

Dear Heritage Steering Group, here are the minutes of our meeting attached. I spoke to Steve Pilcher, HCT yesterday and was able to get the following answers to our questions:

I am collecting the Salem Chapel keys from Steve Pilcher in London on Monday morning at 10am. He has agreed to having a key box fitted. Steve is arranging the key box and gas check for when I get back so likely 4 or 5 July. Also the Electricity and I added the Septic tank.

HCT is progressing the sale of 3 other chapels, need quick wins. HCT is now managed by the Churches Conservation Trust. HCT has money to finish off a chapel in Yorkshire and another one. Surveyor hired - she is allocating the moneys

Salem does not need major works but needs:

- Attention to cracks, unexplained
 - External woodwork, too late now so next year - main works
 - Repainting or may lose the fabric, will put through as routine works.
- French drains should be ok

HCT are hiring an estate manager too via Churches Conservative Trust who will arrange buildings checks over the summer.

No update on the Salem transfer. With Emma - she is based in Holland.

Steve will send an agreement, covers public liability. One such agreement used in Blackpool?, signed by an individual, a priest. Proposes Agreement for 6 months, to include Christmas events he suggests. HCT requesting a percentage of door takings and Peppercorn rent, £5?

Building needs cleaning, asks us to find someone locally. I have a contact.

So, we can go visit 4 or 5 July. It is going to take a few weeks to get ready and arrange to open. I am thinking we could plan to open each weekend in August with a themed display:

5-6th Our Famous Heritage - Raleigh/Conant/Salem

12-13th Our Natural Heritage - Bees, Birds and Bats - (Peter Bowler photos?)

19-20th Our Jurassic Heritage - Pebblebed Heath, to Budleigh Brook, LORP to Lower Estuary

26-28 Our Foodie Heritage - 3 days bank holiday. Invite EB Community shop, Darts, Greendales, Pebblebed, Lily Farm, local produce

Try to get local businesses involved.
Contract Sir Walter Raleigh to supply food.

Maybe we aim to produce 3 large A1 flip chart sized story boards per session too, get Sidmouth print to produce. This will involve some work to arrange before and after so could open in the afternoons 2-4pm when we are there.

I can stand a guarantee/loan for set up costs. Maybe I sign the agreement with the Heritage Society for this trial and the Society takes over when fully established eg December.

I have produced a summary update for the Parish magazine with event posters to get the message out, Magazine deadline imminent to catch the July edition.

I am copying the EB Council to keep them informed.

Please share your thoughts.