

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY



MINUTES OF MEETING 9th JUNE 2010

MEMORIAL HALL ELSENHAM

Those Present:

Gordon Barker(GB)	Chairman	Ray Franklin	Paul Salvidge
Chris Bush(CB)		Heather Salvidge(HS)	David Verlander
Mike Rea		Maggie Rea	Roger Miller
Roger Taylor		Kevin Wood(KW)	Dennis Haslam
Lillian Adams		Barrie Adams	Martin Parish
Valerie Austin		Elizabeth Barker	Robin Barker
Jane Flannery		Heather Barker	Tim Snow
Ruth Fulton		Gordon Fulton	

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies had been received from: Jean Beeston, Avril Braidwood, Eileen Kay and Margaret Shaw

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th March 2010

These were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising From The Minutes

- The Society is now a Corporate Member of the Records of Uttlesford History (RUH)
- There are still two Committee Posts vacant – volunteers invited.
- The application for a grant of funds from the National Lottery Heritage Fund had been submitted and a decision might be given in about ten weeks.
- Thought is still being given to setting up a web site for the society.
- The Email address had been set up for the society evhs@hotmail.co.uk
- The Society's new banner was on display at the meeting
- Stories and memories of the village were still needed - everything welcomed.
- Some members had submitted lists of reference books held - any more contributions would be gratefully received.
- Members were urged to think about small work groups on subjects that interest them.
 - Avril Braidwood had agreed to research information relating to the village war memorial and she would appreciate some help with this project. **KW** said he would be interested.
 - **HS** had started work on her project to research village place names and road names. She gave an initial flavour of her research at the end of the meeting.
 - The visit to the Essex Records Office took place on 19th May and a report is attached to these minutes.
 - Membership now stands at 26.

4. The society stall at the village fete on Sunday 6th June was visited by a large number of people. Thanks were given to Saffron Walden Museum for the loan of display cases and some local exhibits and to **GB** for showing part of his collection of artefacts and pictures. Thanks also to those members of the society who helped with the setting up of the stall and the exhibits.

5. The meeting's main speaker Roger Taylor gave an entertaining and interesting presentation on his life as a train driver and an insight into some of the technical aspects of the job both in Australia and on our local main line. Many thanks Roger. Copies of Roger's book are available from Waterstones.
6. **GB** gave a presentation on some aspects of village life using a selection of his extensive library of village photographs and demonstrating his encyclopaedic memory of people and events.

Gordon will be giving another of his full slide shows in the Village Hall on 22nd October

Copies of Gordon's new illustrated booklet on the history of St Mary's Church is now available from the author.

7. **HS** gave the initial results of her work on village place names and road names which raised a number of discussions. She stressed that this was still work in progress and her aim was to produce a definitive paper for the society archive. Thanks Heather very interesting work which illustrates the importance of setting out information in writing as a reference for the future.

8. Next Meetings

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 15th September 2010** when our guest speaker will be John Hurwitz, his subject will be The Elsenham Jam Factory. He is well qualified to speak on the operation of the factory and its role in village life having been Managing Directory of the factory and Chairman of the Parish Council for many years.

The subsequent meeting will be on **Wednesday 10th November 2010** when our speaker will be Frances Lambert who will be giving us an insight into the subject of archaeological investigations or "digs".

Meetings for next year have been booked . They are:

Wednesday 9th March 2011
Wednesday 8th June 2011
Wednesday 14th September 2011
Wednesday 9th November 2011

All meetings start at 8:00pm in the Memorial Hall

Get The Dates in Your Diary Now.

ENDS

: **Attachment** – Report on the Visit to The Essex Records Office 19th May 2010

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY
Note of Visit
To
ESSEX RECORDS OFFICE CHELMSFORD
Wednesday 19th May 2010



Nine members of the society attended for a presentation on the records available and the methods of accessing the information.

The Essex Records Office is situated in Wharf Road Chelmsford, there is a large car park right outside the office or it is a five minute walk from the High Street. Opening is 9am to 8.30 pm on Mondays, 9 am to 5 pm Tuesday to Thursday and 9am to 4 pm Friday and Saturday.

To access record material one first has to apply for a CARN Reader's Ticket (County Archive Research Network which is also valid at other participating County Records Offices). To obtain a ticket it is necessary to produce photographic ID with a specimen signature e.g. a passport/driving licence and a recent utility bill as proof of identity and residence. Access to the search room is only permitted with the reader's ticket. If no means of identity are taken a day ticket can be issued but this only allows access to microfilm and microfiche sources, published books and maps not original records.

There is no need for an appointment but if you want to study original documents or maps it saves time, if you know what you want to see to order documents to be available in advance. Document ordering closes 45 minutes before search room closing time.

All coats bags and briefcases must be left outside the search room in secure lockers provided. You may only take in a notepad and pencils (not pens or biro) for making notes. Cameras may be taken in to the search room and a daily pass for photography is available at £10 per day.

Once signed in to the search room a document index can be searched on the SEAX system (also accessible on computer at home) so that required documents can be identified and pre-ordered up to a maximum of five at a time, if required. Go to www.essexcc.gov.uk/ero and select 'Seax: Essex Archives Online'. When the ordered document is available, (perhaps 15 – 20 minutes) your name appears on an electronic display board prompting you to go to the counter where the documents will be issued to you. The documents will be weighed before issue and weighed again on return, for security reasons. Your reader's card will be held by staff whilst documents are in your possession and you will not be allowed out of the search room without your card.

Information held is extensive and includes: images or photos copies of which can be purchased; there is a card index to the extensive on site library; an index of home sales back to the 1800s; marriage indexes and marriage registers which can be searched; an index of marriage licences; a microfiche index of parish registers. Information is shown as available as **Fiche**, **Digital** or **Originals** ; an index to wills in Fiche or Originals; and index to census information; map resources include Ordnance Survey in 1st Edition (1870s), 2nd Edition (1890s) New Editions (1920s/1930s). There are also Tithe Maps and Estate maps, a photographic archive including extensive coverage of Chelmsford and adjacent parishes. There is a sound and video archive. This only gives an outline a visit or a look at Seax will fill in the detail.

The staff are extremely enthusiastic and helpful. Give it a try or ring on 01245 244644 or email ero.enquiry@essexcc.gov.uk

Knight Templar
Secretary
Elsenham Village History Society
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