

KENT HISTORY FEDERATION

Minutes of the quarterly meeting held at 2.00 pm on Friday 3 March 2017,
in the Darent Room, County Hall, Maidstone

Present

Mrs Jackie Grebby (Chairman and Editor), Dr Maurice Raraty (Vice-President and Vice-Chairman), Revd Dr Peter Rowe (President, Secretary and Reviews Editor), Mr Robin Thomas (Treasurer), Mrs Jenny Blackburn and Mr Richard Linning (Members of KHF Executive Committee) and 25 representatives of affiliated societies.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Dr Tim Moreton (Kent Portrait Survey), Susan Lavender (BALH), Elaine Baker (Bromley), Dr John Bulaitis (Canterbury Christ Church University), David Collard (Cranbrook), Mrs Irina Fridman (MALSC), Mr Alan Williams (Otham), Mrs Marion Pont (WEA), and Dr John Whyman (Personal Member).

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 December 2016

These were approved as drawn and signed by Mrs Grebby.

3. Matters arising (not dealt with anywhere else in the Agenda)

None.

4. Chairman's Report

Mrs Grebby welcomed a larger than usual attendance at a quarterly meeting. She added that in the March 2017 issue of the *Journal of Kent History* she explained why she was looking for a replacement for herself as Editor. She asked that if anybody were interested in taking on the job themselves, they should contact her. She also mentioned that Dr Rowe was looking to stand down as Secretary, a job he had taken on in December 2013 when his predecessor had resigned for personal reasons with immediate effect. He too would welcome expressions of interest, and would be happy to talk to anybody who might be interested.

5. Secretary's Report

Dr Rowe confirmed what Mrs Grebby had said about his standing down as Secretary. He would be doing it no later than June 2018, when he would be 72 and stepping down from active ministry as an Anglican priest. He had nothing specific to report.

6. Treasurer's Report

Mr Thomas told the meeting that about 25 affiliated societies of the Federation had renewed their membership for the year 2017/18. Six or seven of them had made changes to the details appearing about their societies in the *Journal*.

He said that there was about £2000 in current account, and £5712 in the deposit account. This did not include any payments received in connection with the One Day Conference in Sandwich in May, which Dr Rowe had just handed to him at the beginning of the meeting.

7. *Journal of Kent History*

7.1 Editor's Report

Mrs Grebby reported that she had a couple of articles for the next issue. She appealed for more. She said that Kent's Arts and Libraries had reduced their order from 29 to 25 copies of each issue. There followed a discussion about ways of slowing if not reversing this trend.

7.2 Review Editor's Report

Dr Rowe said that the number of books being received for review in the *Journal* was diminishing, but was pleased to add that reviewers continued to be willing to review what books were received. He was grateful

8. Sandwich One Day Conference: Saturday 20 May 2017

Mr Richard Linning (Sandwich) went into various details about the forthcoming Conference. Dr Rowe said that the number of tickets bought was almost exactly the same number as at the beginning of March in the three previous years.

9. One Day Conferences in 2018 and thereafter

Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh confirmed that Canterbury Christ Church University was willing to host the One Day Conference on Saturday 12 May 2018. The ODC would concentrate on Canterbury during the times of the Tudors and the Stuarts.

Mrs Grebby asked for offers, suggestions and ideas for One Day Conferences in 2019 and beyond. There was a brief discussion about future possibilities.

10. Kent Portrait Survey

Mrs Grebby announced that Dr Tim Moreton had been persuaded to remain with the Kent Portrait Survey. He had however sent his apologies for the meeting, but in any event had nothing to report.

11. Reports

11.1 History Services Team, Kent Libraries, Registration and Archives

A report was given by Mr Rob Illingworth. It is attached.

11.2 Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre (MALSC)

A report was read by Dr Rowe on behalf of MALSC. It is attached.

11.3 CPRE Kent Historic Buildings Committee

Mr Jonathan Fryer reported on the Garrison Church in Sheerness. Following National Lottery funding for consultants to be hired and to develop schemes for what is left of the church, Historic England had agreed to support a group preserving the building and finding a use for it, to include exhibiting a 1,600 sq ft model by the engineer Sir John Rennie of the Sheerness Dockyard. This was rebuilt after the end of the Napoleonic Wars, and Rennie was responsible for the master plan. The next task was for funds of £5 million to be raised to cover the first phase.

11.4 University of Kent

A report was given by Dr Ben Marsh. It is attached.

11.5 Canterbury Christ Church University

A report was given by Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh. It is attached.

11.6 University of Greenwich

No report was received.

11.7 Kent Archaeological Society

Mr Jonathan Fryer told the meeting that he had been away for the whole of February. Before he left he was asked by KAS to say that it was involved in a lot of ongoing work in connection with KAS becoming a new legal entity and needing a new constitution to reflect that. In addition, work was being done by way of preparing for the future running of KAS and its activities. The hope was that the new constitution would be in place by the time of the KAS AGM (20 May 2017).

11.8 British Association for Local History

A report was read by Dr Rowe on behalf of BALH. It is attached.

11.9 Workers' Educational Association

A report was read by Dr Rowe on behalf of WEA. It is attached.

12. Societies' publications

Several publications currently in process of completion were mentioned at the meeting. Dr Rowe expressed the hope that he would receive review copies for the *Journal* in due course.

13. Any other business

Among other items briefly raised, Dr Susan Pittman (susanpittman@btinternet.com) said that two societies she was involved with had produced a waiver form which members involved with projects for a society would sign confirming that any society material used for the project and any digital material produced remained in the ownership of the society,

14. Date of next meeting

Friday 2 June March 2017, in County Hall, Maidstone, immediately following the Kent History Federation's AGM, which is scheduled to start at 2.00pm.

After the formal close of the meeting, Mr Richard Linning gave an account of the activities of the Sandwich Local History Society.

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Date:

Chairman

Attachments:

- Minute 11.1 History Services Team, Kent Libraries, Registration and Archives, Report
- Minute 11.2 Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre Report
- Minute 11.4 University of Kent Report
- Minute 11.5 Canterbury Christ Church University Report
- Minute 11.8 British Association for Local History Report
- Minute 11.9 Workers' Educational Association Report