# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 10th October 10.00am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PRESENT:** | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Eirlys Evans |
| Pearl Hill | Sue Jones(Cllr) | Margaret Cross |
| Pamela Morgan | Rose Atkin | Terry Townend |
| Ros Holt | | |
| **APOLOGIES** | Diane Cherry | |

**MINUTES** The minutes were accepted as a true record after Sian pointed out she had omitted Eirlys!

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Pam reported that we now have a Lloyd's account and that she is expecting all the details within five working days, whereupon she will pay in the princely sum of £131.32

**MATTERS ARISING** Terry reported that the council is now seriously considering putting a blue plaque outside Captain Jack's house in Gorwydd Road.. Sue has instigated this. Captain Jack was Trevor Pugh's father-in-law. And was captain of the 'Whites'. During the war he was awarded the 'Bronze star' by the King on behalf of the President of the US for towing a blazing ammunition truck away from a hospital truck.

Elaine told everyone that the silver key from the Cricket club had been sold, but there was a possibility of getting in touch with the new owner with a view to buying it back. Apparently it had been offered to a member of the Cricket club before it was advertised on e-bay, but no-one seems to know who it was who refused it. Next year is the anniversary of the Cricket pavilion.

The River Tawe boat trip will be postponed until the Spring.

The fencing is due to go up around the canal with a gateway for access.

Pearl had found information in a Library book about the 'Flying Welshman' a train which travelled from Milford to Paddington. On October 7th 1904 there was a crash which happened just outside Gowerton at a high speed of 50mph! All the details can be found in 'Swansea in 100 Dates'. Dr Abel Christmas Davies of Woodlands in Gowerton was one of the first people on the scene to offer assistance.

Andrew Vicari, a famous local artist who died earlier this month, painted a portrait of Captain Leighton Davies.

Terry had also got his hands on some photographs of pictures found behind panelling in the Infants School. They were very pretty, but Elaine assured us that they were just transfer stickers.

The time scale for the history boards is in Pamela and her sub-committee's hands and we are probably looking at about a year.

Gwlibhistsoc had a mention in the Evening Post thanks to Sue!

Pamela had a lot of information on the coalmines which is available on the website.

Next meeting Monday 14th November 10am.

Provisional Agenda

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 12th Sept
3) Matters Arising
4) Treasurer's Report
5) AOB: to include a talk about Gowerton Servicemen.

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 11th January 2016

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PRESENT: | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Peter Davies | Terry Townend | Pamela Morgan |
| Marion Morris | Viv Davies | Pearl Hill |
| Ros Holt | Elaine Howell | Sue Jones |
| Stuart Eley | | |
| APPOLOGIES: | Roland Emmanuel | George Morgan |
| | Jean Meredith | |

MINUTES: The minutes were passed as a true record

MATTERS ARISING: The group now has 3 copies each of maps for the area, 1919 and 1935. At present they are at home with Sian and Pete as the library is unable to store them flat. If anybody else wishes to store/borrow them please say. Sian contacted two friends re Welsh translation; one said yes (teacher), the other gave the suggestion of asking the Welsh school pupils for a translation (which could later be verified): this could be a way of getting Gŵyr interested in preserving Gowerton as a village?

CONSTITUTION: Sian has written up a constitution following guidelines and presented it at the meeting. Elaine also brought in a copy of a constitution used by another group. Pamela will copy this and send it to Pete P. A copy of both will then be circulated to all existing members within the week, along with a copy of the membership list. Any comments to be e-mailed back to Pete on or before the meeting of 8th Feb (in archives) or given to Sian in writing by this date, in order that some sort of closure can be put on it at our next meeting.

WEBSITE UPDATE: Peter P has set up a website, it has a temporary address while it is being developed; http://gowertonlibraryhistoricalsociety.btck.co.uk. This will only appear if it is typed into the address bar. Don't ask google to search! .Any comments or suggestions please e-mail Pete on peterpsa4@gmail.com. If anybody has documents/photographs that they would like to add to the site, please e-mail them to Pete direct or drop off hard copies to the library marked FAO Sian. Elaine proposed a vote of thanks.

TALK ON MEDIEVAL HISTORY OF GOWERTON: Viv prepared and gave an excellent talk, beginning with the Romans' invasion of Gower, followed by the Vikings and so on. It appears that the first proper records of Gowerton as a fixed settlement were to do with the mills. The full talk will hopefully appear on the website when Viv and Pete manage to transfer it.

AOB: Sue Jones has put our group on her Face book page with an invitation to any interested bodies to come along. She has also spoken to various bodies regarding grants, including one from the education department to instigate a proper 'walk' around the Elba woodland behind the new primary school. Viv is talking to the inland waterways on the same subject. Gowerton Community council also

make grants available twice a year, however, to apply for any grant we seem to need some sort of constitution.
Meeting closed at 11.20am Next meeting in Swansea archives, Civic Centre at 10am. Meet at reception. Any changes will be notified.

MEMBERSHIP LIST JANUARY 2016

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sian Pritchard (secretary) | 'Magpie Cottage' 127 Brithwen Road Waunarlwydd | 874986 home 873572 work |
| Peter Pritchard | As above | 07949153448 peterpsa4@gmail.com |
| Elaine Howell (chair) | 9 Bryn-y-Mor Rd | 872860 |
| Stuart Eley | 86 Bryn–y-Mor Rd | jseley@tiscali.co.uk 874522 |
| Peter Davies | 35 Oakwood Drive | PETERDAVIESGOW@HOTMAIL.CO |
| Dave Wootton | 11 Greenways Waunarlwydd | 874065 dave.wootton6@btinternet.com |
| Paula Wootton | As above | As above |
| George Morgan | 106 Brithwen Road Waunarlwydd | 874803 |
| Pamela Morgan | As above | pm.morgan@btinternet.com |
| Sue Jones (Cllr)) | 52 Park Rd | sue.jones15@btinternet.com Cllr.SusanJones@swansea.gov.uk |
| Marion Morris | 36 Cae Mansel Road | 873965 |
| Pearl Hill | 'Ty'r Bugail' Cae Mansel | 879641 pearlandtirbugail@tiscali.co.uk |
| Roland Emmanuel | 10 Mansel Street | 522672 |
| Viv Davies | 19 William Bowen Close | 411952 viv.davies321@virginmedia.com |
| Terry Townend | 5 Nevills Close | dc.1241@hotmail.com |
| Glenys Phillips | 14 Stepney Rd Waunarlwydd | 537196 wrenway@ntlworld.com |
| Rosalind Holt | 91 Cecil Rd | ros.holt@hotmail.co.uk 418887 |

Provisional agenda for meeting Monday 14th March

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 11th Jan
3) Matters arising
4) Constitution
5) Website update
6) Coal and canal
7) AOB

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 14th November 10.00am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PRESENT:** | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Terry Townend |
| Pearl Hill | Margaret Cross | Geraint Morgan |
| Pamela Morgan | Rose Atkin | Terry Townend |
| Ros Holt | Viv Davies | Diane Cherry |
| Carrie | | |
| **APOLOGIES** | Eirlys Evans | Sue Jones |

**MINUTES** The minutes were accepted as a true record.
**MATTERS ARISING** There were no matters arising. The Constitution is available online or can be viewed at the library. There are three elected officers, but no committee as such. We have sub-committees such as the one set up to look into 'history boards/blue plaques'. Stuart was concerned that the group was now too big.
**TREASURER'S REPORT** Pam has banked the money and the account is up and running. She has given the details to Sue in the hope that maybe the Community Council can contribute.
**AOB** Pam gave us a talk on the memorials of the servicemen of Gowerton and Waunarlwydd. Further info on the talk will be posted on the website. Elaine regretted that she had not been able to tell us about a concert about the Second World War by Belgian people which they performed in Penclawdd School.

Next meeting Monday December 12th

## AGENDA FOR MEETING MONDAY FEBRUARY 13TH

1) Apologies
2) Minutes
3) Matters Arising
4) Treasurer's report including History Boards
5) Viv: Gower Society
6) AOB

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Swansea Archive, Civic Centre Mon 8th Feb 2016

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PRESENT: | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Terry Townend | Janet Jones | Pearl Hill |
| Marion Morris | Viv Davies | Sue Jones |
| Ros Holt | Elaine Howell | |
| APPOLOGIES: | Jean Meredith | Pamela Morgan |

We were met at reception by Mr Andrew Dulley the assistant county archivist, who had kindly agreed to give us a guided tour in place of Mr Kim Collis who had another commitment. We had an initiation into how to join the archives and were then escorted into the main part of the unit where most research is done by the public. Mr Dulley had placed various old maps of Gowerton on the table for our perusal, which was very interesting as we could compare them one with the other. We were then taken downstairs into the basement and there followed a most fascinating hour where we were treated to a private 'showing' of the oldest document in the place; a piece of vellum dating from the 12th century written in Latin by the monks of Neath Abbey.
At the end of the tour Elaine Howell gave him a vote of thanks on behalf of the society.

Further to my e-mail of 14/01/16 I received three comments regarding the constitution. Pamela's and Pearl's were virtually identical referring to the wording of the 'membership' section and the use of the word 'society' in place of the original 'group'. Elaine feels '*that the constitution of any organisation is too important to rush. She supported Pamela's suggestion in the January meeting that a small group should be set up to draft out a constitution. It should then be placed in front of the whole group with a view for adoption.'*

Next meeting 10am at Gowerton Library Monday 14th March.

Proposed agenda as of minutes of January 2016

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 14th March 10am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PRESENT: | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Viv Davies |
| Pearl Hill | Pamela Morgan | Sue Jones |
| APOLOGIES | Terry Townend | |

2) The minutes were read and agreed as a true record.
3) It was agreed that the secretary need only minute actual business parts of the meeting and does not need to try to keep up with the various discussions that take place within the group. Dave commented that the visit to the archive was extremely interesting and made particularly so by the enthusiasm of Mr Andrew Dulley who conducted us around. It was agreed that even though Elaine had proposed a vote of thanks at the time and Sue had e-mailed him to thank him, Sian would send a letter of thanks after hearing how much all the members had enjoyed the trip.
4) Regarding the constitution, it was proposed by Pamela, and agreed unanimously, that there needed to be a small group of people to sort the constitution out and return with it in place for the rest of the society to discuss and hopefully adopt at the next meeting. Pamela is to liaise with Sian and Elaine for a suitable time to meet to sort this out. Regarding the word 'preserve' it was proposed that any material owned by any member of the group be scanned by Pete for inclusion on the web-site. It was also proposed that a letter be written to Jean, as Library manager, with a copy to the county librarian to ask permission to site a filing cabinet to store documents at the library. Sian said it was unlikely to materialise, but it was always worth a try, as if you don't ask, you don't get. It was noted that permission for the twinning association to store documents had been refused, but if the Historical Society can manage it, we may be able to pool some of our resources and store documents together, as the twinning association is pertinent to the recent history of the village.
5) Pete said the website is fine, and he is adding material to it when it is sent/given to him, as time allows. He reminded people that Google will not search for it, but if you type http://gowertonlibraryhistoricalsociety.btck.co.uk. into the address bar directly, it will come up no problem.
6) Nigel Wassell is happy to give us a talk on the Penclawdd canal at some point. Thanks to Glenys for her efforts on this.
7) Sian has purchased coffee for the group and has taken the money out of the slush fund. She also purchased biscuits!

The meeting closed at 11.30

Provisional agenda for meeting Monday 11th April

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 14th March
3) Matters arising
4) Constitution
5) Website update
6) Railways
7) AOB

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 11th April 10am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PRESENT: | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Viv Davies |
| Pearl Hill | Terry Townend | Sue Jones |
| Ros Holt | | |
| APOLOGIES | Pamela Morgan | George Morgan |

Minutes were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising: Letter has been sent to Mr Andrew Dulley to thank him for his tour of the archives. Unfortunately Pamela realised after the last meeting that she and George would be on holiday and so would miss this meeting. She will therefore liaise with Sian and Elaine regarding the constitution upon her return. A copy of the letter regarding storage of the paperwork etc belonging to the society will be attached to the end of these minutes.
Website update: Pete said that he has not had much chance over Easter to do any more to the website, but he is in the process of constantly adding material in as it is given to him, either digitally or on paper.
Railways: None of us present knew anything definitive about the railway line/s through the village but Elaine suggested that we take it in turns at saying something about how the railway had been part of our lives in the village. It was a highly interesting session.

Sian proposed that everyone write down their memories and give them to Pete for inclusion on the website. Elaine felt that writing them down would lose the personal spontaneity of verbal anecdotes. We need to record our memories on audio and we will contact archives about this. If anybody is not comfortable about speaking into a microphone, the option to write things down and give them to Pete for inclusion on the website is still there.
Elaine is to check out the copyright for any material we wish to include on the website.

Meeting closed at 11.30

Provisional agenda for meeting Monday 9th May

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 14th March
3) Matters arising
4) Constitution
5) Website update
6) Tinplate
7) AOB

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 9th May 10am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PRESENT: | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Viv Davies |
| Pearl Hill | Sue Jones | Peter Davies |
| Pamela Morgan | | |

APOLOGIES Terry Townend

***Minutes*** were accepted with the following amendments: Elaine wished to clarify that she was not going to check out further material for copyright and that she was not against writing down personal memories for posterity.

***Matters Arising***: Pam and Elaine arranged to meet in Gowerton Library on Thursday 5th May at 2pm. Unfortunately, Sian could not make it at this time, but the decision was made to go ahead with the meeting anyway (see Constitution). Also, the letter has been sent to Mr Steve Hardman and a copy has been circulated to all members.

***Constitution:*** This has been 'tweaked' and the amended version will be rewritten by Pamela and sent to Sian via Pete. As soon as Sian receives it she will e-mail/ print a copy and distribute it to all members asap for adoption during the next meeting. It has been decided that we do need a treasurer. It was suggested that whoever had a bank account in a bank in Gorseinon should be treasurer; Pearl said she had an account in Lloyds in Gorseinon and volunteered to be treasurer, however Sian felt that this was not a good idea as she thought it was a potential problem having two 'elected' 'officials' from the same family and for this reason she hadn't nominated Pete P, although he is treasurer of other groups, as she felt integrity might be compromised.

***Website Update***: Pete P is progressing with it. He asked all members if they were happy with the layout etc as it is; so far there have been no complaints and one comment on the site from Pearl. He asked if anybody wished to alter it/help, Pamela volunteered her services if he felt he needed them. Pete will contact Serena from Gowerton Community Council regarding adding a link into our website from theirs.

***AOB*** Sian had a note asking if we knew anything about oaks grown from acorns brought from the battles in Verdun, but nobody knew of any in this area. She also asked if we were interested in old Loughor/Gorseinon calendars or Loughor society magazines, but the answer was no partly due to lack of storage space.

***TINPLATE***. We were treated to a fascinating account of some of the history of Gowerton tinplate works by Peter Davies whose parents had both been employed there. More information can be found on the website. Thanks to Peter and Pete!

The meeting closed at 11.30 with coffee and biscuits (thanks to Paula for really nice choccy ones!). Sian collected up the contributions received and put them in the money bag kept in the library. She will hand them over to Peter (treasurer) next meeting. (Peter please see note and table on next page).

| Name | 13th June | 11th July | 8th Aug | 12th Sept |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Elaine Howell (chair) | | | | |
| Sian Pritchard (sec) | | | | |
| Peter Davies (treasurer) | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Viv Davies | | | | |
| Stuart Eley | | | | |
| Pearl Hill | | | | |
| Ros Holt | | | | |
| Sue Jones | | | | |
| Pamela Morgan | | | | |
| Marion Morris | | | | |
| Glenys Phillips | | | | |
| Peter Pritchard | | | | |
| Terry Townend | | | | |
| Dave Wootton | | | | |
| Paula Wootton | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Hi Peter,

I have included the table with the current members and the dates of the next 4 meetings on top so that you can mark it up with the money received each month. I hadn't taken note of previous contributions, because up until now it was only going into a 'slush fund' for tea and coffee etc! If you want to do your own spreadsheet you are welcome I won't be offended!!!!

Provisional agenda for meeting Monday 13th June

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 9th May
3) Matters arising
4) Constitution
5) Website update
6) Foundry
7) AOB

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 11th July 10.30am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PRESENT:** | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Ros Holt |
| Pearl Hill | Sue Jones | Stuart Eley |
| Pamela Morgan | Terry Townend | Margaret Cross |
| Geraint Morgan | Sian Green | |
| **APOLOGIES** | Viv Davies | |

The meeting opened with a talk by Sian Green from the Economic Regeneration department of the council regarding grants available to small volunteer groups from the heritage lottery fund. We can apply for between £3,000 and £10,000 as long as we can prove that we meet certain criteria. Pamela has taken the paperwork home to peruse in peace. She will then liaise with Stuart, Sue and Viv (for her previous experience) for the 'signs project'. We need to have planning permission and everything else we need in place before applying as grants will only be approved if we satisfy all their conditions. Because we need to have planning permission before we apply for the heritage lottery grant, Sue Jones will apply for money from the Community Council on our behalf to cover this cost, however, she cannot do anything until we have our constitution in place.

The minutes were approved as a true record.

**MATTERS ARISING**:

a) Unfortunately, the Constitution could not be approved because the treasurer was absent (no apologies were received)

b) According to the minutes of Monday June 13th 2016 Peter D was going to pursue the matter of a bank account; to date we have had no communication from him as to the outcome of this endeavour. Contrary to what was said in that meeting, it is now of paramount importance to set up both the constitution and the bank account. Only when these are in place can we in proceed with applications for grants and planning permission for the signage we all agreed we wanted.

c) Further to the suggestion of holding one meeting in the Rechabite Hall to review material held there, Sian emphasised that although she was quite happy to go to the Rechabite Hall for this purpose, it was to be clearly understood that the Society to which we all belong is the Gowerton *LIBRARY* Historical Society and as such we always meet there. If it hadn't been for Jean as Librarian and Sian as Library assistant, the society as it is would not exist.

d) Terry had walked the route to the Elba colliery stack and said it was not really suitable for walking without jungle equipment! However, he will kindly work out other routes which we can walk as a group and he will inform us of dates which are suitable for him and those who wish to go can go.

**WEBSITE UPDATE:** Peter P has more information which he will upload onto the website when he has opportunity. He reminded everybody that the website is easily added to if people will loan him the hard copies for a while and give him a chance to scan them into the website. This is also true of the material currently stored in the Rechabite Hall, belonging to Gowerton Library. Once it is on the

internet the information is then instantly available to all members and anyone else who knows the website address. He also reminded people that when we get a bank account, he will be in a position to purchase a proper web address (he can tell you the technical details) which can be accessed direct from the search engines. This will make it instantly available globally!!! (except in China)!

The meeting closed at midday with coffee and yet more gorgeous chocolate biscuits supplied again by Paula. Definite vote of thanks! Next meeting Monday August 8th at 10am.

## AGENDA

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting July 11th
3) Matters arising
4) Constitution
5) Website update
6) Blue plaques
7) AOB

## *Post Script*

*I have had communication from various members of the society, including Pamela, Jean, Peter P etc asking to sort out the constitution once and for all. Since November, when we decided that we needed one, every meeting has been taken up with arguments about it. I first typed out a rough draft for consideration which was presented to the society in January (see minutes Mon 11th Jan: Constitution/AOB). It has been suggested that if Peter D is unable to commit to the society, some one else is appointed in August's meeting to take over the role and the constitution can then be finished with.*
*Also:*

Pamela has got hold of A3 maps of central Gowerton from 1879ish to 1937ish. Sian got hold of others, as requested at the beginning of the year and both are keen to get to work marking these up with points of interest. Pamela would like to mark up who lived where and identify shops and businesses which will help us determine which sites in the village should be graced by an information panel.

Further to this, Pamela and Viv met and have proposed the following four topics for the Heritage Panels:

1. Railways & People: sited somewhere near CK's facing west

2. Elba Steel Works: sited next to the last billet near the Surgery

3. Canal & Elba Woodland: sited near the new school

4. Trafle Mill & Fairwood Tin Works: sited near the proposed Park & Ride on Fairwood Terrace.

*According to Pamela, who has checked with Sue, the sites are on council owned land and are subject to Planning permission, They propose we look at the best positions and record the exact co-ordinates on a walk around the village someday soon.*
*Viv has mock-ups of the wording and pictures. A trip to the Archives will be necessary to find original photos and ensure copyright. The wording will have to be translated into Welsh. Viv has examples of the type of panels we envisage and costing can be obtained.*
*Once we know all this we can start the grant application process to cover all the major costs. At the next history club meeting Pamela and Viv just want to say that they have started the process and will report back once they have a firm proposal.*
***However before a grant app can be submitted we need a signed Constitution and a bank account.***

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 8th August 10.00am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PRESENT:** | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Viv Davies |
| Pearl Hill | Sue Jones(Cllr) | Stuart Eley |
| Pamela Morgan | Terry Townend | Rose Atkin |
| Geraint Morgan | Sian Green | Diane Cherry |
| Peter Davies | | |
| **APOLOGIES** | Margaret Cross | Ros Holt (present later) |

**MATTERS ARISING:** The Chair opened the meeting by saying that the Secretary's comments about the Treasurer were thoughtless and inconsiderate. She went on to explain that his wife is suffering from Parkinson's and that the comments about being unable to commit to the group were unnecessarily hurtful. The Secretary tried to explain that the comments were added as a postscript as numerous people had contacted her and a member of the sub-committee backed her up on this, but the Chair was insistent that in future only things actually said at the meetings could be included in the minutes. This has been noted. Peter Davies then arrived at the meeting and offered his apologies, but he felt he was unable to give the commitment to the group and so tendered his resignation as Treasurer. The Chair thanked him for taking on the position and the work he had done on it so far. Further to this, Elaine and Peter D said it was agreed in a previous meeting to ask Mr and Mrs Bolchover for the transfer of the funds from the Gowerton Archive Group. I have been through all the minutes and am unable to find this agreement. If anybody can remember which meeting this was agreed at please let me know and I will adjust the minutes in question accordingly. All the minutes to date have been agreed as a true record with the following exceptions: 14th Dec and 9th May, which were duly amended and then passed, and also July 11th as this month's (August) meeting opened with Matters Arising. However, we have now established that we are two distinctly separate groups and we intend staying that way, although in the future we will ask them for the return of the memorabilia that was donated to the library and they very kindly stored for us in the Rechabite Hall whilst the Library was in the midst of refurbishment and since then because we are still lacking the space to keep it permanently.

The meeting as such then paused whilst Pamela went to the dentist. In the meantime, we had an interesting look at some of the prominent Gowertonians of years past. Thanks to Stuart, Terry and Pearl for gathering together this information and thanks to Elaine for reading out pieces of interest regarding amongst others Mr Roper-Wright and Captain Leighton-Davies. Peter Davies told us that he was responsible for the naming of Roper-Wright Close and Mr Harry Thomas was responsible for naming William Bowen Close.

Pamela returned to the meeting to find that she had been nominated and seconded to the post of Treasurer in her absence! She very kindly agreed to fulfil these duties with the help of Dave and Paula.

**CONSTITUTION:** With the role of Treasurer now filled, all three officials present and enough members to constitute a quorum the

Constitution was proposed by Peter Pritchard, seconded by Dave and therefore accepted unanimously. Pamela proposed a vote of thanks to Sian and Elaine for writing it originally. The slush fund was handed over to Pamela as treasurer in order to open a bank account and Sue said she will now go ahead and start working for grants for the group.

**WEBSITE UPDATE:** Peter P explained to our new members, Rose and Diane that he had set up a website, but that it cannot be searched for using a search engine such as 'Google'. At present, you can only get into it by typing the following into the browser bar: http://gowertonlibraryhistoricalsociety.btck.co.uk. There is quite a lot of interesting material on there already and there is more waiting to go on when Sian lets Pete stop working outside in the garden and he gets down to it once more.

**BLUE PLAQUES:** See AOB

**AOB:** The sub-committee of Pamela, Stuart, Viv and Sue have met and discussed the siting of History Boards as oppose to blue plaques which celebrate prominent people.. It has been agreed that the first lot of History Boards to be applied for should celebrate our industrial heritage as this is what is disappearing fastest. It was proposed that one should be sited outside CK's store at the junction of two of the old rail lines and an arrow or similar pointing to the present day station. Glenys has given her permission for all the information regarding her family currently on the Swansea Libraries website can be included in our website. Pearl confirmed with her that this would not breach any copyright and proposed a vote of thanks to her. Pearl has also offered all her Father's memoirs for inclusion on the website. The meeting closed at 11.30 with coffee and biscuits, yet again supplied by Paula and with a contribution also from Terry. Thanks to both!!!

Next meeting Monday 12th September at 10am.

Provisional Agenda for Mon 12th Sept

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 8th August
3) Matters Arising
4) Treasurer's Report
5) AOB

# GOWERTON LIBRARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting held at Gowerton Library Monday 12th September 10.00am

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PRESENT:** | Sian Pritchard | Peter Pritchard |
| Glenys Phillips | Paula Wootton | Dave Wootton |
| Marion Morris | Elaine Howell | Viv Davies |
| Pearl Hill | Sue Jones(Cllr) | Margaret Cross |
| Pamela Morgan | Rose Atkin | Diane Cherry |

**APOLOGIES** Terry Townend Peter Davies

**MINUTES** The minutes were accepted with the following alterations: the sub-committee is composed of Pamela, Stuart and Viv with Sue included as advisor. Also, I had written Mr instead of Sir Roper-Wright. And Elaine read out information about the five Knights of Gowerton.

**MATTERS ARISING** There were no other matters arising.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Pamela as treasurer invited Paula Wootton and Jean (Librarian) to be signatories on a Lloyd's Bank Account, which will be opened with the grand sum of £31.32. There are a few loose ends to tie up, but it seems to be progressing nicely. Pam suggested that we pay a subscription each year and suggested the sum of £10 per person, payable at the AGM. We decided that the AGM would be held at the April meeting, but seeing as April is still some months away it was agreed that each member present would pay £5 for the time being.

**AOB** There was no other business.

The meeting then continued with information gathered by Pearl about 'The Mount'. This information, along with all the other significant information provided by society members will appear on the website when Peter P has a chance to update it. Pearl had also managed to trace a ceremonial key which had been used by Mrs J. C. Davies to open Gowerton Cricket Club in the 1920s which had been put up for sale on e-bay. It was decided that we as a society were unable to purchase it! Glenys told us that her Grandfather, David James Ogilvy had been given two large urns which were originally from The Mount, she has promised to bring in a photo of them next meeting.

We then had a discussion about the footpaths in Gowerton, both ancient and modern and which of these were navigable.

Dave Wootton has volunteered to organise a trip for us as a group to go on the barge up the River Tawe. As we are a large no. it is advisable to pre-book. We are looking at either a Monday or a Thursday and Dave would like to know how many and which day before he books.

The secretary then offered everybody to help themselves to tea/coffee and left at 11.30 to go to the dentist.

Next meeting Monday 10th Oct 10am.

Provisional Agenda

1) Apologies
2) Minutes of meeting 12th Sept
3) Matters Arising
4) Treasurer's Report
5) AOB