

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum held on Friday 21st May 2021 at 10am in Tredegar Library

Present:-Eifion Ll. Davies, Rodger Burchell, Jeff Darkins, Martyn Morgan Jones, Ken Davies and Janet C. Karn

The minutes of the last meeting were referred to for information only and accepted as a true record of the meeting in February 2020.

Forum meetings

At the present time the number of people allowed to attend meetings is limited to 6 in Tredegar library. This is the maximum the rooms can hold safely. Given the membership of the Heritage Forum exceeds this number it was suggested we have another meeting in July to see if the situation had changed. The members of the committee wish the Forum to continue with its work to preserve and help raise the profile of heritage and heritage organisations in the area.

Monthly Talks

These cannot take place at the moment. They might have to be postponed until next year, but this will be reviewed at the meeting in July.

Heritage Day

There will be no heritage day this year, it is now too late to arrange one even if the Covid restrictions are lifted.

Website

The website has been remodelled and is going a good job of raising the profile of the Forum when no meetings can be held. It was suggested that a committee look at adding new pages to the website. An update on construction will be given at the next meeting. The upgrade of the website cost £800 half of this money was made up of grants and Family Finance of Tredegar gave a donation towards the project. So far the website has made £132 from the sale of materials.

Meetings at the present time

The usual Forum meetings have attendance of 12+, and while a small committee made up of the officers of the Forum can go ahead organising some things it was felt that there should be some

representation from ordinary members within this group. It is suggested that we sent out minutes of the first 2 meetings of the committee to all members with suggestions for representatives to be submitted for any future meetings

Journal

It is suggested that in the future Jeff Darkins do the proofreading for the Journal while Janet stays on as Sub editor undertaking the formatting and indexing of the Journal for publication. Eifion Ll. Davies still has the Forum printer. The latest journal is almost complete and there are promises of articles for a future journal.

Forum AGM

There will be no physical AGM reports will be sent out to all members after the books have been audited by Jeff Darkins and Lorna Weeks.

Any other business

Operation Freshman which was the attack on the Heavy Water plant in Norway involved a boy from Beaufort, Sapper Howells, there is a book about the operation and it is hoped we will have an article or the journal on the subject.

David Davies and son were shot at the Westgate hotel in the chartist uprising. There is a plan for a commemoration of the pair in Brynmawr.

Kevin Phillips is hoping to hold Heritage Talks in No 10 the Circle now it is open. Keven is hoping that the Coalfields regeneration will support this project. There is a concern that this might conflict with other talks in the area but it could also be to the Forums advantage to get involved with the project.