

# ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF MEETING 6<sup>th</sup> June 2012

### MEMORIAL HALL ELSENHAM

#### Those Present:

**Gordon Barker  
Chairman**

Mike Rea  
Valerie Austin  
Jan Westcott  
Kevin Wood  
Avril Braidwood  
Brian Tulley  
Janet Tulley

Ray Franklin

Paul Salvidge  
David Verlander  
Tim Snow  
Vic Dowsett  
Tony Eatson  
Jill Hunt  
Dorothy Dorman

Chris Bush

Heather Salvidge  
Gordon Fulton  
Ruth Fulton  
Margaret Rea  
Roger Clark  
Phyllis Clark  
Colin Clarke

#### Apologies:

Jean Platt  
Colin Smith  
Wendy Morgan

John Segar  
Eileen Kay  
Jean Beeston

Margaret Shaw  
John Morgan  
Dennis Haslam

1. The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced and welcomed our guest speaker for the evening, Mr Stanley Sutherland.

#### 2. Signature of Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 3. Project Overviews

##### 3.1 Recordings With Village Residents

Some nine recordings have now been completed. They have been edited and put on CD and a verbatim record typed up.

The Society is now looking for any other residents who would like to record their memories of village life in what is a painless and enjoyable process.

### **3.2 War Memorial Project**

Research is ongoing and yielding results. Thanks to Alan Taylor, a generous donation to the ECA has allowed a professional researcher to complete detailed records on 11 of the 25 names recorded on the memorial. Any more help from anyone would be very gratefully received by the Memorial Team.

### **3.3 Elsenham Census Records**

All but two of the available records between 1841 and 1901 have been completed. The 1911 census has just been released and will be dealt with in due course.

### **3.4 Elsenham Cemetery**

The Parish Council are awaiting additional quotes for the building works needed to restore the fabric of the Lychgate and Chapel, the Sexton's Hut sadly being beyond repair. The PC are debating whether to go for a grant towards this work, if they do the History society will support their application. Having restored the buildings, the PC is keen to find a use for them. The Chapel will be open to visitors on 15<sup>th</sup> July from 2 to 5pm to coincide with the "Open Gardens Flower Show". A small display of photos will be mounted and visitors asked for their suggested use.

## **4. Guest Speaker Mr Stanley Sutherland**

Mr Sutherland gave a very interesting account of how to go about researching one's family tree. He explained the various sources of information available to researchers and how they could be used to pin down an ancestor. All in all a fascinating talk and one that held the interest of seasoned researchers as well as complete novices.

## **5. Open Forum and Any Other Business**

### **5.1 Visits**

Two visits are proposed this year. The first to Dunmow Maltings is set for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June, participants to meet at the Maltings for 4pm for a guided tour of the Maltings and Museum. The cost of this visit is £3.00 per head. Members who haven't already expressed an interest please contact Mike Rea on 01279 813634 to reserve a place.

The second will be to The Chelmsford Police museum. No date has been set as yet but the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> September is proposed as the talk from Fred Feather will still be fresh in our minds after the September meeting.

## **5.2 St Mary's Photo Exhibition**

John Segar has advised that St Mary's Fabric Fund will be holding a photographic exhibition in the Church on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June from 10.30am to 4.30pm. Anyone wishing to enter a photograph in the exhibition may do so on payment of a one pound fee. Entry Forms are available from David Hill (7 Markwells) or Robin Barker (1 High Street) and photographs should be submitted no later than 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Gordon Barker advised that he would be doing short guided tours of some of the hidden features of the Church on both afternoons.

## **5.3 Elsenham Fete**

The Society will have a small display at the Fete to publicise our activities and hopefully encourage a few Villagers to join.

## **5.4 Place Name Research**

Heather Salvidge announced that she had updated her Origins of Place Names in Elsenham research and asked for help from any members who could cast further light on the place names therein.

It was noted that the origin of Ridley gardens was proving particularly recalcitrant.

## **6. Dates of Next Meetings**

Wednesday 12th September 2012

Mr Fred Feather presents "Arsenic and Olde Essex"

A story of murder investigation before and after the forming of the Essex Police Force

Wednesday 7th November 2012

Members Evening featuring a presentation from our very own War Memorial Project Team

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2012

Mr Bruce Munro will host a "Chat About Saffron Walden with Slides"

**ENDS**