



Pearson Trust Working Group

October 2016



Minutes of the Pearson Trust Working Group Meeting

Date: 29th October 2016 OSR 7:30pm.

1. Apologies

Members present: Jane Paxman, George Metcalfe, David Wiper, Alice Helyar, Moyra Jacques and Michael Hampson
Apologies for absence received: Debbie Robinson

2. Notes from last meeting –

Missing information provided at the meeting and minutes accepted.

Action: Alice to make corrections and recirculate with these minutes.

3. Actions and Matters Arising from Last Meeting

Moyra completed and circulated the corrected minutes from the August meeting.

The PCC and OSR management committee have both agreed to contribute £1,000 towards the costs of the legal investigations into Old School Room ownership.

JWK Solicitors have sent PTWG a contract and will need in writing the confirmation that the PCC and OSR management committee have agreed to provide the money.

Jane is making progress with the grant application (see Point 4).

Moyra and Jane have managed to fill in some of the gaps in the OSR history with their research in Preston and Kew.

Moyra has been unable to find any examples of churches with conservatories.

Action: Michael to find local examples of churches with conservatories

Action: Michael to follow up the heritage assessment of Whittington church

Action: Jane to converse with contacts from the DAC to discuss the scope of the heritage assessment.

4. Research into School Room Ownership Update - Summary

Various parties have been trying to establish the ownership of the OSR for more than 150 years. A summary follows:

The school house was built in 1837 by the local population/residents with subscription from landowners. Evidence suggests that the building was constructed by the villagers on waste



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land but the ownership of the waste land was not established. The tythe map of 1845 indicates that roads pass the OSR on all sides. The Board of Education and Charities Commission had a claim over what went on inside the building but they did not appear to own it. As early as 1859 there was communication between the vicar and Charities Commission attempting to establish ownership.

1892 – A new floor laid to replace the stone floor;

1895 – A window was added in the NW gable end and drains blocked in men's WC; and

1909 – Complaint about the damp in the corner of the wall.

Since 1954 and 1971 the Department of Education asserted the right to form a board of trustees after a public consultation (with village consent) to run/manage and own the building.

The PTWG research has been added to the body of knowledge to be sent to the solicitors (JWK) to establish ownership. Further information regarding the events in the 1950s and 1970s from the Ministry of Education files, in Kew or Preston was not found.

Action: Moyra and Jane to summarise their findings and Jane to create a spreadsheet of documents, including date, author, position, relevant facts and contents, along with any questions that arise. This will be sent to JWK.

Action: Michael to ask Andrew White about the George Smith (GS) Diaries which may shed light on the ownership of the OSR during the 1840s and 1850s. GS managed the Hornby Estate and Gressingham land therein.

Action: JWK to provide a more detailed costing for the work; the current estimate stands at £2000+VAT. Legal costs to be included in the grant application and the £2000 from the PCC and OSR Management Committee will be used towards JWK fees.

Action: It was agreed unanimously that Moyra and Jane would claim back their travel costs incurred during their trip to Kew, London whilst researching the history of the OSR.

5. Grant Application Update

The pre-feasibility grant application requires accepted written quotes for each element of the grant application before submission. The quotes must include the sum of money for the total costs, daily rate and dates when the work is expected to start and finish.

Action: Jane to source these quotes and re-do the application.

6. Project Decision Process

To be discussed further at the next meeting. The November meeting will be used to focus on key decision processes and discuss the next report back to the village (ideally after PTWG has completed all of the pre-application reports, including the legal document).



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Action: Jane to send around the decision process with time lines for each stage of the project.

7. AOB

Michael has met Simon Cox, chair of the DMAPC.

David proposed that we invite Simon Cox to join us in a PTWG meeting to discuss his remit. It would enable us to understand the role of the DMAPC and for him to understand what the village wants to achieve.

Action: George proposed that Michael organises a site meeting with the DMAPC. Michael also to organise a meeting with the Bishop, Simon Cox and Archdeacon.

8. Forthcoming Meetings

Historic England – Jane to arrange a meeting Marie Smallwood.

Action: Jane and Michael to notify us of the dates of Historic England meeting and DMAPC meeting.

9. Date of the next meeting

23rd November 2016 in the OSR at 7:30 pm