



MINUTES
of the meeting of the Yorkshire Branch Committee held on 8 February 2011
at the Council for British Archaeology, 66 Bootham, York

Persons present: Keith Knight (KK), David Blackburn (DB), Stan Driver (SD), Peter Fisher (PF), Bob Scriven (BS), Alison Sinclair (AS), Lynne Walker (LW), Penelope Whitworth (PW).

1 Welcome:

KK welcomed everyone to the meeting, including new member Alison Sinclair and prospective member Penelope Whitworth.

2 Apologies:

Hilary Byers (HB), Richenda Codling (RC), Anne Ross (AR) (prospective member). Ken Burley (KB) attended but was unable to attract attention to be admitted to the venue.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting:

These were accepted with the following corrections:
add David Blackburn and Alison Sinclair to list of apologies.

4 Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda:

KB to advise whether 3(a) is an amendment or a matter arising.

5 Co-option to the Committee:

It was agreed to co-opt Penelope Whitworth as APT representative and Anne Ross as WYCOG representative, KK to inform AR accordingly.

6 Officers' Reports:

(a) Chair:

KK reported that at last Council on 9 December 2010 he had raised the issue of governance, and had been invited to prepare a paper on the issue for the next Council. He would propose to change the timetable to ensure that Branch Business Plans were available in time to contribute to a National Business Plan which would inform subscription decisions. He would also propose to include Branch Treasurers on the Finance Committee. KK will circulate this before next Branch Committee with a view to obtaining formal Branch support at the meeting.

KK also reported that the Branch Business Plan was put to the meeting, asking for funds beyond the £500 normally allowed in recognition of the fact that no money had been requested for 5 years, and to assist the development of the Branch now taking place. The plan had been agreed.

(b) Secretary:

SD reported the difficulty that Hilary Byers might have in attending meetings on Tuesdays. SD to discuss further with HB.

(c) Treasurer:

BS reported that the £500 and the additional £900 from HQ funds would be in the bank account shortly. However he would not be following up 7(c) in the last minutes. The funds will cover up-front costs for events, but not make them free. The final accounts for Restoration Yorkshire 2010 may result in further adjustments to the balances.

(d) Membership Secretary:

DB reported that one new application is being processed. At the last count there was one new member, but five had been deleted, leaving a total of 129.

DB noted that redundant members can apply for reduced-rate subscriptions.

Richenda Codling is Chair of the national Membership Committee. In discussion it was noted that the Branch had concerns raised at the AGM about the assessment process and the need for an appeals procedure. SD to approach RC to provide information. (This requirement has been overtaken by events, as there is to be a membership review day on 1 April).

(e) Events Organiser:

PF had sent out notifications of other people's meetings by e-mail. He noted that two Branch members could not currently be reached in this way.

Dates suggested for the Thorne visit clash with other events. It was agreed to try 21 May.

KK proposed Understanding Significance meeting for 20 April at The Hospitium, York, for half a day. After discussion about costs (room hire £450+VAT, refreshments £250+VAT) it was agreed to charge £15 for IHBC members and £25 for others, and to request the RTPI and CBA to publicise the event to their members.

Restoration Yorkshire 2011 was to have been held in association with the RIBA, but they have been reorganised and centralised, so further work is required on this.

Meeting on membership upgrading also scheduled for later in 2011. DB to consider to which members it might apply.

(f) Historic Environment Forum Representative:

AS attended this meeting on 9 December 2010. The meeting considered a paper on a framework for the future, including options for less frequent meetings or an annual meeting. AS may present research on Conservation Advisory Panels to a future meeting.

7 Other events:

(a) ALGAO:

KK attended a meeting of ALGAO (Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers) at English Heritage, York. These are held twice a year. Trevor Mitchell of English Heritage outlined their priorities in the light of cuts (similar to his presentation at the Restoration Yorkshire 2010 conference).

(b) APT:

PW stated that James Moir, APT Director, was to meet Trevor Mitchell. APT have a visit to Howsham Mill on 30 September and a conference in Belfast on 12-14 October.

(c) CBA:

LW reported that the last of a series of training days held with the AIA (Association of Industrial Archaeologists) would be at Lancaster on 21 February. She also reported that the CBA would publish a handbook in October on industrial archaeology in October.

(d) RTPI:

It was noted that an event on the Historic Environment and Sustainability was proposed in Leeds on 23 February.

(e) CAMRA:

A guide on historic pubs was being announced in Leeds. It was agreed to pursue the question of a visit to historic pubs with Dave Gamston.

8 Future meetings:

Dates are as previously noted:

12 April

24 May

13 September

29 November.