

MALDENS AND COOMBE HERITAGE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 13th NOVEMBER 2013

AT NEW MALDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Mary greeted all members (32)

There was a minutes silence held in respect of Gwenda Lloyd who had passed away. Members were also asked to keep Marion and her family in their thoughts in this difficult time.

There were apologies for absence from Graeme Hodge, Tim and Shaan Everson.

There were 2 new members Anita Riches and Gary Roberts

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed.

Mary thanked the church for the use of their meeting place, and for their catering facilities.

We had sold 25 tickets @ £5.75 for the Christmas party on 11th December at MFAS between 6.30pm and 9.30pm. There would be musical entertainment in the form of records, a quiz prepared by Julian and a raffle. The catering would be from Mark and Spencer.

Mary and Robin had met with Chris Cockle an environmentalist on 13th October to talk about the cleaning and maintenance of the Plough pond. It was hoped that some of the boys from Richard Challenor School would assist in the clean up.

On 20th October, Julian led another successful walk along the Coombe Road complete with sound effects of thunder and pouring rain as we were sheltering under New Malden railway bridge.

On 21st October some members of the committee attended a meeting at Coombe Girls School to discuss Barton Green Pavilion which the council had decided was surplus to requirements. The committee had agreed that the Society should be a vehicle for a "Right to Buy" application. This meant that whilst we would not be bidding ourselves we were available to coordinate interested parties. Mary also started the process to try to get the building listed by English Heritage. The impression given by the residents who attended the meeting was that they wished to keep it as a community building. The council had received the Society's application to declare the building a community asset.

Graeme Hodge had laid the wreath on behalf of the Society at the service in New Malden on Remembrance Day (10th November).

The Christmas cards produced by the society had sold well and were still available in Old Malden Library and through a forthcoming advert in The Village Voice.

On Saturday 23rd November Robin and Mary would be manning a table at the St John The Baptist Christmas Fair at the institute. They would be giving out publicity about the society and inviting people to come to the next meeting in January.

Our speaker was John King on New Malden: Background to the Geography and History of a London Suburb. John illustrated his talk with slides and related how New Malden came to be built and how it developed. He discussed how the roads were named and some of the prominent people in the history.

In AOB Robin asked whether anyone had any information on Malden Spiritualist Church in Park Road or on the Observer Corps that were stationed in top of the old Telephone Exchange during the war. Unfortunately, none was forthcoming.

The meeting closed with the next planned for Wednesday 29th January 2014.