianne.l.sutton@btinternet.com">dianne.l.sutton@btinternet.com</a></p>	
<p><b>11.2</b></p>	<p>The Great War Commemorations: Historic England is adding to the national list of WW1</p>	

	<p>memorials, if your village memorial is not listed please look at their website and get in touch. 18 from MK area are in process of being assessed for inclusion. Simpson and Woughton are included and both waiting to hear whether they qualify - a huge backlog of applications is making it a slow process.</p> <p><b>11.3</b> Robert made Members aware, especially those from Bletchley area, that the University of Buckingham now houses the Edwrad Legg (local eminent historian from Bletchley) Collection. It includes a large map collection, local postcards and to such things as complete income tax returns of 1868 for Buckingham.</p> <p><b>11.4</b> Copy of Wendy Page's list of themed talks was tabled by Sue Blake - many thanks. These will be added to the Speakers List that is being compiled by Exec at present.</p> <p><b>12.0</b> <b>Next Meetings – 2018 Dates for your diaries</b>  26th September 2018: AGM Granary Tea Room, MK Museum  28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 St Mary's Church, Bletchley</p> <p><b>Further information, papers and details will be circulated nearer each meeting date via MKHA News, so please make sure you're signed up</b></p>	
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