

Minutes of the meeting of Wigan Local History and Heritage Society held at Wigan Cricket Club on Tuesday 8th October 2019 at 7pm.

1. Presentation by Bill Aldridge, Wigan Archaeological Society - Roman Wigan, Coccium

Bill gave a very enthusiastic and knowledgeable presentation, where he outlined in great detail the findings of the latest evidence of a large Roman settlement in Wigan which appears to be much more important and extensive than was once previously thought.

There is evidence of a substantial Roman bathhouse, and also possible barrack houses on the site.

Lost Roman roads, whose existence had been documented by earlier antiquarians, but with the exact locations lost over time, are now being discovered through excavations by the Wigan Archaeological Society, who have unearthed sections of the Roman Road in the Beech Hill area leading North to Standish and onwards towards Bamber Bridge.

He also talked about Roman coins and other findings in the Wigan area.

The Chair thanked Bill for his most interesting talk on behalf of the group.

As the presentation lasted for a considerable length of time it was then decided to rush ahead with the members meeting, and as the Secretary was dealing with the payment for the speaker during the first part of the meeting, the minutes are in less detail than usual.

2. Members meeting - Apologies

Caroline Heaven, Peter Fleetwood, Sheila Hinds.

3. Minutes of last meeting held at Forbes on the Lane Monday 5th August

Agreed as true account of the meeting.

4. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

5. Agree Constitution 2019-2020:

The revised constitution was agreed accordingly.

6. Election of unfilled Officer Posts:

Vice-Chair, Paul Kenyon was duly elected as Vice Chair Treasurer position remains unfilled and the vacancy will be carried forward to the next meeting.

7. Treasurer Report:

A verbal report was given.

After a contribution to WHAMM the remaining balance in the bank account amounts to £103.67

8. Secretary Report - Clare Kenyon.

As it was getting late, it was agreed to circulate this report to members before the next meeting.

9. Wigan Historic Buildings Preservation Trust Report - Peter Fleetwood.

In Peter's absence, a verbal report outlining the work of the group was given by Neil Linford.

He talked about the Wigan Common Seal and the Moot Hall stonework, amongst other things.

10. Setting up a Wigan Local History and Heritage Hub Network. - Peter Fleetwood.

This was deferred to the next meeting

11. Programme of Speakers for 2019-20 based on the specific interests of members.

The secretary thanked those members who had shared their specific interests in Local History and reminded others that there are still some outstanding. She asked if these could be submitted ASAP.

12. Any other business.

None received.