

Minutes of HOTRA Committee Meeting 11 July 2012

Attendees: Dick Edwards, Elizabeth Stevens, Richard Stevens, Ann Novotny, Cllr. Dawn Poole, Kate Francis, Kim Stallwood, Sue Bower, Jill Bradley

Apologies: June Prior, Shirley Hawley, Phil White, Michael Lambrechts, Bruce Nichol, Cllr. John Hodges

Minutes of 6 June 2012: accepted.

Non-Agenda Matters Arising: none.

Secretary's Report – Coastal Users Group Meeting 13 June

JB gave very brief report. A more detailed report follows:

Rock-a-Nore Parade: Friends of the Country Park representative reported similar concerns to ours about better use (disabled access, proper viewing point along cliffs, improved signage, possible picnic area) and want other groups to be consulted, costs done then funding sources looked at.

Foreshore Trust Car Parks: Pelham Place is on Foreshore Trust land and they are paying for additional disabled parking to be accommodated. Raising barrier height to enable larger vehicles carrying wheelchairs/ramps to be considered, but traveller vans may be a problem. 22 more car parking spaces can be generated. Repairs to be made now to **Rock-a-Nore** car park re posts and re-surfacing. £500-£800K needed for proper upgrade. Business case will be done. Further reports on Paying on Foot Systems, intelligent signage and resurfacing of Rock-a-Nore car park to be deferred until autumn meeting.

Fairlight beach access: HBC said closed due to cliff falls and now shingle problem. Accidents have happened recently so safety a bigger consideration, warning notices should be observed and also yacht club use.

Fitness equipment along promenade: planning consent has been approved. Done separately to play area project hence timescale. Should be opened in time for peak summer months.

Beach zoning update: map to be made of all uses. Clubs and groups to be consulted and bye-laws looked at. Information re facilities available for visitors to be put on website and review of seafront signage carried out, e.g. where is disabled access, toilets, etc. Motion passed for HBC to designate West Marina beach to be formal bathing water as an opportunity to improve water quality.

Community showroom: revised proposal includes a smaller permanent facility installed directly on the promenade rather than temporary structure on raised deck. 20 year lease instead of 15, facility can be sub-let for similar community uses and income generation. Facility should be permanent community asset.

White Rock Baths: Work to remove asbestos and rubble complete. Costed proposal for dealing with waste drainage can be commissioned as soon as it is clear premises will be occupied. Lifecycle's proposal did not have acceptable business case. Premises now to be re-marketed, brief to be drawn up inviting potential investors from any leisure and cultural backgrounds. Further programme of repairs to roof and removal of temporary internal wells to show potential of available space may help marketing - scheme and provisional costs to be developed. Option to do nothing not proposed given significance of this area of foreshore. Site visit suggested, email to be sent re times/dates.

DE has repeatedly asked for special needs people and their carers to be able to park by Stade Hall, especially visiting groups. JB to take this up at next meeting. **Action: JB**

Treasurer's Report

DE circulated PW's report shown below:

Santander Current Account balance	£550.59
Co-op Current Account balance (excl. Storytelling)	£1,236.83
Total HOTRA funds	£1,787.42
Storytelling balance	£1,300.00
Co-op Current Account balance (incl. Storytelling)	£2,536.83

As present the storytelling funds are being held in the Co-op Current Account. I have not apportioned any of the 83p interest earned so far this year to the storytelling funds.

HOTRA Membership Summary as of 10 July 2012

Total on database	358	
Paid 2009	208	
Paid 2010	237	
Paid 2012	165	
Email address supplied	203	
PayPal	4	
2012 new or returning members	88	
2011 new or returning members	31	
2012 new or returning members	40	
No. of donations (2010)	22	
Value of donations (£)	134.50	
No. of donations (2011)	22	
Value of donations (£)	97	
No. of donations (2012)	1	
Value of donations (£)	2	

DE stated progress is being made with complaint to Ombudsman, the end is in sight! Membership figures still very low, but figures are more than adequate for our activities.

Website Report

All agreed KS asked to provide link to Isobel Blackman website but not include their activities on ours to avoid setting a precedent. This is KS last year managing the website, unanimous thanks for all his hard work. Any volunteers to take this on? If no-one comes forward by December we should advertise for replacement volunteer. **Action KS**

Hastings Community Network

KF continues to filter relevant information to DE. DE very concerned about health service reforms. Schools – research shows only 5% of school leavers locally went into a job, rest went into further education or training or no job.

Chairman's Report

Licensing (letter to HBC/Sussex Police previously emailed around): no reply as yet from Cllr. Jeremy Birch. All agreed issue has worsened over past 5 years, irresponsible selling/serving of alcohol has to be identified and new ways found to deal with drunkenness, i.e. spot fines on street drinking. DP asked to take this up. **Action DP**

Georges Night Club hearing: their extended hours request refused.

London Trader: landlord continues to flout the rules.

Porters: DE has written letter to Bob Brown re unacceptable noise levels. KS reported levels increasing, requested to keep log of dates, times etc. over 2/3 week period and DE will then check with Environmental Health people.

Action KS/DE

Stade Amusement Park: DE has put Committee's suggestions to Chris Richards and they've been passed to architect. Local people will be consulted about what goes there. Late September/early October Chris hopes to meet with HOTRA and leaseholder (Henry Morton) for architect's presentation. Now in public domain.

Allotment Party: DE has menus and prices from Catering Manager at Isobel Blackman Cafe. Much discussion on holding a party there rather than at allotments. To be discussed further at next meeting – ideas please. **Action All**

Walkabout with Cllr. John Hodges: street cleaning worsening (steam cleaning of George Street, High Street and Croft Road needed – DP to progress please), Bourne Car park railings not maintained, paving in poor repair, no disabled access from Rock-a-Nore to beach, 12 rusty bulldozers littering beach. **Action: DP**

Winkle Island: specification for works approved, now going to senior Officers. ESCC mostly funding paving work,

rest to be raised by various environmental grants early next year.

Boat weekend: excellent, book recommended.

Planning

Nothing that needs our attention.

Members Concerns

Gulls still a problem with rubbish bags despite householders using blankets.

Open Gardens on 7 July made just under £5,000 despite weather.

Cllr. JH has obtained concessions re Stables car park after 8pm if there is no performance. DE will write to ask if WI can use it Friday mornings for WI Market. ES mentioned parking problems for church attendees. Would Stables consider pay & display meter in car park? No. JH looking at amending meter in Rock-a-Nore car park to allow parking after 8 a.m. **Action JH**

Campervan is back in Croft Road opposite Unicorn House parking illegally preventing fire/ambulance access, also illegal scaffolding. DE to email JH cc DP. **Action DP**

Large household items outside hardware shop in High Street causing problems for partially-sighted people.

Proper parking needs to be enforced to create more spaces.

Speed limit exceeded in High Street when raining causing problems with excessive spray.