

YCCCART AGM

At Congresbury Methodist Hall on 30th April 2017

Present

Christine Lufflum, Philippa Cormack, Janet Dickson, Geoff Pearson, John Wilcox, Brian Bradbury, Pete Wright, Chris Short, Peter Hughes, Peter English, Ian Morton, David Long, David Walker, Mike Fox, John Haynes, Janet Burge, Vince Russett, Arthur Langley, Clive Nunn, Dan Smith, Shirley Everden, Graham Bohanon, Liz Hale, Anne Dimmock, Marianne Pitman, Maureen Bews & Colin Campbell.

Apologies

'Ferd' Ferdinando, Brian Wills, Unsal Hassan, Robert Cleland & Shirley Everden

2016 AGM Minutes

Agreed.

Proposed: Chris Short

Seconded: Vince Russett

Outstanding from 2016 Minutes

PW mentioned that the redevelopment of the Bickley cottages was nearing completion and that Mary's family are happy for YCCCART to plant a tree on the site. PW is in contact with Mary's daughter and will arrange a date later this year for this to take place.

Chairman's Report

In his annual report Peter highlighted the many successes of the year including the Congresbury Cross excavation. He mentioned that YCCART was attracting very positive comments from Historic England and other professionals (ie Cobthorn fields surveys) due to the accuracy of our work and that the group had a much higher profile within the village following the Cross dig.

Other initiatives this past year were also highlighted including the quarterly newsletter and the research projects on Congresbury's main bridge and the Strawberry Line. PE thanked AL and JD for their work on the former and IM's group for their work on the bridge. He mentioned that there were other interesting projects and hoped that members would volunteer to work on these later this year.

YCCCART continues to attract new members whilst the enthusiasm and commitment of its members ensures that most weeks 3-4 teams can be formed to carry out fieldwork or conduct research. However he encouraged members to consider swapping between the groups to develop their skills and work with different people. PE mentioned that future projects for the year included plans for a dig at Cleeve, possibly in April and another in the summer at Kenn Moor; dates to be confirmed.

Peter thanked the committee members for their support and commitment to YCCCART. He thanked VR and CS for the quality of their reports remarking that they were what made YCCCART different to other community groups. He also thanked PC and JD for their work and UH for his continuing support of YCCCART's website.

Treasurer's Report

A detailed breakdown of the current financial position was produced as per the document attached to these minutes. PW reported that the end of year balance was healthy although expenditure had been higher than usual in 2016-17. This was primarily due to the joint purchase with Congresbury History group of a new laptop.

Pete Wright was thanked for his work as Treasurer.

PW reported that the accounts had not yet been audited but Brian Wills had agreed to do them very soon; PW to email audited accounts to all YCCCART members at the start of the next financial year.

The Financial Statement was accepted unanimously.

Proposed: Dave Long

Seconded: Philippa Cormack

Election of Officers

It was agreed that the following be re-elected.

Chairman: Peter English

Vice Chair Chris Short

Secretary: Janet Dickson

Treasurer: Pete Wright

Committee Members: Vince Russett, Philippa Cormack, Geoff Pearson, John Wilcox, Brian Bradbury, Arthur Langley & Christine Lufflum.

CS thanked PE for all his work as Chairman of YCCCART

AOB

Future plans

Summer events

YCCCART will be represented at this year's Congresbury fete on Saturday 1st July, focusing upon the Cross excavation and its results and at Yatton's fete on Saturday July 29th focus to be decided in consultation with BB. PE asked for volunteers.

Evening social event in September

Following the success of the Christmas lunch held in Wrington PC and JD suggested a social event to include wives, husbands or partners be held in September. Their initial choice of venue having gone out of business they indicated that they were prepared to find another venue if the meeting felt that this was something they wished to do. A majority of members responded positively so PC and JD will pursue other options.

Congresbury Parish Council's Local History Weekend

JD drew the meeting's attention to this forthcoming event and outlined the thinking so far. The weekend will include walks, talks and displays and YCCCART members were asked if they wished to support this initiative. There was positive support from the floor.

Weston Castle Project

VR updated the meeting on the proposed Weston Castle's Project instigated by Historic England. Following the good work done at Locking Castle Mel Barge is keen for YCCCART to take a lead role in surveying other sites in the Worle area of W-S-M; other community archaeology groups, Worle history group and local schools could also be involved. This has the potential to be a big project, stretching over a couple of years and involving not just fieldwork but also research and possibly a dig. VR is due to meet representatives from Historic England and North Somerset Council to discuss the matter further. Should the project get off the ground it may attract some lottery funding- GPR??

Chris Short's presentation of YCCCART's top 10 highlights clearly displayed the range of work undertaken at a variety of important local archaeological sites including Woodspring Priory, Wemberham Villa and Cadbury Hill. He emphasised the enormous contribution made by Vince Russett, not just during his time as North Somerset's County Archaeologist but more importantly over the last year.

The meeting closed with thanks from the Chair.