



A King Canute, Saxon
Coin, struck at the
Cricklade Mint – now
part of Copenhagen's
Royal Collection.

CRICKLADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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JUNE NEWSLETTER 2020

Dear Members,

As you can imagine I have been watching to see what is going on with Covid-19 in England and especially the South West.

We had another email committee meeting on the 15th June and I put forward some proposals based on the fact that between our previous committee meeting and June we had received a payment from the Government of £10,000, we had been quick to claim this **ex-gratia payment** although we did not know at the time of our claim how much we would receive.

This is the standard amount paid to small businesses including certain charities.

This means we do not need to worry about fund raising this year and well into next year.

The Committee agreed with my proposals and I set them out below with additional information as it has evolved.

Having this money gives us the opportunity, without worrying about fund raising, to make the right decisions about our activities.

I proposed

- we postponed the Quiz night to October 2021.
- We keep the museum closed and not open to the public until April 2021
- We postpone all our talks until the earliest March 2021 (we will have to access the viability of holding the AGM in February nearer the time.)

I have discussed keeping the museum closed with Wiltshire Museum Services and they strongly agree this is the best option for small, volunteer museums. I understand from my discussion, the majority of small museums in the South West have already decided to remain closed until well into next year.

Opening the museum is not an option for us because of the same reason we closed in March. Primarily the health and safety of our volunteers.

Also, reading through all the current Business Restoration planning topics with Covid-19 Risk Assessments, cleaning plans, not to mention training all the volunteers in all these procedures I just don't see how it can possibly be done. Of course if somebody wants to take control of this you are more than welcome to try, but you need to be fully clued up about the 5 steps to working safely and able to carry out Covid-19 risk assessments, and that is just the tip of the new rules and regulations. So unless somebody want to do this, the Museum will remain closed until April 2021

Given the talks were due to restart in September I am concerned this could come neatly in line with the Autumn "second wave".

I am sure you have all picked this up from the news and I think the majority of members will not want to go out to talks in the Autumn given this scenario. The speakers will be notified this week and their talks rebooked into next year.

Meanwhile

I am still working in the museum every Tuesday morning if members want to come along. I am usually there from at least 10am to 11.45am

I am nearing the end of the production of the Bulletin, it will be with the printers this month, so expect it middle of July.

Keep Safe, and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to phone or email me.

Pam Debenham June 2020