

## INSTITUTE OF HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION WALES BRANCH

Minutes of the IHBC Wales branch meeting held on the 13 July 2004 at Vaynol Hall, Vaynol Estate, Gwynedd

**Present:** Sean Wood  
Nathan Blanchard  
Ron Douglass  
Dave Jump

1. **Apologies** - Gwilym Jones and Dewi Williams.
2. **Minutes of the IHBC Branch meeting held on the 7 May 2004** at the International Pavilion, Builth Wells.
  - 2.1 DJ confirmed Alan Richards request for an e-mail reminder was a good idea but it was up to all members to programme their diaries in advance. NB. all Wales Branch meeting are proposed to be held at the same time at the same venue on the second Tuesday of every other month i.e. the next one 14 September 2004, until further notice.
  - 2.2 The minutes were read and agreed as being a true record of the meeting (*agreed nem con*).
3. **Matters arising**. To be covered in the main agenda.
4. IHBC proposed new vacancy 'Director' £40,000.00 p.a.
  - 4.1 This item was discussed by all present. It was agreed that the Branch support the decision reached by the National Committee, however IHBC Wales Branch Officers which to voice some concerns they have. The concerns were varied, ranging from if the Director's role is to take pressure off Committee Officers voluntary services will the post be light or heavy on delegation? What is the basis of the salary on offer? Why is a full time Director necessary? i.e. big Chief missing Indians. The possible amalgamation with the IFA should be investigated to give a stronger voice. 1400 members many struggling to pay the increased membership fee needed to be satisfied the a £40K p.a. Director will deliver value for money.
5. **IHBC Wales Branch Leaflet** - The progress or the lack of it was discussed. SW agreed to send Trefor Thorpe and Central Office an electronic draft to seek their views before progressing the development further. RD confirmed that £250 had been allocated in the annual budget for its creation and distributions.
6. **The proposed IHBC Wales Branch Conference**
  - 6.1 It was agreed that time was not on our side and being realistic it was agreed by those present that it may be advisable to tag the first conference onto one of the planned Vaynol Conservation Conferences. It was agreed that SW would investigate which conference 'Disabled Access' could be tagged onto before April 2005.
  - 6.2 DJ suggested we could look at organising some simpler events - visits, talks etc. DJ used the visit and talk he gave in Conwy to the Highway Institute as an example.
7. **Branch Officers Reports**
  - 7.1 **Treasurer**. RD confirmed we now have the cheque books and the account is now open. The balance in the account is £1700 after sorting out two cheques. RD

- also confirmed that dealing with the Bank was very slow and difficult and he suggested investigate other Banking options. The idea was supported.
- 7.2 The cost of representatives expenses was discussed and it was agreed that we may be able to keep them below the previous ones.
- 7.3 **Branch Representative**  
NB confirmed that he had discussed giving up the Membership Secretary to Trefor Thorpe now he was Branch Representative. NB said Trefor was already contributing to helping in this role and they agreed that it be proposed at this meet and ratified at the Branch AGM in the Autumn. The motion was tabled and it was proposed by SW and seconded by RD.
- 7.4 NB tabled the D.CM.S's doc' Historic Environment Review - which was discussed.
- 7.5 NB tabled the D.CM.S's doc' Culture at the Heart of Regeneration - which was discussed.
- NB confirmed the position re Best Value and the Performance Wales indicators i.e. 3 No historic Conservation Areas etc etc but this was for England only.
8. **A.O.B.** None
9. **Date of next meeting** - 14 September 2004 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.