

MINUTES of the meeting of the **MUSEUM SUB ADVISORY COMMITTEE** held on Thursday 9th October 2008 in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Royston at 7.p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Les. Baker (in the Chair)
Councillors, Mayne, Prime & Smith
Museum Trustees: Peter Ketteringham, Philip Smith, Jenny Smith, & Mike Lawrence, Shirley Thrussell, Friends of Royston Museum, Betty Skyrme Royston & District Local History Society
Royston Town Council officers: Susan Thornton-Björk (Town Clerk) and Carole Kaszak (Curator)

197/09 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor Beardwell & NHDC Museum Curator officer Ros Allwood.

198/09 MINUTES:

The minutes of the 24th July 2008 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

199/09 CURATOR'S REPORT: (copy attached to minute book)

Carole updated the committee on her report.

The Arts Festival weekend brought many visitors into the museum to see the exhibition. The children's workshop run by Anstey, Mrs Baker and Cllr Liz Beardwell was well attended. The printing press demonstration run by Cllr Beardwell raised £44 for the museum donation fund.

Photos of the Time Trackers visit are on display in the museum

Carole reported that Royston Museum was being advertised in three new leaflet publications;

- Discover Museums in North Herts - produced by North Herts District Council
- Enjoy Museums in Hertfordshire – produced by Hertfordshire County Council
- First Capital Connect Experience Guide Places to Go – produced by First Capital connect

It was agreed that the good publicity was due to the efforts of staff and volunteers.

It was noted that it was difficult to get a water supply for the new container garden at the museum. After discussion it was agreed to look into the possibility of replacing the cold tap in the kitchen with a different style to enable a bucket to be placed underneath it.

The committee's thanks went the Royston Crow for the donation of many photos and negatives of the town dating back 30 years.

200/09 ACQUISITION & DISPOSAL:

Following the museum obtaining its Accreditation from MLA, the museum was advised that the current Acquisition & Disposal Policy needed to include some revised wording from the MLA. Members agreed to accept the new policy and recommend the policy to Full Council for adoption.

201/09 THE PUBLIC CATALOGUE FOUNDATION HERTFORDSHIRE BOOK LAUNCH:

The Friends of Royston Museum have agreed to host a launch party for the Public Catalogue Foundation's Oil Paintings in Public Ownership in Hertfordshire, Whydale's 'Lady in Feathered Hat' appears as a full page reproduction. We are awaiting confirmation of the date from the Foundation, Thursday 29th January 2009, venue Market Hill Rooms, Fish Hill, Royston, time 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Invites will be sent out by the Foundation. The Town Mayor will be invited to welcome visitors.

202/09 MUSEUM GRANTS:

The working party had nothing to report at the moment, a further meeting to be arranged soon. It was agreed to arrange a group for fact finding visits to other museums and for them to report back to the committee. Museums suggested for visits are: Stevenage, Mill Green, Bushey, Saffron Walden, Wisbech and Luton.

It was agreed to check with District Councillors to see if any funds would be made available for Royston Museum in next year's budget.

203/09 TAPESTRY:

Date for presentation of the Tapestry was confirmed for Thursday 6th November. The Town Clerk will send out the invites. Museum will arrange light refreshments.

204/09 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Museum Budget 2009-2010

After discussion it was agreed to recommend that the figures for the 2008-2009 budget be used for the forth coming year with increases for fuel, insurance, security and salaries as necessary.

Jack's War Book

It was agreed to sell the book at a special offer price of £10 for the period of 8th to 15th November in recognition of the 90th anniversary of the end of the First War World.

Royston Local History Society

Peter Ketteringham reported that the History Society was looking into creating a Book List of books they have for sale on the internet.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.