

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COMMITTEE MEETING 15 AUGUST 2013**

**Apologies:** June Prior, Phil White, Shirley Hawley

**Attendees:** Dick Edwards, Jill Bradley, Kate Francis, David Woolf, Richard Stevens, Elizabeth Stevens, Bruce Nicol, Ann Novotny. Cllr Dawn Poole, Cllr John Hodges, Harris Woodcock

**Minutes of 17 July Committee Meeting and any Matters Arising:** Minutes agreed.

**Treasurer's Report**

No change since 17 July meeting.

**Secretary's Report:** nothing to report.

**Hastings Community Network:** KF continues to go to events/meetings but not on executive committee. Any volunteers?

**Website:** DW has added more items.

**Chairman's Report**

*Services for older people:* Hopefully Isobel Blackman Centre (IBC) can be saved, strong community support, also used by those in Fairlight, Rye etc., not just Old Town. Not so re Mount Denys (MD) & Pine Hill (PH). Attitude different - Is provision of care sub-standard?. HOTRA must support all three. ESCC decision re MD & PH in November, IBC December. ESCC reducing budget for those attending by one third, e.g. one third less would mean only 2 days instead of 3. Staff pension rights matter, if IB staff transfer to Age UK their pensions do too. DE urged all to print off petitions from HOTRA website and collect as many signatures as possible.

*"Clean Seas Please!" Campaign:* first mention in 2008 when MUGA built, so far Southern Water's (SW) response is "poor connections". Large pipes at Rock-a-Nor supposed to replace storm pipe opposite Queens Hotel. Storm water from Pebsham exits near old Stamco site - water purification plant could be put there. Should HOTRA write to SW directors? How would they ensure Hastings is not destroyed because of their inaction? 55 other resorts in UK are affected. KF has asked SW rep to attend next HCNB event. SW should state what they intend doing. National campaigning group 38 Degrees will take on this issue, pull together other resorts, go to Govt. and MEPs. DE has spoken to Steve Mannering of HVA re public meeting at Stade Hall (invite Amber Rudd MP), find best date after HBC Scrutiny Meeting September/October.

*109 High Street* - DE met with Jeremy Birch who fails to recognise problems with off street parking/two parking spaces in front garden and way it was done. DE also meet local director of Amicus Horizon to express HOTRA concerns. Letter to Amber Rudd says they don't think it changes the area .... If parking had remained with HBC would this have happened? JH is fighting for lost parking spaces to be returned. Why were Police involved and so heavy-handed?

**Planning**

HBC has changed website, very difficult to access applications. JH has requested this is changed, and will email BN details in the interim.

## **Members Concerns**

- Homeless people in Swan Gardens and St Clements Churchyard.
- Two cars parked in All Saints Street on consecutive nights in spaces fire brigade wanted. Can these spaces be returned to general parking?
- Harris requested feedback on Old Town Carnival Week: pram race better (no alcohol forfeits or trouble). Street closures meant more people noisier/later in All Saints Street, but pubs/Fishermen's Institute did good trade. Poor co-ordination re road closure on Carnival Procession. JH gave complaints to Richard Homewood to discuss with Carnival Committee. Very good street cleaning after events. Should special licences be issued in future to help pay for clean-up and policing? Good overall, lot of money raised for charities. Pirate Day: great event, not so great afterwards. Police underestimated number of attendees. Street closure information issued quickly when it was realised it was missing. Will do better next time.
- Let JH know about any faulty paving in All Saints Street.
- Public Liability Insurance for Storytelling Festival. Also covers events/public meetings/people delivering newsletters etc. After discussion policy to remain without alteration.
- Items for sale put on pavement outside Home Stores and at back in Wellesley Court. Causes hazard especially for disabled people. Any complaints contact Mike Hepworth at HBC.
- Contact Paul Phelps at HBC re 20 mph speed limit not being observed in Old Town.
- Disgraceful state of Pelham Boulevard pavement. JH will progress.
- Hastings Printing Co. in Britannia Yard (near Morrisons) recommended for notice board posters outside IBC.

## **Future Programme**

Next meetings: 3 September at Ann's (Garden Cottage), 8 October (venue tbc)

Meeting finished at 8.29 p.m. Thanks to Dick for his hospitality.