

MILTON KEYNES HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting Wednesday 26th September 2018, 7.30pm Milton Keynes Museum - Granary Tea Room

PRESENT

Bill Griffiths (President)	Milton Keynes Museum
Robert Excell (Chair)	Individual Member
David Muston (Vice Chair)	Calverton Records Project
Neil Loudon (Exec)	Milton Keynes Museum Society
Dianne Sutton (Acting Treas.)	Bradwell Parish Heritage Group
Secretary	Post Vacant
Alan Cooper (Exec IT Officer)	New Bradwell Historical Group
Charlotte Hall (Exec)	Woughton Heritage Group
Cheryl Butler (Exec)	Deanshanger Village Heritage Society
Tony Kesten	CLASP/Bletchley Arch & Hist Society/Woughton HG
Jennifer Cooper	New Bradwell Historical Group
Mike Wittle	St Mary's Church, Bletchley
Athina Beckett	Buckingham Canal Society
Peter Barnes	Simpson Historical Society
Kathy Dentith	Newport Pagnell Historical Society
Barbara Evelyn	Newport Pagnell Historical Society
Roly Doggett	Bletchley Archaeological & Historical Society
Dianne Kesterton	Bow Brickhill Society
Brian Giggins	Towcester & District Local History Society

APOLOGIES

Anna McEvoy (Exec)	Stowe House Preservation Trust
Roger Emery	Wolverton & District Arch & Hist Society
Shane Downer	MKC Senior Heritage Development Officer
Nick Crank	MKC Senior Archaeology Officer
Aggie O'Hara	CMK Libraries – Local Studies
John Clarke	Woburn Heritage Centre
Tim Skelton	MK Forum
Catherine McIntyre (Exec)	MK City Discovery Centre
Paul Cox	Woburn Sands Collection
David Noy	Winslow History project
Helene Hill	Buckingham Old Gaol
Vivian Blyth	Road Local History Society
Amanda Molcher	Cowper & Newton Museum
Chriis Stapleton	North Crawley Historical Society
Sue Crabbe	Bletchley Archaeological & Historical Society
Nick Crank	MK Council Conservation Officer

Item		Action
1.0	<p>Welcome & Introduction Robert welcomed all to the meeting. Thanked Bill for providing the venue and Dianne for organising the refreshments. The Agenda for the evening was outlined</p>	
2.0	<p>Guest Speaker: Bill Griffiths – Milton Keynes Museum Developments Update Tomorrow the Museum is to host lunch for Kate Bellamy, Museums Director, Arts Council England as part of her Buckinghamshire visit.</p> <p>The two new gallery buildings are complete and Bill outlined the proposed displays for both the Archaeology and Modern MK Story galleries. Unfortunately fundraising has fallen short of the £2m needed for the fit out. An application for £1.5m to South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) has been submitted. If successful the work would start in April and galleries opened in Spring 2020. As an interim the Modern MK Story gallery is to house temporary exhibitions which began with Arts installation as part of Fringe IF Festival this autumn. HERstory will open in the new year.</p> <p>Other site developments include an extension to the present Granary Tea Room for which a guaranteed mortgage is to be applied for. The Tea room last year raised £83k for the Museum. A proposed future development is the building of a Temporary Exhibitions Gallery with administration offices above, to be sited adjacent to the Bloomer.</p> <p>The SEMLEP grant requires appointment of staff, but the Museum will retain its tradition of being run by Volunteers. Museum currently has 200 volunteers but with the new developments will need to rise to 400. It's expected that this year's 63,000 visitors will rise to 100,000 by 2020 and increase annually from there.</p>	
3.0	<p>Approval of AGM Minutes 2017 Minutes from the last AGM held 28th September 2017 were approved</p>	
3.1	<p>Matters Arising Correction: Amend spelling of Tony Kesten's surname</p>	
4.0	<p>MKHA Business Plan – Neil Loudon We carried out a HLF health check prior to applying for future funding. This revealed that MKHA is sustainable at our current level of activity although future projects & maintaining grants are reliant on finding additional sources of funding. Another issue we feel strongly about is that we need to be represented in the consortium of the 5 local main MK museums, now known as Heritage MK.</p>	
5.0	<p>Chairman's Report – Robert Excell Membership is currently 68 groups and 2 individual members with an enquiry in the pipeline. There were 3 Meetings of the Association on 5th December at City Discovery Centre, on 22nd March at Newport Pagnell, on 25th June at Stowe House and the AGM. We are grateful to all those who hosted these. The Executive Committee met 12 times during the year</p>	
5.1	<p>Communications with Council Although we don't often see him at our meetings we do maintain contact with Shane Downer, Senior Heritage Officer and have met him several times during the year. This year the MK Council has encouraged development of a more wide ranging 'Creative and Cultural Strategy for MK' rather than separate Arts, Heritage and Sports Strategies. Together with MK Museum, Bletchley Park, City Discovery Centre Living Archive and Cowper & Newton Museum, MKHA has participated in a workshop and ensured you have a voice.</p>	

5.2	<p>New Town Heritage Register</p> <p>Some of you may be aware that Simon Peart the MK Council officer responsible for listed buildings and conservation areas is developing a register of buildings considered to be of particular importance with a view to possible future listing and guiding decision making regarding proposed new developments. The public were able to nominate buildings earlier in the year and we participated in this together with MK Forum. Proposals are currently being sifted and where necessary additional research is being done to evaluate them. The advisory team, which includes MKHA, will be convened to consider these in the autumn & the report will be presented to the councillor responsible for ratification rather than the full council before Christmas. The register will be ongoing, so further opportunities for nominations in the future can be made</p>
5.3	<p>Festival of History 2019</p> <p>Heritage MK is to host another festival 15-16th June 2019 at Campbell Park. Led by Noël James, Director of CDC, MKHA has a place on the organising Committee and will keep you updated on progress. Following the success of the previous event please consider participating in 2019. Your feedback from the 2017 event was passed to Noël.</p>
5.4	<p>MKHA Policies</p> <p>Education, Child Protection and Equal Opportunities policies are due for review in the coming year by the Exec.</p> <p>The year was taken up with the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations and a MKHA policy was drawn up - thanks to Neil and other Exec contributors. There was a very useful seminar organised by the Bucks Archives Network at the OU to which members were invited and information passed on at the subsequent MKHA Members Meeting.</p>
5.5	<p>MKHA Collaboration</p>
5.5.1	<p>AHA-MK (Arts and Heritage Alliance)</p> <p>MKHA Exec Committee has maintained an active Heritage presence at AHA-MK meetings. MK Arts & Heritage Alliance which has a strong influence in MK Council's cultural activities and shaping the Creative and Cultural Strategy.</p>
5.5.2	<p>Discover Milton Keynes</p> <p>The heritage showcase at CMK library, supported with funding by MK Council, has continued through the year with exhibitions including Women who made MK and Music in the 1980s which have been well received. Future funding is under threat and members will be kept informed on developments.</p>
5.5.3	<p>MKHA is a member of the following organisations:</p> <p>British Association for Local History - offers a useful insurance scheme for local groups</p> <p>Community Action MK</p> <p>Bucks Archives Network – 2 members of the Exec sit on the Committee</p>
5.6	<p>MKHA SERVICES</p>
5.6.1	<p>Loan Equipment: don't forget we have some equipment including a projector & loudspeaker device for walks available for loan.</p>
5.6.2	<p>Information Sheets</p> <p>Catherine McIntyre has revised our very useful 'Care and storage of paper artefacts and photographs' information sheet. Copies can be obtained on request.</p>
5.6.3	<p>Speakers List</p> <p>Charlotte Hall is revising our speaker's list. Please contact her know if your group has had any talks which you would recommended to other members.</p>
5.6.4	<p>MK Heritage Leaflets & MK Heritage Maps</p> <p>Leaflets are available for you to promote the organisation at local events. Maps - sell these and raise some money for your group Both available through MKHA Treasurer</p>

5.7 MKHA Training and IT

The development sessions have continued throughout the year on Wednesdays at the Living Archive training suite at MK Museum. Thank you to both organisations for supporting us. Digitisation and Digestives courses have been run this year. It has been suggested that we might be able to arrange a training session on Marketing and Media. If this or any other topic for training courses occurs to your group please let Robert know.

5.7.1 MKHA Website

The front pages of the website are in the process of being re-designed to facilitate access.

5.7.2 Transfer of Member sites to New Host:

All sites must be transferred before next February when the old host site is to be terminated. Members affected by this will be contacted.

5.8 Newsletter

Thanks to the not inconsiderable work by Alan this has become a very valuable tool providing information on an amazing range of activities. Please encourage your members to sign up.

6.0 MKHA Officer & Committee Succession

Although I am grateful for the very committed support of the present committee we would all welcome input from new members. You should all be aware that the position of Secretary has been vacant for some time. This is not necessarily an onerous task the main role being to minute the quarterly meetings and forward external e-mails

7.0 Heritage Open Days 2018 – Dianne Sutton

Once again the highlight of the year must be Heritage Open Days, this year spread over two weekends and with over 90 events. Figures not yet complete currently stand at 8881 visitors. Thank you all for your support and special thanks to Alan for creating the website again this year. 2019 event will be staged across 2 weekends and the week between them

8.0 MK Council & MKHA awarded Grants - Neil Loudon

Grant provided by Milton Keynes Council for the year 2017-18 was £3465. The

The grant criteria and grant application details are available on the MKHA website. The maximum grant that can be given to a member group is £750. Recent grants include:

MKHA member group	Grant	Purpose of grant
Buckingham Canal Society	£750	Walking trail leaflet
Deanshanger Historical Society	£613	Fit out of Exhibition space in Primary school
Stowe House	£644	Booklet with U3A – influence of Stowe on Buckingham
Sherington Historical Society	£654	Village trail leaflet
CLASP	£690	Booklet for History Festival
Simpson Historical Society	£478	Exhibition for HODs
New Bradwell Historic Society	£480.40	Display board in Community Centre
Grafton Regis	£100	Banner History Festival
North Crawley	£391.20	Display panels
CMK Library	£500	Ichthyosaur exhibition & YHH goodie bags
Roade	£750	Contribution to model and exhibition

Some of these falls outside our accounting period this explains the discrepancy between the figures in the list and the Annual Accounts. I would encourage members to continue to apply in the coming year, please contact any Exec Member if you need help or assistance or would like to discuss a possible project

9.0 Treasurer's Report – Dianne Sutton
Audited Accounts were tabled at the meeting with thanks expressed to the auditor.
This year's Accounts show a deficit, but this is explained by some outstanding subscriptions and mainly the differing end of financial years of MK Council and MKHA organisations. Be assured the day to day operational costs are covered by the current subscriptions and thus the current rates are to be maintained. Please pay promptly when subscription renewals are sent out.

10.0 ARCHMK: Proposed HLF Application
This is a project to help members manage their own archive material and make it more available for users. We are hoping to make a submission for HLF funding early next year.

Safeguarding Your Archives an information workshop with details about the proposed project is being arranged for Saturday 20th October 2018, 2pm-5pm at MK City Discovery Centre to engage member groups in the project. Details will be advertised in MKHA Monday Newsletter

There are complementary developments for provision of an archive presence in Central Milton Keynes, initially with a trial of a limited archive provision using the reference library. Members are urged to support these developments to help make archives more accessible to a broader audience and justify the cost of their retention.

11.0 Election of Officers
One nomination for Treasurer was received - Charlotte Hall, Proposed by Cheryl Butler, Seconded by Neil Loudon. Charlotte has been Shadowing Dianne over the past year.
Dianne was thanked for all her years of hard work as Treasurer and a small presentation was made by Charlotte as a thank you on behalf of the Membership.

All existing Officers and Exec Members have agreed to stand and it was agreed to nominate en bloc. Proposed by Dianne Kesterton and Seconded by Roly Doggett

Officers:

Robert Excell	Chair	Individual Member
Dave Muston	Vice Chair	Calverton Records Project
Charlotte Hall	Treasurer	Woughton Heritage Group
Post Vacant	Secretary	

Executive Committee members:

Anna McEvoy	Stowe House Preservation Trust
Alan Cooper	Website Technical Officer, New Bradwell History Group
Cheryl Butler	Deanshanger Village Heritage Society
Dianne Sutton	Bradwell Parish History Group
Neil Loudon	Milton Keynes Museum Society
Catherine McIntyre	MK City Discovery Centre

Shane Downer, MK Council Senior Heritage Development Officer, is an advisor and Council liaison to the Committee

12.0 Any Other Business

Nick Crank :

Announcement of dates for CBA – South Midlands event in October
Archaeology Day Christ the Cornerstone Church CMK , Saturday 3rd November

Dianne Sutton:

Venues and Group hosts for MKHA Main Member Meetings for 2019 are needed – please contact Charlotte Hall. MKHA will pay any hire fees, a venue with WIFI is preferable but not essential

Brian Giggins:

Announced the setting up of a new Group Historic Towcester Survey which aims to survey and record the buildings of Towcester, please contact him if you wish to be involved

13.0 Next Members Main Meeting

Wednesday 28th November 2018 at St Mary's Church , Bletchley 7.15pm for 7.30pm start
Directions and information will be circulated via MKHA Newsletter

The above Minutes of the Annual General Meeting were accepted

Signed:

Date:

Robert Excell
Chair, Milton Keynes Heritage Association