



Attendees signed in and agreed they could be contacted with further information.

Minutes of the Millom and District History Society Annual General Meeting

30th November 2021 6p.m.-7p.m. Millom Heritage and Arts Centre

Jonathan Powell welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the history of the society.

Board/Election of Officers

Secretary – Simone Faulkner

Chair - Jan Bridget

Treasurer – Liz North

Publicity – Jan

Talks Co-ordinator – Jonathan Powell

Walks Co-ordinator (occasional) – Stephen Coe

Project Co-ordinators – could be several depending on projects

Voting Took Place: **All agreed.**

Constitution Amendments:

- Old objects: to study the history, in its broadest context, of the area surrounding Millom.
Revised objects:
- **To promote and encourage interest in and research into the local history of Millom and its surrounding areas.**
- **To arrange events and activities which will cater for the above, including lectures, outings and exhibitions.**
- **To acquire funding to commission relevant geophysical surveys and archaeological digs within Millom and its surrounding areas.**

Voting took place: **All agreed.**

Membership

£10 donation, £2 non-members; Email address and telephone number; Free entrance to talks; Copy of constitution; Programme of activities

Talks

Start talks April, Wednesday, 7-9 pm, Pensioners Hall (Tin Tabernacle) need to confirm

Initially aim to concentrate on local and family history, possible early talks

Duane Farren, Josh Carr, Jan Bridget: Millom Across the Ages (Neolithic to Victorian)

Jonathan Powell: Wordsworth/Myers – Millom Connection

Jan Bridget: Was My 4 x Great Grandfather's Story used by Emily Bronte for Wuthering Heights?

Organised Walks

Two a year? Join in with Duddon????

Possible Projects

Roman Millom Co-ordinator: Jan

Holy Trinity Stones: Co-ordinator: Jan

Heritage Triangle Co-ordinators: Margaret and Geoff Edmondson
Millom Bomb Site? Jonathan Powell

What has Happened so far! Roman Millom

Two hugely successful events Sep/Oct – 180 attendees
Two videos on You Tube, over 900 hits

Possible Future Projects

1. Geophysical Survey

Magnetometer survey, with some resistivity in selected areas, if deemed worthwhile.
Magnetometry, studies variations of the Earth's geomagnetic field. By measuring the effects buried materials have upon the geomagnetic field, magnetometers allow archeologists to “see” into the ground and identify what lies beneath without having to excavate. Resistivity: an electrical current is applied through probes which must be inserted into the ground, with the electrical resistance to the current then being measured. Some level of involvement by community.

Funding: Castle Studies Trust 1/12/2021

Dr Bill Shannon: This project may well add fundamentally to what we know of this neglected district, especially with regard to the earlier periods, before the early-fourteenth century building/rebuilding which followed licence to crenellate in 1335.

Mark Brennand, County Archaeologist: There is also tantalising evidence of Roman period and early medieval activity at this location. This raises the question of whether the medieval castle was built upon a previously occupied, and perhaps defensible site. While the remains of the castle occupy the central mound, geophysical survey would represent the least intrusive technique to examine the immediate hinterland of the castle for evidence of earlier activity.

What we may find? Evidence of Roman occupation; Medieval: possible deserted village; Tudor period and later – already evidence of coins and other artefacts; Possible Neolithic although further survey down to Aggie's Lonning (need more funding)

2. Holy Trinity Stones:

- Possible built on earlier site
- Earlier stones: Antef, motifs (10th century?)
- Funding application for project
- Daniel Elsworth (archaeologist) lead
- Up to 16 volunteers (adults and children age 10+)
- Examine stones systematically to look for any reused or interesting ones
- Take photographs
- Produce 3-D model
- Help explore development of building and areas of different stones

3. Millom Heritage Triangle:

On-going projects:

- Stop further deterioration of Old School (Duane's Community Project: fantastic response)
- Renovate and turn into a heritage Centre to house artefacts: Holy Trinity Church, Castle, Old School, area surrounding (fantastic finds by local detectorists); Pre-history, Roman and Medieval
- Renovate School Master's House: holiday let
- Support Church with building issues
- Submitted proposal to Millom Towns Bid

Jan Bridget thanked all for coming.
Meeting closed at 7.15p.m.