

Mill Road History Society (MRHS)

Committee meeting Monday 29th February 2016, 8pm

Venue: Argyle Street Housing Co-operative (ASH) hut

Members present: Caro Wilson (Chair for current meeting) Judith Salmon (Secretary and Minute taker), Rasik Kotecha , and Simon Middleton.

Apologies: Lucy Walker (Chair of MRHS), Julia Ewans (Treasurer) and Allan Brigham

1. Minutes from the last Annual General Meeting dated Feb 10th were accepted by members present and Rasik Kotecha signed a copy. No other matters were arising.
2. **Treasurer**
 - Julia Ewans sent her apologies to the meeting and provided the secretary with a short report of current finances. 'Finances are good. Most meetings and speakers are paid for. There should be cash left over to 'endow' the new society but figures are not yet finalised. Working on about £2K.
3. **Practical Issues for the committee**
 - We all agreed that Tuesday evenings from 8pm were a good time to meet. We would ideally like to meet 10 days before a public meeting and so chose to meet on the first Tuesday of each month
Action: Judith/ Caro to contact Lucy and Allan to check that Tuesday evenings from 8pm are good for them as well.
 - Subgroups – Caro made us aware that Lucy does not want to be responsible for each aspect of managing MRHS. Caro wondered how the members present felt about organising a subcommittee for fundraising events and for long term projects such as Arjuna's/ Dave Jarvis blue plaque project. The general feeling at the meeting were that these matters should be discussed in a public meeting first and then sub-groups that may arise from this managed later on.
 - Communication – all members present were happy about using Dropbox to agree minutes and to share documents.
Action: Judith to post minutes on Dropbox first.
Action: Simon will post minutes on Mill Road History Society website once everyone has agreed the minutes.
 - Mail chimp – this program holds the contact details of most speakers, agencies and members over the years who have been involved with MRHS. Also records of who looks at the website. Caro was unsure about whether we need to store the vast amount of contact details currently stored in Mailchimp.
Action: Simon to send Caro the contact list stored in Mailchimp. Caro and Lucy to then go through this Mailchimp list to make it current.
 - Social media – Facebook, Twitter and google mail for the website need to be maintained.
Action: Judith will respond to Facebook comments on the Mill Road History Society Facebook page, Simon will manage Twitter and Caro Googlemail for website.

4. Brainstorm ideas

- Research for Chariots of Fire (Judith) – Judith would like to manage a public meeting looking at research collected about the annual Chariots of Fire race in Cambridge. Simon provided some background to the old Chariots of Fire pub (now halls of residence next to Pizza takeaway) on Mill Road. Caro said she would see if a person from Trinity College would like to talk about the race at the evening.

Action: Judith to do some research. Caro to see if someone from Trinity College would like to talk about the Chariots of Fire race at an evening Judith will organise.

- MRHS short stories – Caro would like to go ahead with this idea and may get schools and Mill Road Bridges involved. Judith would like to get Cambridge 105 involved as she thinks it would be good publicity for them.

Action: Caro to invite Judith to a Mill Road Bridges meeting to discuss short stories idea.

- Dave Jarvis' street plaque idea – Dave Jarvis is linked to the Arjuna shop and has researched the history of the shop. He would like to place some blue plaques along Mill Road to represent this research.
- Caro art ideas: Caro would like to replace the brightly coloured murals on Mill Road bridge with black and white historical pictures or display these pictures in a temporary exhibition on Mill Road. Another of Caro's ideas is to invite Naomi Davies and Sam Motherwell to a public meeting to share and talk about their art.

5. Event Programme for members and public

- Alternate monthly speakers with a research and speaker evening such as Keith Jordan's bring an ornament and tell a story.
- Caro would like us to put together an annual program by end of May/ beginning of June 2016. The society may turn into a Mill Road History/Art Society.

6. AOB – None

Next Mill Road History Society meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th April 2016 at 8pm.