



**Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on June 4th 2018**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

Present : David Newport (DN), Patrick Candler (PC), Pat Richards (PR), Sue Longden (SL), Anne Garfoot (AG), Stephen Walker (SW), Julia Hodson (JH) Jo Hunt (JH) Nina Dauban for Nottingham Community Foundation (NCF)

Apologies: Karen Richardson (KR)

**2. Nottingham Community Foundation**

Nina Dauban (NCF) introduced herself and gave a brief outline of the function of NCF, a local registered charity which supports the local community by holding, managing and fund matching for various local groups. Funds can be donated by individuals, families and organisations and NCF acts as a link between them and local needs maximising the growth and spending of the funds. In this way they support small local charities by the interest made on pooled funds and Gift Aid on monies donated. NCF gets a good local profile by working with local initiatives and legacies.

Our main interest was to see if NAP can benefit being part of the NCF network. ND advised that literacy/ media/arts legacy is fundable through NCF, but not the funding of a specific fund raising event. ND was thanked for presentation

**3. Minutes for 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

The minutes were agreed as a correct record

**4. Matters arising**

Newstead – The Series – PC has had no further correspondence from KR but DN informed the meeting that the series is going ahead. Accommodation has been arranged for Graham Clegg (script writer) to visit Newstead Abbey in July.

Ian Duhig (poet) has visited Newstead Abbey with reference to the Byronathon.

PC confirmed that the financial year has been changed to run from September 1 to August 31 in line with the September AGM.

JH pointed out there may be a useful link with Hopwood Hall where Byron did some of his writing, which is being renovated by a new owner.

**ACTION JoH:** a date for Gary Potts (gardener) to talk to NAP committee re Japanese Gardens and the Abbey grounds is yet to be arranged.

**5. Finance**

SL presented a report. The new balance at 4<sup>TH</sup> June 2018 is £768.64

DN contributed £30 from U3A presentation.

SL has not yet had latest bank statement so is not sure if any renewal of membership has still to be transacted

SW gave SL a contact for the NHLA (Nottingham Local History Association) of which NAP are members.

## 6. Fundraising

PC had contacted John Darlington but has had no further correspondence.

JH asked if the money earmarked for Newstead by WMF is still available due to time lapse, while SW asked that if money needs to be used within a certain time frame, can any of the smaller repair issues be dealt with.

PC advised that the WMF were still earmarked for the West Front as NAP had agreed some years ago. He also suggested that NAP maybe need to look at a Major Fundraising Application.

## 7. West Front

RE stated at the last meeting that the amount estimated for work on the West Front has changed. RE has been in discussions with HE and is hopeful of a positive funding response from them. RE should be able to report back at the next meeting.

**ACTION PC:** to contact RE for a copy of the report when it is completed.

## 8. Grounds Management

JoH reported that she had been contacted by Graham Hardman of the Japanese Garden Society who asked if Newstead Abbey would be interested in receiving 100 Cherry Trees (of three species) for the Newstead site in 2020. The offer was accepted and a scheme of planting these trees has to be prepared by end of June 2018. JoH to liase with Gary.

Also, in September 2018 a Japanese Garden Conference is being held in London, and anyone involved with Japanese gardens is invited along at a cost of £20. It is proposed that the invitation be accepted and used as a means of networking with other organisations so they can learn from each other. Newstead Abbey are very interested in taking part.

PC pointed out that the Japanese Garden link had come from the Symposium held at Newstead Abbey in 2106. Graham Hardman had good links with the Japanese Government and had persuaded them that the British Gardens needed capital investment. In response, the Japanese Society had awarded £20,000 this year which went to a Welsh Japanese Garden, which will be used as a demonstration project. Applications are now open for next year and Graham has asked if Newstead might be interested in applying. GH had indicated that a site visit could be of benefit.

**ACTION PC:** PC to invite Graham to visit Newstead with a view to this funding. .

## 9. Byronathon

DN recapped on the points made in the minutes for Byronathon Working Party on 14th May. DN has been in contact with two performance artists who performed The Black Cat by Edgar Allen Poe at the Nottingham Playhouse with a view to looking at the Faceless Monk by Byron and also with the possibility of them becoming part of the Working Party.

A workshop with Ian Duhig for local poets was suggested by JH.

Ticket sales for the Byronathon could be bought by Gigantic who are already used for events at the Abbey.

Is a website for the Byronathon necessary or should it be run through the NAP website we already have.

It was noted that it needs to be clarified on media as a Newstead Abbey Byronathon and not confused with other unlinked Byronathon events.

**ACTION DN:** is to contact The Byron Society regarding plays by Byron which may be of use for the Byronathon.

The ideas for the Byronathon need to be clarified and consolidated into a clear programme. DN is waiting for Ian Duhig to contact to him with a progress report and who he has contacted, so that there is no overlap in the communications. JH and DN are to work together to get in contact with any potential links.

Dates for Working Party meetings are to be decided as and when necessary developments arise.

**ACTION:** SW was asked to book Farnaby & Co choir to perform at the Byronathon on 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

## **10. Members Activities**

Due to the work load of the Byronathon the activities will be limited for this year.

JH suggested that the Silhouette Artist which needs costing may add value to the Byronathon .

No Symposium will take place.

**ACTION:** SL to look into further contacts for Cookery Demonstrations.

AGM date set for 3<sup>rd</sup> September in the Orangery with Tea and Coffee provided.

**ACTION PC:** to contact Geoffery Bond re attending AGM.

**ACTION PC:** will contact Charles Watkins with a view to a Japanese Garden event in the Summer.

## **11. Governance**

The organisation of the Byronathon will all its responsibilities has opened up the governance question again and which option NAP should take. There may be benefits in linking into NCF, but only if they get to distribute funds on our behalf.

Another alternative is to establish a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which could be a simpler process with more limited liabilities.

JH proposed that we look further into both CIO and NCF with a tailored proposal for NAP. This was seconded by SL.

**ACTION PC:** to contact Nina Dauban for a tailored proposal for NAP

**ACTION PC:** to look further into CIO and how it would relate to NAP.

## **12 A.O.B.**

SL attended to history Fair in Mansfield on May 13 to raise profile of NAP

## **13. Dates for Next Meetings**

NAP Committee Meeting Monday July 30<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m.

AGM 3<sup>rd</sup> September in Orangery time to be confirmed.

**ACTION:** Emma to book rooms for these two meetings