

Minutes of the SASHA meeting held at the Stockcross Village Hall **on the 21st**
March 2016

Present Brian, Carole, Colin, Irene, Jackie Jane, Jonathan, Leigh, Shirley, Tom. Viv

Treasurers Report Balance at bank £993.76 (including ring fenced funds) This year membership raised £240. All bills are paid up to 22nd March 2016

Website Viv met up with Steve, SASHA website designer. The private members only section is now operating. Viv will be sending everyone their individual log in and password which will have a link to the log in page. Otherwise go to www.stockcrosshistory.org.uk/wp-login user name is first name then password.

Viv has put PDF versions of the census so far transcribed, presented in a uniform view in the member only section. Also the minutes of the AGM and the SASHA constitution.

Thanks to Viv for all her hard work.

Library list books SASHA are to be added along with other transcribed documents such as the Rent Book and 1911 census as they are completed.

Planned talks Nick Young - History of Thatcham - May meeting

Dr. Christopher Scott - Civil War 2nd Battle of Newbury - August meeting

It was decided that the average cost of a speaker being £50 this amount should be donated to the Red Cross, Mathew Brod (February's speaker) charity

The next speaker will probably be in October. Keeping costs in mind the meeting decided on a speaker approximately 4 times a year.

Oral Project The well attended and successful coffee morning resulted in several basic information forms being completed to give a starting point for interviews. Jane showed the meeting a template, obtained from the Oral History Assoc. of a "permission to use" form. The meeting looked at the draft form and discussed its contents. The form should not be off putting and should enable the contributors to express their reservations regarding distribution, if any. SASHA might also need a disclaimer. The details and identity of those interviewed would be reserved for SASHA records, bearing in mind the Data Protection Act. There was a discussion how the oral information collected should be used and who it could be made available outside SASHA members.

Jonathan will approach Gardner Leader to see if they would, free of charge, give an opinion on if the form gives SASHA sufficient legal cover.

The first interview was conducted before the meeting in the small hall. This revealed the sensitivity of the microphone and confirmed the idea that people's own homes would be the best place for interviews to take place.

Jackie will transcribe the interview, it will be edited for pauses coughs and sneezes etc and both the edited and original versions will be retained

Archaeology Jonathan has sorted through Janey "Big Dig" and other finds. Some had been researched but more needs doing and a pottery expert is needed. Among other things there were photographs of children from the school where Janey had worked bought who she had involved in the dig.

There was a discussion about doing further archaeological field walking or similar in the village. Perhaps a "bring what you have found in your garden" coffee morning to drum up interest also possibly involving staff and children from the school. Expert knowledge, to look at the hoped for finds, was thought preferable. A focus of some sort needs to be decided.

Jonathan to contact Alec Godden, local archaeologist for advice as well as Gill Cox.

Heritage Road Show It was agreed to have a stall at West Berks Museum on 16th April 10am-4pm. Carole and Viv 10-1, Irene and Jonathan 1-4. Other members welcome.

We should bring WW1 book, items found in the Big Dig, membership forms, display panel with photographs of Stockcross similar to that Viv put together for the Oral History Project.

As well as publicizing SASHA, discussions and useful contacts might be made with other groups and professionals.

Berkshire Records Office Viv and Carole had a successful visit. They bought a copy of 1775 Benham map, just before enclosures. The fields called Home, Middle and Yonder have numbers that correspond to more detailed documents, these show names and land holding details. Carol has pages of notes to transcribe.

The meeting agreed to the purchase of a 1851 map of the Stockcross area properly produced by the BRO and including a CD at the cost of £45.

From Dreweat & Neate archive is a 1893 diary of Sutton Estate maintenance which they were responsible for organising, like repairs of cottages and fencing. More transcribing.

Photocopies of the Stockcross/Marsh Benham area of the 1910 Domesday book make interesting reading. Showing names of tenants, owners of the land, type and acreage of holding.

AOB

Brian set up the new projector screen for the members to see which is neater to store and easier to put up and down.