

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING 13 MARCH 2013**

Attendance: Dick Edwards, Kate Francis, Shirley Hawley, Richard Stevens, Cllr John Hodges, Jill Bradley

Apologies: Elizabeth Stevens, Bruce Nicol, Phil White, June Prior, Kim Stallwood, Ann Novotny, Cllr Dawn Poole, David Woolf

Minutes of 13 February: agreed.

Stade Amusement Park: welcome to Chris Richards (CR) who presented updates on the Boating Lake and miniature railway stations.

Boating lake: HBC propose that a pirate boat should be a permanent feature on one of the islands as well as current proposals for a fountain. JB commented she understood this was owned by Roger Crouch and would be offered for display on this year's Pirate Day, but not be permanent. All felt this might be "pirate overkill"! KF strongly recommended a public consultation on the amended plans, as happened previously. CR happy to recommend that. As an OHPS Trustee, JB requested the OHPS have sight of these plans and the Chairman, Anne Scott (AS), notified. After discussion all agreed DE should book Stade Hall for a meeting, between 4 and 8pm, stewarded by HOTRA, with comment forms available. Local groups and any interested residents to be invited, advertised in Parish News, HVA News, etc. and DE and AS to analyse comments. DE to confirm date and contact AS. **Post-meeting note: Stade Hall booked for Friday 26 April 4-8 p.m. Volunteer stewards requested please.**

Miniature Railway Stations: all agreed design unsuitable, a design style for the area is needed, i.e. 1920s.

In general, CR and JH emphasised tighter controls are being written into new 50 year lease. Concern was expressed about noise from fairground rides. CR confirmed any new ones would replace existing ones, and proposed any resident's complaints be routed via him to HBC. Thanks to CR.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: emailed to members (copy given below).

HOTRA Membership Summary as of 13/03/2013

Total on database	377	
Paid 2009	207	
Paid 2010	236	
Paid 2011	168	
Paid 2012	175	
Paid 2013	134	
		%
Paid 2012 + email address	131	75
PayPal	4	
Paid 2013 + email address	103	77
PayPal	1	
2010 New or returning Members	88	
2011 New or returning Members	31	
2012 New or returning Members	47	

2013 New or returning Members

	29
No.of donations (2010)	22
Value of donations(£)	134.5
No.of donations (2011)	22
Value of donations(£)	97
No.of donations (2012)	1
Value of donations(£)	2
No.of donations (2013)	3
Value of donations(£)	15

Accounts summary:

Santander current account £303.56, Co-op current account £1,273.34, Storytelling £1,894.35

Secretary's Report: nothing to report, 12 March Coastal User's Group postponed due to snow.

HCN – nothing to report.

Website: DW offered to assist in updating our skills as well as the website after the AGM.

Chairman's Report

Winkle Island: £10,000 needed for new information boards and replacement benches. Winkle Club prefer all similar style, but if not JH suggested contacting Martyn Jenks for surplus benches from Country Park.

HBC Licensing: coffee shop at 16½ George Street, HOTRA don't object to licence for drinks with food there. Venue (5 George Street) above Black Market wants removal of restriction for events being ticket-only. DE to object on behalf of HOTRA.

Fishing Communities Survey: Greenwich University have a survey on how Hastings feels about fishing fleet. All agreed this should be put on HOTRA website and in Parish News.

Parking for Special Needs groups minibuses: HOTRA consistently campaigns for such spaces to be provided on Stade Open Space. JH is trying to get permission from Southern Water to have disabled parking next to disabled toilets in Rock-a-Nore Road. DE to write to Richard Holmwood for update.

Stade Facilities Trust: this will now be an advisory group only with named organisations represented.

Old Town Pedestrian Safety Improvements: JH following up outcome of survey.

East Hill pruning to create firebreak to Tackleway: job well done, contractors cleared up efficiently.

Planning

Second phone mast proposed by amusements on sea front. No reason why telephone companies cannot share existing one. DE to object on behalf of HOTRA.

Members Concerns

- Non-functioning red phone box by All Saints Crescent, not maintained by BT. Feature worth keeping. Deeday did a lot to retain it, DE to talk to him.
- Full repair of paving in All Saints Street still outstanding.

- Loose step removed at top of flight leading to Hastings Platz needs repair.
- Large tree/shrub died and fallen over in Swan Gardens. JH to progress.

Future Programme

9 April at Ann's, 16 May at?

AGM Guest Speaker: no reply from Sussex Police Commissioner. All felt this is would be a topical subject, DE to chase.

Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m. Thanks to Dick for his hospitality.