

c/o The Town Hall Market Street Whittlesey Peterborough PE7 1BD

Minutes for 9th January

1 Present - Mesdames: Barback.

Messrs: Shearing, R Phillips, Boddington, Hancock, Green.

Apologies: Gerstner, J Phillips.

- 2 Minutes for 5th December These were signed as a true record.
- 3 Funding The decision on our Glassmoor application will be made in the next few days. We'll let you know next month.
- 4 March museum All being well, our display will go to March at the end of January.
- 5 Training courses It would appear that the recent sad loss of Anthony Goode has left SPAB with only one other technician who is able to teach the craft of mud wall building. Unfortunately, he is based in Cumbria, is extremely busy, and it would be extremely expensive to get him to Whittlesey to put on a training course for us. Which means we have to change our plans slightly, and arrange training courses for individual parts of the walls footings, mud work, copings. A member of our SPAB Fenland & Wash group specialises with lime, which would be used in the mortars for the footings and tiled copings, and has offered his help. We'll be looking around the country for independent tradespeople who work with mud walls, to see if they would do a course for us. We do have some local tradespeople who have expressed interest in learning the crafts, and there are others we can call on to remove the ivy and other foliage that many walls are covered in. We did find out that some of the local community funding grants can be used to pay for repairs, around 50%. We'll keep investigating and keep you posted.
- 6 AOB A few weeks ago, we were contacted by an independent journalist who wished to do an article about Whittlesey Mud Walls Group for the Discovering Whittlesea magazine. So Richard, Robert and I met the gentleman and gave him the information he required. We're now at the stage of approving his proof copy. He hopes to have it in the April edition.

Next meeting -Wednesday 6th March at 10.30am. Mike (scorpionmike57@googlemail.com)