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BUILDING · CONSERVATION

SOUTH EAST BRANCH

**IHBC South East Branch Committee Meeting
The Bull's Head, Reigate, Surrey
Thursday 5 September 2013.**

MINUTES

Present: Seán Rix (Chairman), Lone Le Vay, Andrew Norris, Clare Dales, Chezel Bird and Debbie Maltby

1 Apologies

Jason Clemons

2 Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed.

3 Matters arising

A decision has been made following the planning inquiry into the extension of Hermitage Quarry to quarry Kentish rag stone. Planning permission has been granted for the extension, which will allow a future supply of the material for repairs and new build, after the current site runs out.

4 2013 Annual School and AGM

Richard Hill, the project manager at Knole, has confirmed that they will arrange three different tours of the house for the afternoon of the Annual School. One will take delegates up the scaffolding to look at roof repairs, another will look at the outbuildings to be used for the conservation studio, and another will take delegates around the house. There is a courtyard in the rear section that isn't used by the public that will be suitable for a 'hub' between tours. The Stag Theatre Plaza Suite is confirmed as booked for the morning session and Debbie Maltby is waiting to hear about quotes for catering.

Delegates will need to be reminded to bring PPE, although some equipment will be provided. This information will be included in the delegate pack, along with suggestions for parking. The alternatives for this are to park in town for a fee (there are several car parks, including one behind the Stag Theatre, but they are busy) and walk to Knole after lunch, or to park at Knole for the day and walk to the Theatre and back. Committee members could transport anyone who would need a lift.

Debbie Maltby is still to confirm a speaker to cover local history – Knole in the context of the history of Sevenoaks – which will be done shortly, and confirm time with Tom Foxall and Nicky Twort.

Sean Rix will check with Richard Hill about maximum numbers for the tours, as this may limit whether any further bookings can be taken. There would be an option, however, for people to attend only the morning talks.

There have been two bursary requests. These were reviewed by members and it was agreed to approve both. Debbie Maltby will contact them and ask them to be prepared to write a summary of either the morning or afternoon session, to go on the website afterwards.

It was agreed that those members who are able to attend the day will meet at 8.45 – 9.00 at the Stag to set up.

5 Branch connection day

This year the Branch Connection day will be held at the Old Joint Stock in Birmingham on Tuesday the 19th November, with a theme of 'discipline'. Clare Dales agreed to attend.

6 Forthcoming events

Sean Rix confirmed that he will be organising a Wassail in London again this year, which will probably be the first week in December. The Somerset House tour has had to be postponed.

Lone le Vay hasn't heard any further from Brighton and Hove with ideas for events in the area, and will contact them again to see if there are any opportunities.

Clare Dales may have some ideas for CPD events to be held in the Eastbourne area and will communicate any that are organised for wider invite to the branch.

Andrew Norris suggested contacting one of the engineering practices to give a talk on any interesting projects and will contact Clive Dawson of Hockley & Dawson.

Debbie Maltby will contact Hermitage Quarry about a tour, now that the planning inquiry is finished.

7 AOB

As discussed at the last meeting, Sean Rix is to stand down as Chair this year, and Andrew Norris confirmed he will be standing down as Vice Chair. Eimear Murphy has confirmed that she will return as branch rep and sit on the committee. Clare Dales may be able to assist Debbie Maltby with secretarial duties whilst she is on maternity leave.

There is a Council meeting on the 29 September, and one of the items to be discussed is membership. There is an aspiration for the IHBC to become chartered, but a minimum of 5000 members is required, which hasn't yet been achieved. Committee noted that advertising more to different disciplines would be beneficial, and noted that RIBA membership is free if you are in full time education.

8 Date of next meeting

Annual School and Annual General Meeting, Friday 4 October 2013, Stag Theatre, London Road, Sevenoaks, and Knole House, Sevenoaks.

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