

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING 11 JUNE 2013**

Apologies: Ann Novotny, June Prior, Richard Stevens

Attendees: Dick Edwards, Phil White, Jill Bradley, Kate Francis, Shirley Hawley, David Woolf, Cllr John Hodges, Elizabeth Stevens, Bruce Nicol

Minutes of 14 May Committee Meeting and any Matters Arising: Minutes agreed.

Treasurer's Report

162 paid-up members. HOTRA account balance = £1,371.56 plus £40 cheques to pay in. Storytelling Account = £3,995.10. How can we attract more, younger members? Visit website (and make suggestions), get practically involved, add more to Parish News page. Have membership card which gives discount in one/two OT shops (DW to speak to KC at Jenny Lind). JH suggested website could post all local Councillor's news not just his.

Secretary's Report: JB read out agenda for next Coastal Users Group Meeting on 17 June. Need to aim high for Blue Flag on bathing water quality, no-one wants notices saying No Bathing. JH will write to appropriate person re more information on Blue Flags - what can we do to improve our water quality or who do we contact? Also need provision for showers and First Aid.

Hastings Community Network: elections coming up, KF prepared to stand for another year. Thank you!

Website: DW's 11 June web update was discussed. No interest from traders on link with HOTRA website. All agreed OT history section would enhance website, plus links to other sites. BN keen to utilise his OT quiz/bingo game on website, app on mobiles, be part of student questionnaire package? Fits well with City of Culture application. HBC walks on Tressell, Blue Badge and Famous Women available on their website.

Chairman's Report

1. Alcohol free zone: DE to contact Katy Bourne
2. Commercial waste: campaign to start next week encouraging more recycling, new contractor to liaise with local businesses. JH to see Richard Homewood for update.
3. Paving: DE and JH to walk around town looking at paving and potholes.
4. Parking office location: deferred.
5. High Street ESCC traffic survey: results given of traffic survey at presentation 10/6. 27-30% of t traffic use High Street as rat run. Options are: shared street pedestrianising lower High Street, reverse traffic flow Courthouse Street and Roebuck Street, increased pavement/decreased road space. Footpath needed from John the Cobbler to entrance to George Street, pavement outside OT Museum not DDA compliant. Consensus must be achieved for improvements, so public consultation to be held in October, budgets set November, agreed February, work could start winter 2014. Intelligent parking signs will help.
6. Winkle Island: application turned down by Sussex Community Foundation. DE requested approval to go to Sussex Police Property Fund and Awards for All for money. Agreed. JH mentioned commemoration benches being stored by HBC at Fairlight, DE to talk to Martyn Jenks.
7. Lych gate: many thanks to Deeday White for hard work.
8. Rocklands Caravan Park: temporary closure of public footpath. Land appears to be slipping into

Ecclesbourne Glen. Needs draining, undergrowth clearing. Country Park wardens working on it.

Planning

- Proposal to build on land at rear of nos. 28-42 Barley Lane.
- Ashburnham Road conversion from bungalow to house which removes view for whole community.
- ESCC propose reducing street lighting at night and use LED lights to reduce costs. Trial to be done, how this affects residents, crime etc?

Members Concerns

- Coaches should not be using Croft Road.
- 20mph speed limit not being enforced.
- Thanks to JH/DP re paving repair on steps leading to Hastings Platz and JH's efforts re gate in Courthouse Street.
- Visit exhibition on The Ridge in History House, on until Old Town Week.
- Proposal for a HOTRA meeting in St Clements Church: EB reported charge made for contribution towards lighting/heating, no food/drink allowed except in café. Maybe unsuitable. She tried to interest them in HOTRA website. Thanks.
- Crossing end of the Bourne shows green man on light push not on actual lights, also covered by CCTV so should be safer.
- Drunks/layabouts in Butlers Gap intimidating staff in Scope charity shop.
- "Nasty niff" in George Street, drains again
- Thanks to Trade Paints for outdoor seating and selling tea/coffee/ice cream, good venue especially for older folk.
- Church sitters needed for St Clements, two for each time slot.
- All agreed DE to write to thank Joy Collins very much for producing Parish News.

Future Programme

Next meetings: 17 July at Ann's, ?August if needed, 9 September at?

Meeting finished at 8.10 p.m. Thanks to Bruce for his hospitality.