

ERMS Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2017
at 2A Hearsall Avenue, Broomfield, Chelmsford CM1 7DD at 11am

1. **Present:** Ian Mercer (Chairman), Jeff Saward (Vice Chairman), John Lacy (Treasurer), Ros Mercer (Secretary), Roger Coleman (Membership Secretary), David Turner (Field Visits Secretary), Doreen White, Gerald Lucy.
2. **Apologies for absence.** Bob Williams
3. **Minutes of the committee meeting held on 4th October 2016.** Agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **AGM Follow-up.** Committee unchanged. Facebook page suggested by younger members and now set up by Rebecca Stamp.
5. **Treasurer's Report.** Balance sheet circulated. Payments to HOPWA house for hall hire (£225) and Down to Earth for Show advert (£138) now made. Show income so far exceeds expenditure and more payments are due. Cost of Memorial Brick less than anticipated as £1 per brick deducted as "Bulmer" not put on reverse. Grant of £250 received from Havering Arts Council.
6. **Membership Report.** 36 members paid up for 2017 so far. Including 6/7 new members. Alan Harman sent hand written note. He is a GA member known to JS & GL. Membership cards posted to those not at the January meeting together with a welcome letter. A membership list would be available at the next meeting as the souvenir bricks are for paid-up members only. RC
7. **ERMS Show:** Preparations are well in hand. All bar one from last year have signed up. Requests for extra tables will be met by expansion into the extra hall on a trial basis. This is viable as a 50% discount was offered meaning that only 4 tables need to be sold to cover costs. 6 tables had already been sold. 2 tables would be used for the club display. Extra signage would be needed – IM had bought 5 A1 sheets of foam board for this. Reassurance was given that disruption and re-arrangement would be kept to a minimum. IM & RM visited the hall to find the location of power points and availability of tables. More leads would be needed. JS to obtain. JL offered a very long extension cable if required. JS had the booking form for the extra hall and would attend to payment. JS

Everyone agreed that communication was much better now and thanks were recorded to JS for putting the Show on a good footing. Facebook would be used to highlight extra tables etc. JS would do the Show Guide and send to RM for photocopying. It was agreed that 2 A-boards would be purchased (RM to pursue) for advertising not only the extra room at the Show, but also for other events. JS would be on the door with assistance from others – DW & DT. JS
RM
8. **Monthly meetings:** All the speakers were confirmed except 11th April which RM was actively pursuing. The impact of posters distributed by Mary Ward was noted and will continue. RM
9. **Field visits:** The programme for 2017 was largely complete, but meeting times and places for Maryon Park and Harwich need to be added. An additional trip to Stanway Quarries might be added. The Walton meeting on 23rd April is joint with the GA and led by GL. The room at the EWT Centre had been booked for the first hour for the briefing session.

- GL was concerned that specific risk assessments are not in place. He undertook to produce risk assessment/safety info for each site that could be signed by the field trip leader. JL would send a copy of the latest GA insurance document to DT. GL
JL
10. **ERMS 50th Anniversary** - commemorative bricks from Bulmer Brick Co. The bricks had been collected and passed to GL who would put them into a card tray with a numbered label. Rowley Collier would have no. 1. RM gave GL some brown velvet fabric to use to line the trays and GL would obtain some plastic bags of the correct size. The bricks would be sold to paid-up members at £5. GL
- IM would contact the caretaker to make sure there are sufficient chairs. RW had arranged for the Romford Recorder to attend. IM & GL would transport Peter Minter. RC & DW agreed to provide suitable festive fare. IM
RC
&
DW
11. **Pebble Poster:** 5000 copies had been received from the printers. They would be sold at £2 for single copies and £1 for bulk copies min. 20 + p&p. JL would set up an account to receive monies which would be put towards future publications such as trail guides and a revised edition of GL's Essex Rock book. Display stands would be purchased and contacts made with EWT and Geosupplies for sales. The GA would also sell them and Rockwatch want 750 for their members. JL
RM
12. **Essex Churches Project** IM would devise a standard reporting format with the help of David Bone's paper. Jonathon Spencer had visited a number of churches and JS would look at those in south Essex. Essex Churches would be the basis of the next ERMS display for 2017/18. IM
13. **Other ERMS displays, sites etc;** Past events were reviewed – displays at the GA Festival, GA Worthing conf.
- Thorndon visitor centre – IM & RM met with Barbara Beckett, Thorndon Guardians to discuss the incorporation of geological ideas into their sensory garden project.
 - EFC Social 3rd Dec 2015 – ERMS display plus DT fossil table.
 - BBC Essex Radio interview Dippy the Diplodocus 4th Jan IM
 - Walton on the Naze – Display & Geology Forum. Lot of good feedback and contacts being pursued. Prof Danielle Schreve to examine the mammal bones at the Maritime Museum. JS to visit displays in the Tower when they are reinstated in March. David Eagle is talking to Barry Hall ref the Pliocene Forest. Andrew Hartley (Natural England) would be involved in the sunken garden project being proposed by IM. Further contacts would be made with Leon Woodrow of Tendring Council and the Naze Society. RM would provide a fossil ID sheet based on that of GL and the EWT display. Josie Close is pursuing her idea of showing geology using stop-frame animation. Displays in the Tower can be based on the views from the top. IM is to give talks on Essex Geology at the EWT centre and for the Naze Tower Conservation Group. JS
IM
RM
14. **Future Events**
- Essex Rock day at Chelmsford & Essex Museum Saturday 11th February. IM & RM to provide displays. Help needed on the day. IM
RM
 - Hadleigh - progress to reinstate section and produce trail guide. GL would contact Andrew Woodhouse at Hadleigh for a follow-up clearance visit and to discuss access and signs. Tuesday 4th April was suggested. GL
 - Ingrebourne – possible geology display. IM & RM will visit this and other EWT

Centres to promote geology.

IM

15. **ERMS website** – IM has kept it updated and corrected an error noted by RC. A Facebook link would be added if possible.

IM

16. **Library** – acquisitions and suggestions. Needs promotion especially to new members.

GL

17. **Enquiries & communications.** – JS had received an enquiry via the Show e-mail address re a “green rock” This turned out to be solidified paint!

IM & RM had visited Felsted with Barry Hunt to investigate the base of a market cross. Barry is now working with the Felsted group.

IM received a letter from Chelmsford & Essex Museum requesting support for their HLF bid to refurbish the old part of the museum and the adjacent park. IM read the letters and the reply to Nick Wickenden was agreed. IM to send this now.

IM

18. **AOB** – RC had been asked whether the membership form could be filled in online and payment made by online banking. He undertook to pursue this.

RC

GL would pursue a meeting of GeoEssex in the near future.

GL

19. **Date of next meeting.** Tuesday 6th June

The meeting finished at 1.50pm (approx.)

Committee: Ian Mercer, Jeff Seward, Ros Mercer, John Lacy, David Turner, Bob Williams, Roger Coleman, Doreen White, Gerald Lucy.