

## **MINUTES OF THE MHS COMMITTEE MEETING VIA ZOOM, 6th June 2023**

**1)** Present: Mike Beazley, John Fleming, Annie Garthwaite, Elizabeth Holley, Philip Hume, Angela Iliff, Yve James, Clive Jupp, Kirsten Lawton-Smith, Hugh Wood (Chair)

Apologies: Kathy Cowell

### **2) Minutes of the Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

The minutes were approved and adopted unanimously.

### **3) Matters Arising from the Minutes, Not Otherwise Covered**

No matters arising.

### **4) To Note Decisions Taken Electronically by Email Since the Last Meeting**

These decisions have all now been implemented:

- (a) spending of £280 on improvements to the cabinet at Ludlow Museum
- (b) purchase of good quality projector, screen and stands £837.38
- (c) that the recommendations of the 2023 essay prize judges be accepted.
- (d) that the fee paid for design and layout of Mortimer Matters be increased to £300/edition.

### **5) To Co-opt Three Committee Members (non-voting)**

**Agreed** Pamela Thom-Row, Ruth Butler and Dr Alastair Ayton be co-opted to the Committee.

Lesley Frith and Margaret de Lattre did not stand for election.

### **6) Bursary Fund**

**Agreed** that the Society top up the fund by £199.13 this year to bring the total to £1000, allowing us to offer a bursary this year.

Kirsten Lawton-Smith and Yve James **agreed** to administer the Fund.

## **7) M.H.S. Essay Prize 2023**

Launch of the 2023 prize was **agreed** and the offer of Professor Louise Wilkinson to Chair the Prize Committee was accepted. Alastair Ayton as assistant editor of the Journal will join the judging panel, replacing Philip Hume. Alastair will also administer the process.

The wider remit of the prize introduced during covid has been successful and it was **agreed** to continue with it.

John Fleming was formally thanked for his generous funding of the essay prize in past years. Funding in future will be provided by the Society.

## **8) Events and Activities Programme**

- (a) Philip reported on the successful Spring Conference.
- (b) Registrations for the John Grove Memorial Lecture have been disappointing so far, due to a number of factors.
- (c) Tower of London – 122 registrations so far.

## **9) News and Updates**

- (a) Wigmore Castle – progress is slow, but consulting engineers have been appointed
- (b) 2023 Schools Programme – Hugh read an email from Kathy reporting that the castle event is shaping up well.
- (c) Welsh Marcher Lordship Series – Logaston Press are happy with the sales. John was asked to have photos taken at the various book launches for Mortimer Matters.
- (d) *The Mortimers of Wigmore 1066–1485: Dynasty of Destiny* – is currently at the printers with a projected despatch date of late June.
- (e) 2023 Leeds International Congress – Mortimers of Wigmore book launch on 4<sup>th</sup> July.
- (f) Merchandise – no volunteer(s) to take on this job. Stanton will handle internet orders.

## **10) Any Other Business**

There was a brief discussion on the format of whole-day conferences, it being suggested that five lectures in a day might be too much. However, it was agreed that there is a range of different events, to cater for all tastes, and that anyone attending a day conference could choose to miss one or more lectures, if they chose. Another factor is providing value for money.

## **11) Next Meeting**

A date sometime in September to be arranged.