

INSTITUTE OF HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION WALES BRANCH

MINUTES OF THE IHBC WALES BRANCH MEETING HELD ON 23RD OCTOBER 2003 AT VAYNOL HALL, VAYNOIESTATE, BANGOR, GWYNEDD

Present:

S.Wood - Chairman
D.Jump - SECRETARY
G.Jones - Vice Chairman
A.Richards - Education, Training & CPD Officer
D.Parry - Committee Member

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies received from T.Thorpe and N.Blanchard.

2. MINUTES of the IHBC Wales Branch meeting held on the 30th September 2003.

2.1 G.Jones wished to correct the spelling of the name R.Douglass to have two 's' not one.
2.2 The minutes were read and approved and seconded.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 D.P. commented on the poor turnout at this meeting and the last. D.J. confirmed that it could be raised at the AGM but if you look at it in a North Wales percentage attendance i.e. approx.' 25% of North Wales members are present then attendance is reasonable.

3.2 A.R. informed the branch of discussions regarding a Gus Astley memorial. A.R. confirmed that one proposal was to have a Conservation Award in his memory which might be titled 'Making the difference'. The idea was discussed by those present who agreed unanimously to it being most fitting and appropriate to Gus Astley's memory.

3.3 S.W. apologies for the communication breakdown. S.W. explained IHBC Wales Branch electronic e-mails were being distributed from the Vaynol Office to all Wales membership. The problem only came to light when members started ringing him up complaining they were not receiving the information being sent. Following checks with Vaynol's server provider he was informed the e-mails had all successfully been sent, however the problem was a server virus which stopped the recipients receiving those e-mails. The problem S.W. reported has now been resolved and as a back up agendas and minutes will all be posted as well.

3.4 IHBC (Wales) Conference. This was discussed and confirmed we are aiming to host it at Vaynol Estate next year. However the idea of hosting the IHBC Annual Conference (Nationally) in the last year of the North Wales term was suggested and discussed. It was agreed that the Wales Conference next year could be the Pilot to see if we could achieve IHBC expectations.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

4.1 S.W. reported 'we are making waves by our activities in the branch'. S.W. informed 'we are getting some ugly gripes still over the "Book People Development' in the Vaynol. If anybody has any concrete criticism please can they be made visible and put into the public domain for us to address, resolve and clear once and for all".

4.2 S.W. confirmed the proposal for an IHBC Education Officer based at the Vaynol will be totally independent of any Vaynol business. It will be fully in the ownership and the control of the IHBC if it is allowed to materialise. S.W. once again apologised for the electronic communication blip.

5. OTHER OFFICERS' REPORTS

5.1 A.R. tabled a draft report for discussion IHBC application for accreditation as a conservation practitioner. A.R. reported on the position being taken by English Heritage and Historic Scotland as well as the Heritage Lottery Fund in vetting practitioners engaged in grant aided conservation work. (See draft enclosure). A.R. confirmed people with conservation capability will be eligible for accreditation. A.R. reported the possibility of appointing a IHBC Education Officer to drive accreditation could come to Vaynol Bangor and this will be investigated further.

G.J. asked are CADW pushing for this as E.H. and H.S. are? A.R. responded by saying CADW are strongly behind the idea but as they are small in comparison they do not wish to be the driver. (ACTION) S.W. stated we need to prepare a document to support the proposal. It was discussed and agreed that we would all go away think about it and respond by feeding back our individual observations through S.W. to A.R. A.R. suggested the proposal would involve a fee and it should be two stage;

Stage 1 - (an initial registration £25.00)

Stage 2 - (accreditation fee say £100.00).

A.R. requested any information be passed to him on any known conservation courses. CPD was raised and A.R. said what we need is a proper framework and strategy. We need a complete package of IHBC modules (possibly degree level) where ownership will be IHBC managed and run based at Vaynol, Bangor.

5.2 **D.J. SECRETARY'S REPORT** - Just wish to make it clear that there has been a problem with the communication system and would welcome any constructive feedback by the membership.

5.3 **G.J. VICECHAIR'S REPORT** - Raised the matter of the consultation review of the Protection of the Historic Assets in Wales. As the Wales Branch have we been formally consulted? and are we providing a formal reply? D.J. said he had responded from his authority's position but he had not received a consultation as branch Secretary. It was agreed that we send our observation to S.W. to collate and check with Trefor Thorpe to see if he had responded on behalf of the Branch.

6. AOB

6.1 S.W. wished to make it quite clear that Wales IHBC Branch meetings are open to all members. S.W. would like to ask members when and where would they like the future Branch meetings to be?

6.2 The details of the transfer of information and equipment held by the past Branch Treasurer to the new Treasurer needs to be discussed and agreed - Action (item AGM).

6.3 The proposed IHBC Wales Branch draft leaflet confirmed no action as yet. D.J. agreed he would look at producing a draft layout for comments and observation by the next branch meeting.

6.4 To take a request to the AGM to take to full Council - asking them to provide a guidance note on the issue of Philosophy on the membership application form.
(Feedback to the branch to date is that this is the one area prospective IHBC members struggle with when attempting to fill in their application to membership forms).

6.5 **The Events Programme**

It was agreed that this will eventually involve once the framework and structure re . education, accreditation - CPD is in place, it was hoped.

6.7 **Date of next meeting**

7pm on the 25th November 2003 at The Brewers Fair, Y Faenol, Parc Menai, Gwynedd.