

## SLEAFORD CASTLE HERITAGE GROUP

Meeting held electronically, via Zoom on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 11:00am

**Present:** Garry Titmus (S&DCT), David Marriage (S&DCT), Anthony Brand (STC Cllr & S&DCT), Faith Hopkins (S&DCT), Linda Edwards-Shea (STC Cllr), Mark Bamford (S&DCT), Brenda Hitchcock (S&DCT) and Paul Cope-Faulkner (Heritage Lincolnshire)

The meeting was supported by the Temporary Deputy Clerk and Administration Officer (MW).

1. **Welcome**

GT welcomed all to the meeting.

2. **Apologies**

No apologies for absence were received.

3. **Minutes**

The notes from the last meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. It was noted that actions from this meeting were either complete or ongoing.

4. **Symposium**

a) **Update on report from 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021** – GT reported that he was very impressed with the amount of work, and contributions that had been put into the Symposium and gave his thanks to Sleaford Town Council and Cllr A Brand.

A report had been produced and there was a question raised whether the SCHG would benefit as a group trying to raise their status by investing a small amount of money to publish the report and raise the profile of the group and the Castle site

A group discussion followed as to how, the cost and the number of copies of the report that would be beneficial.

It was hoped that by a wider distribution of the report, to Secondary Schools in the Town, the Library, Lincolnshire Archives etc would indeed raise the profile of the Castle and help towards evidencing community input.

It was suggested that all the attendees of the Symposium be given a copy of the report and the remaining copies will be available to purchase from the Museum.

**It was agreed** to produce approximately 50 Copies of the report at a maximum cost of £300 to be funded by the Civic Trust from funds relating to the Castle.

**Action:** AB & BH to work out costing to produce the reports.

**Action:** STC to confirm if £5,000 is being donated to the SCHG by STC each year.

- b) Comments, Observations and attendees** – It was recognised that the Symposium was very well attended giving a very positive response.

It was suggested the DP produce two sketches of what the Castle might have looked like. Members of the public would benefit from a projective picture.

**Action:** GT to liaise with DP.

In turn, each member of the SCHG were asked for their thoughts and gave feedback from the Symposium. Feedback given was very positive and most of the group would like to see a way forward as to archaeology and possible sketches of what a bridge might look like.

- c) Next steps towards archaeology/other objectives** – There was a discussion to hold a bigger meeting which would involve members of the public. This would be a great opportunity to show the public of the work carried out by this group so far.

AB suggested including a research question on whySCHG want to carry out a archaeological dig A short discussion followed regarding funding for archaeology and how to apply.

**Action:** GT to seek the views of the High School, of the possibility of holding a public meeting in September 2021.

**Action:** GT to visit the High School after Easter to look at various aspects including possible public access points.

**Action:** PCF – to seek augering quotes within the next month.

**5. Proposed Public Access**

GT reported he has received 3 reports from a former Solicitor and is in the process of reading through the information.

GT is in the process of writing a progress report to STC of what the SHCG has been doing on the Castle Site together with a business case to support public access to the site The report would be passed to the SCHG before submitting to STC.

It was suggested that possible Risk Assessments should be carried out on the Castle Site, in the future since it would be opened up to more members of the public

**6. Participation in the Heritage Open Day**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021. A small exhibition to be held at the Museum.

Civic Trust to exhibit at Heckington Show, if it goes ahead this year.

**7. Visits to other heritage sites, when possible**

It was suggested that member of the Group visit other Castle sites.

8. **Date of next meeting**  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021 at 11am.

The meeting closed at 12:18pm.