

Geograph Project Limited

## Company Newsletter No 3

*circulated 24 May 2016*

### **Trustees, 1 March 2016, Leamington**

#### **1 First**

The minutes of 19 January were agreed and signed. Still to do: David will shortly circulate notes about the Image Types proposal to company members (done 16 March). Robin will book Peterborough Museum for the AGM, Saturday 25 June 2016 (confirmed 21 March); he warmly acknowledged Richard Humphrey's help with assessing possible venues.

#### **2 Strategic Plan 2016-18**

This working document was the most important item on our agenda. It sets out the actions that we will take in the next two years to support and grow the Geograph Project. It is imperative that we achieve two objectives: to outsource the system administration, and to increase our income (see Newsletter 1, item 6). Work is in progress at the time of writing. Christine took us through the draft. We agreed it after adjusting deadlines and membership of the four teams: Tech, Finance, Education and Outreach. Strategy actions will be a standing item on each board agenda.

#### **3 Annual Report and Accounts to 31 December 2015**

The accounts and report were adopted and a fair copy was signed. (They were posted on the company mini-site on 3 March). Copies go to Companies House and the Charity Commission.

#### **4 The National Trust**

(See Newsletter 2, items 10 & 11). A meeting had been arranged for 4 March with an officer of the Trust, following a courteous email exchange. We discussed the approach that David and Michael should take. We had different thoughts about what was the Trust's real concern, whether they had any legal case against us, and whether Geograph had any liability. This matter occupied a great deal of time in email correspondence among trustees and in following the forum thread.

#### **5 The hi-res images**

The high-resolution images on the Geograph website prompted a discussion. We agreed that Barry and Robin will report on the issues: their value to the project, their value outside, the storage they require and what it costs.

#### **6 Geograph images on other websites**

Some time ago a landowner complained that a contributor had trespassed to photograph his property. Our complaints handlers agreed and vaulted the photo. Recently, the contributor contacted a trustee because the landowner had complained to them that the photo was on other websites and could we please remove it. It was explained that we could not. The contributor advised the landowner that they should contact the other websites to request removal. The board

confirmed that Geograph's responsibility is limited to images on its own website; we should not become involved in complaints against third parties.

## **7 Sabotaged pages**

A contributor had changed his name and had tried to replace all his descriptions with a divisive statement. Barry had reinstated the originals from back-ups. The board agreed that appropriate action will be taken to defend the collection from vandalism.

## *Reports and other business*

### **8 Secretary**

David has successfully tested mail forwarding from the new registered address ahead of circulating AGM documents. Negotiations with sellers of a Geograph contributor's photos on ebay have resulted in either full compliance with the CC licence requirements or with all rights reserved and the copyright holder being paid: a happy outcome (see Newsletter 2, item 4).

### **9 Technical**

Barry reported no problems with moving the mini-sites to hosting company LayerShift (see Newsletter 2, item 7). The new SSDs (solid state disks) are working well and faster. He will present a report on the status of the servers at the next meeting. David asked about archiving for the British Library; Barry will ascertain the procedure to be followed currently.

### **10 Finance**

Michael noted that donations of £1,300 were received in the first two months of the year, comparable to the average for 2015. Christine proposed that now we had a strategy there was every reason to apply for a grant. She will draft an application for discussion.

### **11 Feedback**

We received and acknowledged thanks and support for our second newsletter from three members by email; it was noted by members in the forum. We welcome your comments on this our third newsletter: preferably email us via [trustees@geograph.org.uk](mailto:trustees@geograph.org.uk) or post in the forum. All feedback will be reviewed by the trustees.

### **12 Looking ahead**

All: Saturday 25 June, Meet and AGM, Peterborough Museum

Trustees: Monday 18 July, Leamington

## **Sebastian Ballard, Chair**

Geograph Project Limited is a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales No 7473967, charity No 1145621, registered office 49 Station Road, Polegate, East Sussex BN26 6EA.

The directors of the company and trustees of the charity are: Sebastian Ballard (Chair), Richard Croft, Michael Dibb (Treasurer), Peter Facey, David P Howard (Company Secretary), Barry Hunter, Christine Johnstone and Robin Stott.