

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING 14 MAY 2013**

Apologies: Cllr Dawn Poole, Ann Novotny, Bruce Nicol

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

Minutes of 9 April Committee Meeting and any Matters Arising: Minutes agreed. It was noted that Harris Woodcock will represent HOTTA on HOTRA Committee. Pink recycling bags are still being delivered door to door. Amicus Horizon are looking into ownership of Wellesley Court Gates.

Treasurer's Report

158 paid-up members, 77% of whom on email (10 paid at AGM). HOTRA account = £1,371.56. Storytelling Account = £3,995.10. All agreed £150 donation to Parish Magazine.

Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.

Hastings Community Network: nothing to report.

Age Concern East Sussex have contacted DE - would HOTRA continue to support Isobel Blackman Centre initiative for lottery funding bid. All agreed yes. Concerns expressed to Age Concern re single elderly people who don't use day centres, especially men.

Coastal Users Group: see ES meeting notes on separate attachment.

Website: link requested to OHPS Old Town Walks. After discussion of DW's ideas, suggestion he contact various local groups, i.e. HOTTA, Museum, Carnival Week, Jenny Lind, Stade Saturday Listings, re website links to publicise events as a community service under HOTRA umbrella. DW to report progress at next meeting. (*Post-meeting note: suggest DW contacts Ann Scott, OHPS Chair, re link to their website. JB*)

Chairman's Report

AGM de-brief: good comments received, went well. Rule change - written committee nominations to be received by set deadline before AGM in future. Guest speaker Katy Bourne (Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner) well received.

HOTRA Year Work Plan

- Notice boards progressing for Winkle Island.
- Workmen etc. being organised to repair/restore Tackleway lych-gate (thanks to Deeday) but insufficient funds. JH will chase Richard Holmwood for his promised contribution. DE to keep Vicar informed.
- Commercial waste: new contract imminent, JH to get update from HBC.
- Pedestrian safety/High Street: JH chasing HBC for update, will be discussed at next meeting.
- Paving/pot holes, repairs in All Saints St. inadequate. DE and JH to do walkabout soon.
- On-street parking: JH has put in complaint about buying permits in St Leonards not Hastings, will try again to get this amended. Proposal for six disabled minibuses to park at Southern Water pumping station. JH to report back.
- New suggestion: HOTRA should encourage more younger members, and greening the Old Town. To be discussed further.

Hastings Storytelling Festival: limited company documents being worked on. Once complete HOTRA will transfer funds. PW offered to be Treasurer.

May Day Issues: DE sent thanks to Keith Leech and others for a good well organised event. Bad behaviour in George Street again in evening. Motorbikes parked in front/behind Lifeboat House barrier, Police didn't want know when complaints made. Thursday Bikers Club wrote letter apologising. DE to write

thank-you to Veola via Richard Holmwood for good street clean-up.

Alcohol Control Zone: Amber Rudd working on policy of no alcohol sales before mid-day in St Leonards to try to alleviate street drinking problem. Could this work in Hastings? Will be part of HOTRA Year Plan.

Stade Amusement Park Questionnaire: results as per attachment. DW to prepare pie chart for publication.

Planning: Nothing to report.

Members Concerns

- Thank you to Nelson House Antiques for selling Quentin Blake poster requested.
- Cleaning of East Hill steps.
- Camping in Country Park.

Future Programme

ES to investigate possibility of meetings in St Clements Church.

Next meetings: 11 June at Bruce's, 17 July at Ann's.

Meeting finished at 8.20 p.m. Thanks to Phil for his hospitality.