

APPENDIX C

Trustees of the Farmland Museum update from Cllr Peter Johnson

Chairman's Report for the meeting of 23 July 2014

- I have continued to try to come to the museum each Wednesday to have coffee with volunteers and a weekly meeting with Ann.
- I have attended several meetings of the CMAP executive which, following a wide consultation, is changing its name and its constitution. The name will be changed to 'Museums in Cambridgeshire'. It will be a partnership of museums in Cambridgeshire (including Peterborough) and provide a network of support for all staff, volunteers and trustees. Its aims will include of increasing awareness and raising standards in a wide range of areas. The old Executive will become a managing committee and there will be one or two meetings a year to which all museum members will be invited.
- I have attended several meetings about the future of the Tithe Barn in Landbeach. Although we do not have the resources to get involved with protecting its future things might change and it is important that we keep in touch as it is a unique and very interesting example of a tithe barn and has such is relevant to us. It is slightly older than the Stone Barn but still has its original Tudor floor.
- Chris and I went to the Landbeach Annual Parish meeting and Chris gave a short presentation which was very well received. I also reported very briefly at the Waterbeach APM on the success of the local resident season tickets.
- I continue to attend the Friends meetings. They are organising the Teddy Bears' picnic day in August, and a Christmas event this year. There is a Friends display board which tells members of the public about them.
- Patrons - Rosemary Hughes has been in touch with the person who runs a jazz band in Duxford (she plays in it too) and they are willing to explore doing an event at the museum next summer. The Friends will take on the organisation at this end. It can be used as a major fund raising event. The Lord Lieutenant is coming to meet Ann and me in September to see if he can also help with an event to promote the Museum.
- Amey Cespa Open day June 21st - This is the third year that I have represented the museum with a stand at the Open Day. Again it was a very enjoyable occasion. There was a lot of interest and time went fast, I spoke to a 100+ people. Some had never been and did not know where it was. Others talked about their memories of farming. One delightful child knew exactly what all the implements I had on display were as Chris had been to his school and talked about them, obviously in a very memorable way.
- Annual Tea party - This was a great success with I think over 40 people coming. We had three patrons, Rosemary Hughes, Jim Paice and John Martin also Rosemary Dickerson and her mother. There were many Friends, volunteers and neighbours. Rosemary Dickerson whose donation had helped to pay for the refurbishment cut a ribbon to formally re- open the Grain Store where the event was held. It is proving to be a very useful space. On a hot but windy afternoon it was perfect for the party providing somewhere cool and wind free.
- You will know that Bob Giddings died a couple of weeks ago. He had lived on the Abbey site for about 80 years and worked here all his life. His funeral was well attended and the service was lovely. There was a very enjoyable wake afterwards at the museum which he would have loved. He has left money for a bench and memorial plaque for the Museum.
- You will already know that Adam is leaving us at the end of August. He will be greatly missed. Ann and I will talk about having a farewell do of some sort very soon so that we can give him a send-off. I will update you later on this. Meanwhile a replacement post is being advertised with shortlisting on August 6th. Ann hopes to interview on 18th August with Bridget and me.