

**Whittlesey
Mud Walls
Group**



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

Minutes for 2nd October

- 1 Present - Mesdames : Katie McAndrew.
Messrs : Mike Shearing, Robert Boddington, David Hancock,
Peter Davies.
Apologies - Ray Whitwell, Roy Gerstner.
- 2 Minutes for 4th September - These were signed as a true record.
- 3 Whittlesey Festival update - We had a very successful event this year, with over 30 people of all ages participating in our activities. Some of the children had been to us before, and enjoy coming back each year, which is rewarding, and we even managed to persuade Mayor Julie Windle to come and make a mud brick! A big thank you goes to all who helped with preparations and on the day. By its nature it's a hands-on event, and we wouldn't be able to do it without you. Thanks have been extended to Chris & Rose at the Black Bull, and we look forward to next year.
- 4 Wall ownership leaflet - This leaflet which estate agent Chris Burton prepared for us has now been delivered to all wall owners & guardians and estate agents, and can be found in the museum, library and council office. It will hopefully help to change people's reservations about owning a property with a mud wall. We hope people will start to view them as an asset to be proud of, not a burden to have to live with.
- 5 Wall repairs - We're pleased to be able to report that the 'new' mud wall in the Black Bull car park is currently being rebuilt. You may remember that it's remains were restored in September 2017 by the company that repaired the other Black Bull walls. Unfortunately, there were many faults with it which meant it would have to be pulled down. Local vernacular specialist builder Mark Cross has been given the job of rebuilding it, which we're very pleased about as we know how good he is with old buildings, and he's looking forward to this new challenge. We'll be in regular contact with him and he's going to take photos at every stage of deconstruction and rebuilding. We'll keep you informed.
- 6 Powerpoint presentation - Our thanks go to Ray Whitwell for his computer work to get our presentation almost ready. Robert Boddington & I will finalise things so we're ready to go and give our first talk to the Whittlesea Society on Monday 14th October.

7 Listing applications - As you're probably aware, Whittlesey has a Conservation Area in the heart of the town, the aim of which is to give a certain amount of protection to the old and unusual buildings etc... within its borders. Unfortunately several of our mud walls are found outside the Conservation Area, so the only way of getting them properly protected is to get them listed. We have therefore recently sent in an application to English Heritage for a limited number of our walls to be listed, to gauge their response, as they will decide if the individual walls are of a certain standard of condition and therefore eligible to be listed. We expect some will qualify and will be listed, while some may require some work, which will help us when assessing the work required at each wall, which we'll be continuing with.

Mike.

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Next meeting -

Wednesday 6th November at 10.30am.