

## **HORNCASTLE HISTORY & HERITAGE SOCIETY**

### **Executive Meeting Minutes**

DATE	14/01/2026	TIME	13:00	FACILITATOR	Adam Cartwright
ATTENDEES					
Adam Cartwright, Ch'man		Nick Fox, Vice Chairman		Micheal Hieatt, Planning	
Mike Martin, Rec. Sec'y		Robert Bell			
ITEM	TOPIC				
1.1	<u>Apologies</u> Ian Marshman; Helena Burman, Planning				
1.2	<u>Approval of Executive Minutes 05/12</u> The minutes of the Executive meeting held on 05/12/2025 were approved without comment.				
1.3	<u>Matters arising from the previous minutes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>Plaques</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Watermill plaque has now had its grammatical correction.</li><li>Ambrose Langley plaque has arrived. <b>KW</b> will arrange for plaque installation and will advise ELDC that the plaque is being installed in the Conservation area of town.</li><li>It was agreed that both plaques would be officially unveiled together, if possible, by mid-April. <b>AC</b> will prepare an article for Horncastle News and for social media to coincide with the unveiling.</li></ul></li><li>Council contacted residents regarding the sub-sign stating that Thimbleby Road was formerly known as Thimbleby Hill, and are obtaining quotes for the sub-sign.</li><li><b>KW</b> agreed to approach BT about HH&amp;HS potentially taking over the unused phone box in the market square, to be used for tourist information and mini displays.</li></ul>				
1.4	<u>Correspondence</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A request for information on Hearth Tax relating to pubs was received from Naomi Field, Archaeologist and Historian; responded by <b>KW</b>. Thanks received from Naomi.</li><li>The Baumber Walled Garden team advised us of 2 events which may be of interest to us: Vintage Day on May 24, and All Things Lincs on Oct. 4. The cost for a stall at each event was felt to be reasonable so the Society will attend both events with some archive material and books. <b>KW</b> will coordinate our participation at both events.</li></ul>				
1.5	<u>Financial report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The bank balance as of January 14 was £14,544. Significant expenditures in the last month include the annual donation to SJBC, and the purchase of 2 plaques.</li><li>It was agreed to discuss opening a savings account, if a suitable one can be found, at the next meeting.</li></ul>				

1.6	<p><u><i>a) Archives update</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A student volunteer will join us on Jan. 27. The volunteer will work on biographies of famous people to post on the HHHS website and may also review the HHHS website content, subject to discussions.</li> <li><b>KW</b> will cover for <b>MS</b> during her holiday in February.</li> </ul> <p><u><i>b) Museum accreditation</i></u></p> <p><b>NF</b> presented an options paper regarding possible museum accreditation for HHHS's collection which was discussed. It was agreed that <b>NF</b> would clarify some matters by contacting the Arts Council, who administer the scheme. <b>AC</b> encouraged Exec members to read the accreditation guidance on the Arts Council website to gain an understanding of the scheme. It was agreed this matter will be discussed with the SJBS and will also be considered as part of the five-year business plan (5YBP); see item 1.9</p>
1.7	<p><u><i>CIO Update</i></u></p> <p><b>AC</b> advised that most paperwork is in hand, and that he hopes to have the work complete in time to present an update at the AGM.</p>
1.8	<p><u><i>5-Year Business Plan</i></u></p> <p><b>AC</b> asked that the Executive team meet to develop a forward plan for HHHS. <b>MM</b> offered to facilitate this excellent initiative. Post meeting note: the first meeting to discuss this long-term plan will be held on Jan. 30.</p>
1.9	<p><u><i>Planning Report</i></u></p> <p>There have been problems with the Planning Department's on-line portal: recent comments not accessible. Status of the issue not yet known.</p>
1.10	<p><u><i>Publication Sub-Committee</i></u></p> <p>The next HHHS publication, titled "The Railway That Horncastle Built" is expected to be received before the railway talk on Jan. 21. It will be publicised through local media, radio and Facebook – <b>AC</b> to organise.</p>
1.11	<p><u><i>Website Update</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were 500 visitors to the website in the last 28 days. The problem with spam emails seems to have abated since the installation of relevant software.</li> <li>There were 32 views of items in the online shop.</li> </ul>
1.12	<p><u><i>Future Events</i></u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archive Open Day: food (cake, cookies, sausage rolls) ordered (<b>NF</b> advised that the sale of wrapped food is fine provided it is not cooked on site); 14 stalls, with stall manning roster set up for the day; Pearl Wheatley to attend; films all day.</li> <li>Bar Unico date of exhibition boards: May or June; review next meeting.</li> <li>Lincs Heritage Forum: <b>KW</b> to arrange for us to join at cost of £26/year. Conference on Feb. 28 in the Horncastle Community Centre.</li> <li>Wolds Walking Festival to celebrate 50 years of the Viking Way will include a walk from Horncastle to Woodhall Spa on May 23 organised jointly by the Society and local walking groups.</li> <li>The Marwood exhibition, curated by <b>NF</b>, is scheduled for Jun to Sept this year. More info next meeting.</li> </ol>

1.13	<p><u><i>Any Other Business</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After Mick Lake's recent talk which included an account of the murder of a Horncastle policeman, <b>MS</b> was approached by Gail Dymoke and PC Piercey for HHHS support in their goal to pursue a book and blue plaque for him. It was agreed to support their initiative.</li> <li>• The SJBC building's fire doors must not be propped open for extended periods, as has been the practice in the past.</li> </ul>
1.14	<p><u><i>Date of Next Meeting</i></u></p> <p>The next meeting of the HHHS executive committee will be held on Mar. 11 at 13:00.</p>
	<p>The meeting adjourned at 15:45.</p>