

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on February 5th 2018

1. Welcome and apologies

Present : David Newport (DN), Patrick Candler (PC), Pat Richards (PR), Sue Longden (SL), Anne Garfoot (AG), Karen Richardson (KR), Stephen Walker (SW) (observer) Rachael Evans (RE), Jo Hunt (JoH) joined the meeting 2.15pm,

Apologies: Julia Hodson (JH), Ron Inglis (RI)

2. Newstead – The Series

KR gave a progress update on all the work which she had done for a proposed new drama “Newstead - the Series” which is to consist of four series plus two documentaries. The screen writer Graham Clegg is to visit Newstead later in the year.

KR had met with Nigel Hawkins from the City Council and wished it minuted that he was supportive. She had also met with D2N2. KR had recently set up a new company “Newstead Legacy” to attract potential investors for the project and was looking to pursue a crowd funding route.

The next stage of the project requires an initial amount of £9,000 for a signing fee and there is a high degree of urgency to secure this.

PC thanked KR for what was a huge piece of work with great potential and then outlined the current funding situation. He expressed a willingness to attempt to source funding for the initial amount.

PC advised that John Darlington (WMF) had stated that there was no main funding available for the signing on fee but that there might be a small contribution he could offer by top slicing from other WMF projects. PC also raised the question as to how the balance of funds for the project would be raised.

NAP reaffirmed that it would like to be involved to promote the public awareness of Newstead Abbey and to support the City Council.

RE wanted to know more about the project and agreed to discuss with her colleagues and report back to Nigel Hawkins and Ron Inglis and establish the City position with the project. She would then feed back to the NAP committee. KR left the meeting at 3,30 p.m.

3. Minutes for 4th December 2017

Minutes agreed as a correct record

4. Matters arising

Byronathon discussion is to be included under Fundraising.

PC has not yet been able to make contact with Geoffrey Bond or Mitch Stevenson.

Christian Furr has been in touch with KR. This needs to be followed up to progress any action.

PC has had no further communication from Charles Watkins regarding dates for a summer event based around the Japanese Gardens..

John Darlington is still in contact with possible sponsors.

ACTION: RE to have a draft application for funding available for NAP before April 1st.

5. Finance

SL obtained mandate signature for transfer of Treasurer.

Financial report presented to Committee
Expenditure : £41.98 renewal of website paid.
Available to spend £3783.90

6. Fundraising / West Front Project

Byronathon – DN and JH have put together a condensed proposal for the Byronathon weekend. This has been provisionally booked for 26/27th October 2019 with a range of readings from Byron's works. The full financial implications still need to be worked out, eg: possible loss of NCC income, costs of setting the event up, potential clash with other events at that time.

RE proposed that grounds could still be open to public even if the House was not available.

DN/JH were thanked for their work to date.

ACTION: DN authorised to start on the next stage of communications with the relevant societies.

7. West Front

No further developments to report.

8. Grounds Management

Japanese Gardens are still in focus for NAP. Date to be arranged for Gary Potts to talk to NAP about work done in the gardens.

ACTION : JoH to arrange with Gary to attend NAP meeting.

9. Membership Events/Activities

Programme of activities for 2018. Options are:

- Another Symposium
- Victorian photographer confirmed definite interest in holding workshop events. 8 people per session @ approx. £20 pp. **ACTION :** DN to secure date. Venue possibly the Garden Room.
- Cookery events - SL no further development.
- Silhouette Artist "Roving Artist" - JH not present for feedback.

10. Communications

Nothing to report

11. AOB

Book Launch for "Byron's Gondalier" did not take place.

SL offered to attend Mansfield Historic Society on Sunday 13th May to promote NAP and their work at Newstead Abbey.

SW offered the services of his choir "Farnaby & Co" to host an event to raise funds. Date to be agreed.

DN has donated his fee for U3A Southwell talk to the NAP funds.

12. Dates for Next Meetings

Monday 9th April at 2 p.m.

Monday 4th June at 2 p.m.

ACTION: Emma to book rooms for next two committee meetings