

Hastings Old Town Residents Association - DRAFT Minutes of Meeting of 10 January 2012

Present

Dick Edwards, Kim Stallwood, Elizabeth Stevens, Cllr Richard Stevens, Jill Bradley, Ann Novotny, Bruce Nichol, June Prior, Phil White

Apologies for Absence

Sue Bower, Shirley Hawley, Kate Francis, Michael Lambrechts, Cllr John Hodges

Minutes of 13 December agreed.

Matters Arising

Work has started on the colourful but durable children's play area on the seafront facing the pirate crazy golf. Other play areas and fitness equipment will also be created in other venues along the seafront.

Reports

Secretary: nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: more problems with Santander! Phil has forms from Co-operative Bank which he has completed, Jill to do the same, to switch accounts. Kim will change PayPal for online membership renewal when changeover has happened. Membership: Phil reported figures of 209 for 2009. 235 for 2010, only 168 for 2011.

Website: nothing to report.

Chairman's Report

After October 2011 bonfire event Keith Leech was very concerned with level of drunken behaviour of 12-13 year olds. Lots of police officers on duty: as with Jack-in-the-Green trouble after event, not connected with it. Social networking sites publicise events, too much alcohol, Police stopping visitors to the town at Hastings Station. Meeting on 18 January, suggestions to include: simultaneous lower key event youngsters should be encouraged to attend; event marshals and Police at retail outlets where drink is sold.

Richard made presentation to Winkle Club Committee re funding grants etc for updating Winkle Island (see previous minutes). Committee are happy to work with HOTRA via steering committee. Good publicity for both organisations to work together. HBC have identified money for bollards to prevent parking on the Island. Dick and June volunteered to be on the steering committee. Kim to advise re lottery funding. Suggestions for funding projects requested in current newsletter, list to be made for next meeting. Kim to take a leading role - thank you.

Old Town Highways Working Group to comprise Michael, Sue and Dick.

10 April date for appeal for London Trader re licence.

Dick has submitted HOTRA objections re off-sales licence request by Jerwood (copied to their chairman), rejected by HBC. Jerwood Licencing Manager met with Dick, no plans for alcohol to be sold in shop, but to withdraw submission would cost money If wine is drunk in restaurant any remaining can be taken away and also if venue is hired. Local wine/beer to be featured. Haven't yet thought through seafood & wine festival.

Dick has created draft balance sheet which shows a loss of £30 over the storytelling festival. Yes to 2012 festival, early funding to be sought to pay for professional co-ordinator/admin for 20 days: budget will be about £25,000. Dick to have a rest!!

Isobel Blackman Centre: Dick passed report around. Will café survive, is answer more publicity/promotion for their events? Link to their website to be set up with HOTRA's. All agreed Dick to write to Jeremy Birch with HOTRA's concerns after much discussion.

Planning

Nothing of significance to report, except for Breeds Place fountain. Another fishing boat instead?

Members Concerns

Concern re bad state of flooring in Turner's, Dick to write to them.

Better signage needed for Stade toilets (just been awarded loo of the year?!) and Old Town Museum.

Standard of toilets in Rock-a-Nore Road needs improving.

Street cleaning not good enough.

New location of bottle bank unpopular. Businesses should organise joint collection daily.

Street signs disappearing, e.g. Sinnock Square, Douches Passage.

New speed limit not working in High Street and Croft Road. Signs needed.

One objection to pilot scheme re disabled parking along Rock-a-Nore Road. HBC to say yes to small minibus for disabled use?

More damage to tiles on Jerwood Gallery. CCTV re-directed. Report incidents to police.

Rising bollard system to control parking on Winch Shed Road. After March any unauthorised vehicles without permits will be removed.

Minibuses for disabled and social services should be able to park on the Stade.

17 March Jerwood Gallery opens. Lots of events, i.e. sea shanties on the open space.

Bruce attended Old Town Museum meeting, visitor numbers increased there but decreased at main museum.

Dick has asked Quentin Blake to do an event morning after the HOTRA AGM.

Future Programme

Next Management Committee meeting **14 February at Sue's, 13 March at Phil's.**

AOB

None.