

**ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY**



**MINUTES OF MEETING 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2010  
MEMORIAL HALL ELSENHAM**

**Those Present:**

Gordon Barker	Ray Franklin	Heather Salvidge	Dave Verlander
Keith Merrifield	Martin Parish	Valerie Austin	Vic Dowsett
Jean Beeston	Eileen Kay	John Morgan	Wendy Morgan
David Morgan	Janet Tulley	Brian Tulley	Alan Lambert
Frances Lambert	Avril Braidwood	Tim Snow	Ruth Fulton
Gordon Fulton	Chris Bush		

**Apologies For Absence:**

Pam Merrifield	Robert Clarke	Lillian Adams	Barrie Adams
Paul Salvidge	Mike Rea	Margaret Rae	Margaret Shaw
Jean Platt			

**1. Minutes of the Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting

**2. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

**3. Interviews and Conversations**

The Society is now able to undertake interviews and conversation with villagers in order to capture and record people, events, stories and anecdotes. Members were asked to recommend potential interviewees or to volunteer themselves. The first of these interviews had already been undertaken and had been classified by the interviewees as a painless and enjoyable exercise.

**4. Guest Speaker**

Our member Frances Lambert gave an entertaining talk on the practice of archaeology illustrated with many photographs of digs and artefacts unearthed. She brought with her a comprehensive library of guidance literature and Alan Lambert displayed an array of essential tools and equipment.

**5. Society Involvement**

Members were asked if they would be interested in participating in a field walking exercise if the necessary land owner permissions could be obtained. By a show of hands there appeared to be significant interest in getting involved. Frances and Alan Lambert agreed that they would be prepared to lead such an exercise.

Fourteen members expressed interest in the exercise.

Gordon Barker said that he had some ideas on suitable sites for investigation and would supply the landowner details.

**GB**

**6. War Memorial Project Update**

The working party comprising Avril Braidwood, Gordon Fulton, Kevin Wood, Dave Verlander and David Henderson had been in discussion since the last meeting and much research was under way to collate as many details as possible on those who were lost in action. Avril asked what the society's wishes would be once as much information as possible had been collected. The publication of a society booklet was discussed as the best way of recording and sharing the work done by the project team.

**IT was agreed:** that the secretary should include an appeal for information on the men whose names appear on the memorial, in the next available village magazine. **CB**

There was a discussion about having the names of the WWII dead added to those from WWI on the village Memorial. Ray Franklin would raise this question with the Parish Council. **RF**

Gordon Barker said that a few members might consider delving into the archives of the Herts and Essex Observer for more material and perhaps some photographs. These newspapers archives were now held in Hertford.

## **7. 2011 Programme of Speakers**

9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Alf Wright on Daisy, Countess of Warwick

8<sup>th</sup> June 2011 - Peter Paye on the Elsenham/Thaxted Light Railway

14<sup>th</sup> September 2011 – Bruce Munro Significant Architecture of Thaxted

9<sup>th</sup> November 2011 – Professor Anthony Tuck on the Black Death in Essex

In addition to these there would be member contributions on project work or research in hand.

## **8. Possible Visits**

As there was interest in the following suggested visits for next year, enquiries will be made to see if these can be arranged

1. A tour of historic Thaxted
2. A visit and presentation at Dunmow Maltings

In order to give maximum opportunity for members to attend it was suggested that the possibility of Saturday afternoon visits be investigated. **CB**

Gordon Barker suggested a trip further afield might be to the British Museum to view the significant Roman grave group finds from Elsenham.

## **9. AOB**

Heather Salvidge referred to items of pre-decimal coinage, which had been donated to the Society. She had added to the collection and wondered if other members had coins they would be prepared to donate. The collection might form the basis of the work the society wanted to undertake with the village school. This work was one of the objectives of the society but as yet funds had not been secured to undertake the exercise.

It was suggested that an application be made to the Stansted Airport fund. **PS**

## **10. Date of Next meeting**

9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Alf Wright on Daisy, Countess of Warwick