

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING 9 JUNE 2014**

Chris Hurrell gave a very interesting and informative report on Ecclesbourne Glen. After much discussion, the committee reached the following conclusions:

1. DE to write to HBC Leader Jeremy Birch asking for:
 - An immediate stop notice to be issued. Deadline for comments on Retrospective Planning Application is 13 June.
 - Applicant to withdraw the current planning application and re-submit a fully comprehensive one. Letter to be copied to Chair of HBC Planning, Cllrs John Hodges and Dawn Poole, and Amber Rudd MP.
 - Sight of the current caravan park licence and latest inspection report.
2. DE to write to HBC Leader Jeremy Birch asking for independent review of their Planning Department, its processes and skill base. Copy to Cllrs. John Hodges and Dawn Poole, and Amber Rudd MP.
3. Because footpath is lost for the foreseeable future, route of a new path be through caravan park.
4. Ask Amber Rudd MP where we, as a local residents association, can get suitable advice on licence conditions, revocations, etc.
5. No willingness on behalf of HBC to take any enforcement action.
6. Was remit given by HBC to specialist company Coffey Geotechnics broad enough? Were they provided with adequate information?
7. HOTRA to consider hosting a site visit with National Association for Areas Of Natural Beauty.

Many thanks to Chris for his input. We will continue to keep him informed and vice versa.

Apologies: Cllr John Hodges, Cllr Dawn Poole, Ann Novotny, Phil White, Bruce Nicol, Shirley Hawley, Elizabeth Stevens, Harris Woodcock

Attendees: Dick Edwards, Jill Bradley, David Woolfe, Kate Francis, Richard Stevens

Minutes of 13 May Committee Meeting and any Matters Arising: Minutes agreed. Phone cable at lower end of Country Park in Tackleway repaired. Thanks to Amber Rudd MP for her input. Everyone welcome on 10 August for opening of Winkle Island by Lord Warden. Get well card signed and delivered to ES.

Secretary's Report: JB mentioned Coastal User's Group agenda for 10 June meeting which includes updates on Bathing Water Quality, Groyne No. 1 Rock-a-Nore, White Rock Baths, and Foreshore Trust item on Seafront Byelaws. DE requested inclusion of safety considerations re water skiing and jet skis, disposal of disposable barbeques. JB will chase progress re play area for older children which HOTRA requested last year.

Treasurer's Report: no report in PW's absence.

Hastings Community Network: nothing to report.

Website: DW applying for small grant from Foreshore Trust for Hastings Illustrators event.

Chairman's Report

Marine Parade Fire: HOTRA have asked both Ward Councillors to make sure cause and handling of the fire be properly investigated, i.e fire brigade response time. Should they compile a Risk Assessment of Old Town? DE to write to Cllr Phil Scott (East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service representative for Hastings) asking him for a copy of the report. DW has investigated alternative escape systems, one of which may suit Old Town properties. Phoenix appeal and Winkle Club raised and donated money. HOTRA will suggest to those running the Phoenix fund that

any reserve money they have are used to help subsidise purchase of such a system by Old Town residents. DE also intends to follow through on Police action on that night.

The Crown: change licence to include off-sales. In previous minutes we reported this is to be a pub with food, separate licence needed for off-sales as other pubs do in town. Do HOTRA object?

Railings and Handrails: DE to write to ESCC re repainting handrails and railings, very poor state.

Planning:

113 All Saints Street, application for rear extension. No comment.

118 High Street, variation to roof windows design. No comment.

Members Concerns

- RS reported first FLAG meeting he was to attend on behalf of HOTRA cancelled, but he's had good overview. When are old tractors, unused equipment and rubbish to be removed from fishing beach? Who pays for commercial waste collection there?
- Handrail on light steps repaired. Hooray!
- JB mentioned fire service leaflet she'd received encouraging residents to contact Fire Brigade for free home visit to discuss fire safety issues and provide free smoke alarms if these are not fitted. Phone 0800 177 7069 for appointment.
- Coaches stopping/parking in bus stop outside Iceland causing increasing problems.

Complaints about rubbish littering All Saints Street because gull-proof bags not being used, commercial waste arrangements for High Street (restaurant rubbish left outside in plastic bags all Sunday nights) to be discussed at next meeting.

Forthcoming Events:

- Saturday 14 June - 150th anniversary celebrations in Alexandra Park
- Fish Fair - weekend of 21/22 June. New event.
- Thursday 3 July - Battle of Hastings Proms in Alexandra Park followed by Beer & Music Festival
- Pirate Day on Sunday 20 July
- OTCW 26 July to 3 August. Programmes available shortly.

Items for Parish News

Eccles Bourne Glen, Old Town fire.

Future Programme: Tuesday 8 July (change of date) at Bruce's, 12 August if needed.

Meeting finished at 9.30 p.m. Thanks to David for his hospitality.