

# *Account of Purley on Thames*

## Project Purley Meetings 1982

### *January*

*R0988*

Tues 12 Jan 1982

Present Jean Debney, John Chapman, Tom Robinson, John Titterton

- 1st meeting since Christmas
- John Chapman brought first draft of Chronicles of Purley
- looked at Ken Mercer's coat of arms for Purley - decided to leave as he has designed it and not to insert Project Purley logo at present

*R0989*

Tues 19 Jan 1982

Present Sue Matthews, Cliff Debney, John Chapman, John Titterton, Rita Titterton. Tom Robinson, Jean Debney

- draft constitution - Cliff Tom and Rita
- Parish registers and demography - Jean and Sue, John T and John C  
finish 1045

*R0990*

Tues 26 Jan 1982

Present Tom Tobinon, Jean Debney, Janice Jones, Ken Mercer, Sylvia Conquest. Cliff Debney, Rita Titterton

- draft constitution typed by Rita - considered it and made small amendments
- Rita to enquire Memorial Hall dates available and cost
- contact David Evans to inform him
- advertise Purley News March and April
- Inaugural meeting after Easter -April
- posters around village
- second part of evening studying families from Parish Register - Rita indexed  
finished 10.30

### *February*

*R0991*

Tues 2 Feb 1982

Present Jean Debney, Tom Robinson, John Titterton, John Chapman. Sylvia Conquest, Cliff Debney

apologies Rita Titterton, Sue Matthews, Rob Jones

- discussion on setting up Project Purley
- John T reported only dates available at Memorial Hall Weds 28 Apr and Sat 1 May
- John Chapman suggested Parish Room at Beech Rd £2 per evening
- Cheese and wine at 50p per person essential
- John Chapman brought transcript of Parish Meeting minutes from 1894 that he is typing.
- further studies of Parish Registers
- John C and John T - Literacy of marriage partners
- Tom and Sylvia average length of time between baptisms in 18th century
- cliff checking slips

Jean - ave time between baptisms in 19th C

finished 10.45

### *R0992*

Tues 9th Feb 1982

present - Jean Debney, Sue Matthews, Sylvia Conquest, Tom Robinson, John Chapman, Cliff Debney

- discussed membership form
- quarter session records in RO and unaltbarge[?]
- sale catalogue 1888, 1931, 1953, 21904, 1926 and 1927
- further demographic studies on Parish regs
- John C literacy graph, marriage partners residence
- Tom and Sylvia - ave baps 18th C
- Cliff and Jean - ave baps 19th c
- Jean checking slips

finish 10.45

### *R0993*

Tues 16 Feb 1982

#### *Reading University Library visit*

present Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, John Chapman, Sylvia Conquest, John Titterton, Rita Titterton, Tom Robinson.

looked at directories and court rolls

### *R0994*

Tues 23rd Feb 1982

Present Jean Debney, Tom Robinson, Cliff Debney

- looked at Bradfield union notes
- examination of Daniel Redband

- charity Purley Cow Money
- monograph no 1 John Chapman
- demography from parish register

finished 1015

## *March*

*R0995*

March 2nd 1982

present - Sylvia Conquest, Tom Robinson, Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Sue Matthews

*R0996*

9th March 1982 at 33 Beech rd

present - Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest, John Chapman, John Titterton

- worked on demography from parish registers 1760s and 1770s

*R0997*

Tuesday 16 March 1982

Present - Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest, Jean Debney, John Chapman, John Titterton.

- John T brought photocopies of:-

Thames Highway part 1

Parish Council Minutes

VCH abstracts

- First subscriptions collected and receipts given by John T
- letter to BLHA informing re Project Purley inaugural meeting
- Booked dates
  - 20 May HORS talk
  - 26 June BLHA meeting and exhibition
- Request to Tom re bank account - will approach his bank Midland Reading
- subscription proposed £1 per head, 50p under 16 at school;
- John Chapman - Newspapers 1962 for photocopying (Purley Lodge)
- Sylvia Asked to approach Sandra Low and Yvonne Rigg re organising cheese and wine

*R1053*

20/3/1982

John Chapman Parish Council

- Bishops of Salisbury
- Abstracts from Sulhampstead and its owners by Lady Russell 1901 (Hyde and Hawes)
- Purley park sale catalogue 1923

### *R0998*

Tues March 25 1982

Present. Sylvia Conquest, Tom Robinson, Cliff Debney, Jean Debney

- Family groups etc returned to alphabetical order
  - brief discourse re programme for 4 May
  - Sylvia offered Derecks display stand - booked for 4 May and 26 May at Bulmershe
  - to have full committee meeting next Tuesday re programme 4 May. Tom to contact Rita and arrange agenda - he to chair committee meeting.
  - Family groups 1780s entered on chart
- finish 10.30

### *R0999*

Present: Jean Debney, ?, John Chapman, Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest, Cliff Debney, Yvonne Rigg

- agenda drawn up and typed by Tom
  - discuss publicity - Yvonne to draw up poster 20 copies.
  - leaflets to print
  - letter to Evening Post, Reading Mercury, Berks Chronicle - Tom to write.
  - cheese and wine - Sylvia to purchase 2 white plus one red. Cheese Cheddar, brie, blue and red Leicester
  - programme not finally decided
  - Project work - long discussion
- finish 10.30

## *April*

### *R1000*

6th April 1982

Present John Titterton, Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest, Pat Rickwood, Marian McClure, Yvonne Rigg, Jean Debney

- looked at bones esp Miss Ugly Face
- Yvonne Rigg produced 20 posters - distributed
- Yvonne took master copies of PP notice and application form for photocopying
- Tome reported 13 members including 2 new only this evening.
- discussed John Chapman's list of projects - showed Parish Reg indexes etc to Pat and Melvin

### *R1001*

April 13th 1982

Present Jean Debney, John Chapman, Cliff Debney

- No meeting arranged (Easter) but John came so we spent some time working on list of clergy for

Purley

- Tom rang - is writing letter to Berks Chronicle and Evening Post - will be on holiday in Newcastle next week.

*R1002*

Tues 20th April 1982

Present: Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, John Titterton, J M Rickworth, Sylvia Conquest, Marvin Clarke

- discussion of programme for 4 May
- list of projects - 2 from John C - 1 from John T
- Marvin drew up 'Can you help us' form for 1st meeting - John T to duplicate 20 copies at 2p/sheet
- to arrange meeting in June in church - John C to advise
- to continue Tues meetings and charge for coffee
- John T to lead group on heraldry in parish - ?talk in Autumn

*R1003*

Tues 27th April 1982

Present: Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest, Marvin Clarke

- phone call from John T
  - Hall booking confirmed £4
  - Stencil for Constitution and Can you help
- project Heraldry led by John Titterton
- project demography led by Tom Robinson
- finalised
  - programme for next Tuesday
  - officers and committee
  - meeting frequency - bi monthly
  - newsletter
  - projects
- wine and cheese - sylvia to purchase - lent 4 wooden plates and bowls
- Marvin to be project leader
- gave Tom project minute book
- phone call from John Chapman

*May*

*R0523*

*Inaugural Meeting*

4 May 1982 at Beech Road Parish Room

42 Present

The Inaugural meeting was held at the Pavilion at the Beech Road Recreation Ground. The draft Constitution was discussed and adopted and officers elected. Jean Debney the chairman then

outlined some of the project ideas that the informal steering group had come up with and a general discussion ensued.

- Jean Debney - Whats it all about? - projects past and present
- John Chapman went through list of 36 project suggestions - no further comments from the floor - probably all too stunned.
- meetings - generally every other month
- reports of all project groups
- speakers from society
- weekly work-in of project groups
- publications -
  - twice yearly newsletter
  - booklets as and when available
- exhibitions
  - annual?
  - special events?
  - with Christmas Bazaar?
  - Sybil Pryor suggested to collect material on display at 1977 Silver Jubilee exhibition.
- publicity poster - suggestions on locations
- publicity received - Evening Post (small para) and Chronicle Fri 30 April - back page photo and info.

R1054

Tues May 11th

present Sylvia Conquest, John Titterton, Peter Debney, Jean Debney, Marvin Clarke

- Peter started drawing heraldry on card
- Marvin had specimen letter head - suggest Ray Herring be contacted to do lettering
- date of July meeting set for 13th
- committee meeting on Fri 7.30 at John T's
- Tom rang - anxious about accounts and members interests forum
- have 36 members

*R1055*

Tues 18th May 1982

*First meeting of maps group*

Present: Cliff Debney, Jean Debney, Alan Harmer, Les Jamieson, Gladys Jamieson, Terry Hughes, B Solester, Florina Lector, Pam Beddoes, Jeannie Smart, Marvin Clarke

- intro to the maps in our collection
- Jeannie Smart took Tithe Award to type, fields in numerical order
- two tithe maps went out, B Solester will black in one

R

*June*

*July*

8 July 1982

*Visit to Berkshire Record Office*

About a dozen folk visited Shire Hall to look at some of the original records from Purley that are stored in the archives. We were allowed free use of a room adjacent to the public search room where the maps and documents were set out for our perusal. Jean Debney explained the procedure when ordering and using records then told us something about the items available. As most of the party had never visited a record office before the visit was felt to be very helpful and informative.

Present Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Sylvia Conquest, Marvin Clarke, John Chapman, John Belladoni, Pam Harmer, Tom Robinson, Margaret Hughes, Geoff Shattock, Betty Shattock, Jeannie Smart, Peter Debney.

- looked at

- Parish registers 1 2 3 &4
- Churchwardens and Overseers accounts
- Churchwardens presentments
- School log book
- Q/504 1800-1809
- Turnpike minute book
- Bradfield Union
- 2 wills directories snape 1842 and Kelleys 1847
- Ecclesiastical photos
- enclosure map 1856
- 25" OS map 1899
- Purley Hall 1758
- Rocque 1741

*R1056*

Tues 13th July 1982

*General Meeting*

18 present

- introduction to manuscripts in PP Collection

- reports from Project Groups

- Cliff Maps
- Tom - census
- John T - heraldry
- Marvin - Natural history
- Jean - archaeology

## *August*

*R1057*

### *Map Group*

Tues 17th August

9 present

- discussed Purley Parish Fete on 31 Aug
- themes to display
- listed items to get photocopied

*R1058*

### *Exhibition at Parish Fete*

31st Aug 1982

- showed 7 displays

- sales	sold	left
Roques map 1760	8	10
PP River estate	3	22
PP History leaflet	9	20
Purley Church 1800	4	17
Purley Village	4	21
coat of arms	2	19

## *September*

*R0525*

### *General Meeting*

14 Sept 1982

- Project reports
- new project - Historical documents
- brief introduction to maps
- info on meetings of HORS, BFHS, BLHA

*R1059*

### *Historical Documents group*

Weds 22 Sept 1982

12 present

- looked at documents from 19th century back to 17th century to compare handwriting
- brief into to Elizabethan secretary hand
- attempts to read 17th C will and inventory



## October

R1060

*Historical Documents group*

Mon 11th October 1982

8 present

- teaching secretary hand
- members tried reading a selection of wills

R1061

*Computer group*

Wed 27 Oct 1982

6 present

- review present programme in use
- discussion on material to be keyed in
- technical details to be clarified
- general explanation

## November

R1062

*Historical Documents group*

Mon 8 Nov 1982

10 present

R1063

*Purley Christmas Fayre Exhibition*

Sat 20th Nov

- exhibition Census, Heraldry, Historic docs, maps, Natural history
- competition - How well do you know your village?

17 questions, 26 possible answers

29 adult and 2 under 16 entries

prizewinners D Bigg Westbury Lane, C M Cox 25 River Gardens Tara Downs The Gatehouse (u16)

- Sales	stock	sold	left
Church view	14	14	0
Church history	50	22	28
PP history leaflet	17	13	4
view Purley Village	19	14	5
view River Estate	22	12	2
map Rocque	8	8	0

map Pride	3	3	0
map Roubecq	2	2	0
map Greenwood	3	3	0
coats of arms	19	12	7

- total takings £17-00

*R0526*

*Christmas party*

24 November 1982

This was our first Christmas Party and was held at Sylvia Conquest's house. To judge by the noise levels everyone enjoyed themselves. Several people tried their hand with the competition used at the Christmas Fayre and everyone studied the exhibits stick to the dining room wall with bluetack. We had some mulled red wine and the table groaned with seasonal refreshments.

24 present

*December*

*R1064*

*Historical Documents Group*

6/12/82

5 present