

Hastings Old Town Residents Association

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting of 10 May 2011

Present

Phil White, Kim Stallwood, Elizabeth Stevens, Shirley Hawley, Kate Francis, Cllr John Hodges, Michael Lambrechts, Jill Bradley

Apologies for Absence

Ann Novotny, June Prior, Sue Bower, Cllr Richard Stevens, Bruce Nicol

Minutes of 12 April agreed.

Matters Arising

NHS changes: no response from Roebuck Surgery, Dick to write to his doctor there.
Children's playground: nothing heard from The Stables Theatre Committee. JH said HBC will be looking at any possible sites on the seafront.

Treasurer's Report

Current account £257.63, reserve account £1,041.17. Nikki to meet with Phil for handover. Cheque signatories to be Dick, Phil and Jill - all agreed.

Membership

Phil happy to continue without help. Reminders need to be sent. Can we more actively encourage new members?

Website

Dick thanked Kim for his hard work on the website, very good feedback received from users. Email addresses received at AGM to be added to current list. July suggested for next e-newsletter, Kim requested any items for it. PayPal on website to be separated into two accounts for HOTRA membership and storytelling events. Using newsletters to encourage memberships to be paid was discussed.

AGM

New Stade Hall was discussed, teething problems such as sound (hearing loop to be installed), catering (work in progress), ventilation, lighting, stark appearance of reception area and hall commented on. Can hold approximately 94 people. Meeting length of 1 hour considered sufficient. Positive comments about Jerwood speaker Liz Gilmour, Dick to write thank-you letter. Draft minutes: apologies from Richard Stevens to be added.

Storytelling

Many thanks to Joy Collins for her help. First session saw Quentin Black's charcoal drawings, Dick has a batch for posters to sell and to advertise November event. Puppet performance popular. Professional help needed to help with storytelling. Applications underway for money to pay for performance fees, hire, etc.

Isobel Blackman Centre

ESCC have funded evaluator. All agreed HOTRA to submit its own report.

High Street Pavement

Senior citizens have problems with no pavement from George Street to John The Cobbler. Pavement would also stop large lorries using the High Street. All agreed HOTRA to start a petition (including picture of proposed improvement) in Old Town Week to send to ESCC

Jack-in-the-Green

Dick attended pre-meeting with HBC and Police. 100 police officers on duty from early morning to late on Bank Holiday Monday had been allocated. One serious complaint from West Street about noise and fumes from bikes and noise from Black Market. New manager more responsible. Dick wrote to HBC re drink problem, meeting held last Friday, tba. Best weekend ever for local businesses reported. Dick circulated two letters about noise outside the Fishermen's Institute.

Planning

Nothing from Bruce.

Members Concerns

Motorbikes parking outside The Mermaid.

Who does Walls Ice Cream advertising stand in Church Passage belong to?

Children using Swan Avenue for drinking, drugs, urinating. Could Police be asked to patrol there especially on Fridays and Saturdays.

Vandals throwing rocks at tiles on Jerwood Gallery, Lifeboat Station and fishing boats and bad graffiti on groynes etc. present CCTV cameras inefficient. Police are taking it seriously, gives very bad impression of Hastings.

Future Programme

Management Committee meeting 14 June at Sue Bower's, 11 July at June's.

Allotment Party 24 July, Phil offered to book Flavours of India again, items needed for raffle, volunteers requested for serving drinks etc.

Parish News Items

Petition re High Street pavement; Allotment Party; Subscriptions reminder; website.

AOB

Hastings Pier - first tranche of Heritage Lottery money granted for expert advice etc. very good news.

No news about premises vacated by Croft Butchers in George Street.

Official opening on 27 May of new pirate adventure golf course which HOTRA supported.