

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING 9th NOVEMBER 2011

MEMORIAL HALL ELSENHAM

Those Present:

Gordon Barker (GB) Chairman	Ray Franklin(RF)	Paul Salvidge(PS)
Chris Bush (CB)	Mike Rea(MR)	Heather Salvidge(HS)
Margaret Rea	David Verlander	Teri Williams
Jean Platt	Colin Smith	Vic Dowsett
Kevin Wood	Christine Hall	Frances Lambert
John Morgan	Wendy Morgan	Margaret Shaw
Eileen Kay	Charles Mitchell	Valerie Austin
Jill Hunt	Keith Hunt	Ruth Fulton
Gordon Fulton	Janet Tulley	Brian Tulley
Jean Beeston	John Segar	Roger Clark
Phyllis Clark	Dennis Haslam	Janet Westcott

Apologies:

Barrie Adams	Lillian Adams	Keith Merrifield
Pam Merrifield	Avril Braidwood	

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by announcing that Chris Bush had stepped down as Secretary of the Society and that Mike Rea had taken over. He then went on to introduce our speaker for the evening, Professor Anthony Tuck.

2. Minutes of The Meeting Held on 8th June 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2011 were agreed as a true record without amendment and signed off by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 The recent visit by several members to the National Archives at Kew was very successful. Heather Salvidge said that she had located papers referencing the early days of the Primary School c. 1871-1914. These included correspondence between the Board of Education, Clarissa Rush and Sir Walter Gilbey. Ray Franklin said he had investigated some early maps of the area and copied some detailed maps of the long-closed Thaxted Branch.

3.2 Essex Ancestors is now live. From now on you will have to pay to download images of parish registers from the SEAX website. The site does not appear to state the charges but it is understood to start at £5 a day for a one-off visit and a scale of charges for longer periods.

3.3 The next meeting of the Newport Local History Group features a talk by Mike Osborne on Second World War Airfields in Essex. The meeting is on Thursday 17th November at 8pm in The Church House, Newport.

4. Guest Speaker Professor Anthony Tuck

Professor Tuck gave a talk on the Black Death and its effect on life in the local area. The Chairman offered Professor Tuck a vote of thanks for a very interesting talk which despite the somewhat macabre subject matter offered much insight into how the populace dealt with this dreadful plague.

5. Open Forum

5.1 Recordings with Village Residents

Chris Bush advised that recordings have now been completed for the following:

Dorothy Bateman, The Harman Family, John Hurwitz (personal recollections and those from the Jam Factory), Mick Purcell, Joe Robinson, Mary Tucker and Diana Wickens. Interviews with Gordon Barker are ongoing with five sessions completed and more to come!

It was also reported that commemorative booklets were held for: Joe Robinson, Ron Wheeler and Mary Whitley.

5.2 War Memorial Project Update

Gordon Fulton gave an update on the progress of the War Memorial research. He advised that grant had been received that allowed the Society to employ a professional genealogist who would research the histories of those inscribed on the memorial.

5.3 Work on Elsenham Census Records

Paul Salvidge reported that records for 1841, 1851, 1861 and 1911 were complete. 1881 and 1891 were in the process of transcription and 1871 was yet to be started. Once these were complete, all available records would have been transcribed. Thought was now turning to setting up a website so these records may be made available to a wider audience

5.4 History and Buildings of Tye Green

The plan of action for this research is being formulated.

6. Dates of The Next Meetings

All meetings are at 8pm in the Memorial Hall

Wednesday 7th March 2012 – Mr Tim Turner – Swords
- “Fakes and Forgeries”

Wednesday 10th June 2012 – Mr Stanley Sutherland
- Family Research

Wednesdays 12th September 2012 and November 7th 2012

Dates have also been booked for 2013 - details to be advised

The Meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

END