

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING 13 MAY 2014**

Apologies: Cllr John Hodges, Ann Novotny

Attendees: Dick Edwards, Jill Bradley, Elizabeth Stevens, Bruce Nicol, David Woolfe, Phil White, Kate Francis, Shirley Hawley, Harris Woodcock, Richard Stevens

Minutes of 8 April Committee Meeting and any Matters Arising: Apologies for omitting Richard Stevens from Attendees list. Minutes agreed.

Secretary's Report: nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report

As at today 191 members, 40 new/lapsed renewing. HOTRA Co-op Bank A/C £438.06 plus £525 to be paid in. PW has dealt very well with extremely difficult job over last two years with banking issues, many thanks.

Hastings Community Network: KF reported Educational Forum meeting to be held shortly.

Website: DW reported email subs increasing, suggested sending out updated e-letter every two months. Traders discount scheme going well, Trade Paints now offer HOTRA members 10% off cash sales.

Chairman's Report

AGM de-brief: good meeting, Zoe's talk very interesting and positive for future of St Mary-in-the-Castle.

2014 Work Plan

Pedestrian safety in High Street: work programmed to start this autumn. Road markings indicate location of utilities.

Commercial waste disposal: problems with Euro bins on pavement in West Street; it shouldn't become a service road. Could HBC encourage all traders to be part of same scheme (one money-saving collection by one company at one time)? Kier's take-over contract still being finalised, JH/DP on the case. Extractor systems in West Street looking unclean: are they fit-for-use and properly maintained? **Action: JH/DP**

Highways: sections of railing missing on light steps, also need painting. JH/DP have been chasing this. **Action: JH/DP**

Clean Seas Please!: why can't water flowing through outfall pipe be treated? Buckshole Reservoir and stream in Alexandra Park being cleaned. HBC paying for that and also investigation of mis-connection of residential foul water. All agreed DE to write to Amber Rudd MP asking for a time/investment scale by Southern Water. **Action: DE**

Ecclesbourne Glen and Rocklands Caravan Park: Much public concern over landslip. Chris Hurrell has collection of over 30 years of aerial photos which show "then and now". By cutting down more trees than planning consents allowed have Caravan Park owners caused landslip? HBC have commissioned report as to why it happened, should be published after local elections on 22 May. After much discussion, it was agreed Chris Hurrell will be invited to 9 June HOTRA Committee Meeting to talk about his on-line campaign to stop Caravan Park development. Can owners erect barbed wire perimeter fence? HOTRA will defer making a commitment to campaign until after sight of HBC's report and Chris's talk. DE to include article to this effect in Parish News and also on HOTRA's website. **Action: DE/DW**

East Sussex Alcohol Strategy: Report lists partners including HBC and Safer Hastings Partnership. All agreed DE to write to Partnership Chair and Cllr Jeremy Birch asking how they will implement that Strategy. Lack of satisfactory approach by HBC about under-age drinking. Do Police support "Zero Tolerance" policy at big events - very low Police presence at recent Jack-in-the-Green? **Action: DE**

Parking: What can we do to achieve/generate/find more spaces in the Old Town?

Planning:

Will extractor system at back of The Crown affect residents? No objections, very important it opens (early June) and succeeds.

Members Concerns

- Peoples Millions (part of National Lottery) application for community projects? A lot of effort for little return.
- Bruce's Linco Lingo Game at Winkle Club, 7pm onwards on Saturday 30 August. HOTRA Committee please support this!
- Cyclists not observing one-way streets.
- Citizens Advice Bureau celebrating 75th anniversary, suggestions for speakers for AGM? HC to give KF details of Lindy Hoppers.
- Nasty niffs from drains at High Street end of West Street.
- RNLI Fair at All Saints Hall in April clearly advertised as in aid of RNLI. Collecting boxes in hall said in aid of Priscilla McBean. £132 given to RNLI after event, but misleading people not acceptable however unintentional. Both good local causes, clear publicity/organisation required.

Forthcoming Events:

- Saturday 7 June - Old Town Open Gardens in aid of St Michael's Hospice.
- Fish Fair - weekend of 21/22 June. New event.
- Pirate Day on Sunday 20 July

Future Programme

Monday 9 June at David's, 8 July (change of date) at Bruce's.

AOB: None.

Meeting finished at 8.40 p.m. Thanks to Dick for his hospitality.