

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

MINUTES of ZOOM MEETING of H&DCS Committee - TUESDAY 11th MAY 2021

Date – Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 10.00 am

Venue -The meeting was held online using Zoom hosted by StK

Present on Zoom – Tony Armstrong (AA), Terry Ashworth (TA), Margi Blunden (MB), Amanda Bosworth (AB), John Bridger (JB), Sheila Kent (ShK), Stephen Kent (StK), Andrew Murray (AM), Ann Stephens (AS).

1) Welcome and Apologies.

AB, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Bob Clark (BC) and Jerry Simmons (JS).

2) Minutes Secretary. JB volunteered to write up the minutes.

3) Minutes of meeting held on 6th April 2021 – No amends requested and minutes approved by the Committee and signed by ShK at the request of AB.

4) Matters Arising not otherwise on the Agenda. Tourist information has been relocated to Alive Oasis; the Heritage Centre will also hold a small range of visitor information relating to Hunstanton and local area. .

5) Correspondence, Planning and Town Council Report (AM).

- a) Grant for Shop Front Improvements – AM highlighted the £500,000 grant money available and has already circulated relevant information to a few local businesses inviting them to look at the website. The availability of this grant could be very useful for many businesses in Hunstanton.
- b) Hunstanton Town Council (HTC). The election of Hunstanton Mayor and replacement of Tony Bishopp by Adrian Winnington, with Maureen Howard as Deputy Mayor, was noted. There have been some recent online security issues for HTC, notably scams requesting cash payments. No such payments have been made.
- c) Heritage Week – locations to nominate. AM suggested Drove Orchards could be a suitable destination for visitors; also, it would be worth contacting Heacham & Snettisham to see if there are suitable places to nominate for Heritage Week visits (10-19 September). Agreed that the Heritage Centre should be open for more sessions during that period. **Action: AM to contact Mavis/John Windibank (Heacham) and David Drewery (Snettisham) to establish links.**
- d) Planning Applications – Borough Planning Meeting on 17th May. The revised application for development of apartments on Southend Road is to be discussed at this meeting. AM stated that the so-called “revised” application to be discussed had only changed so as to limit ownership of apartments to full time residence only – purchase of apartments for buy-to-let or for holiday homes would be restricted by covenant. There has been no acknowledgement, or change to, the many other significant objections to this development on the grounds of serious encroachment of Hunstanton’s car park space, and the use of the space for a development which would do little to add to Hunstanton’s attraction and facilities for its local community and tourists. **Action: AM is preparing a statement to make at the meeting and requested inputs from H&DCS committee members by Thursday 13th May to enable him to submit his document to BCKLWN by Friday 14th May.**
- e) Civic Voice. Their next Zoom meeting is on 19th May and AM will join. Civic Voice have also set up a meeting with a group of Members of Parliament at 10am on 3rd June. **Action: H&DCS Committee Members may join the meeting in June if they so wish. Details to follow.**

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- f) Reconvening of the Coastal Community Team (CCT). It is unclear what is planned for this group and whether or not there are representatives of all groups listed. StK suggested calling John Crofts to establish whether the Rotary Club is represented. **Action: StK.**

6) Treasurer's Report

The accounts to date were approved by Committee.

MB and AS were thanked for their work on the Coal Shed gardens. The costs of gravel, plants and compost have been paid for by H&DCS, but members wondered if it might be possible for the BCKLWN grounds team to supply these items in future, as for the Heritage Gardens. **Action: MB to request an appropriate Borough representative if such support could be possible in future.** AM has some potted geraniums rescued from last year's planting to give away if committee members would like some.

There was a short discussion on the importance of the Coal Shed Gallery in relation to the history of the Hunstanton Railway. **Action: AM to look into the listing of the Coal Shed Gallery to preserve its future.**

7) H&DCS Membership Report & Renewals.

ShK advised nothing to report at this stage. However, it is necessary to consider carefully what to include in the Membership Renewal Letter for 2021/2022 which is due to be sent to all current H&DCS members in August 2021. She suggested this should be an item for discussion at next Committee Meeting in June. **Action: ShK**

8) Newsletter.

- a) June 2021 Newsletter – Pocahontas Pt1. **Action: StK/ShK**
- b) July 2021 Newsletter – Pocahontas Pt2. **Action: Stk/ShK**

9) Heritage Centre Lease and Fundraising.

In view of the complexity of the issues involved, it was agreed to hold a separate focussed meeting on this topic. Date for meeting 23rd June at Heritage Centre. **Action: Committee**

10) Heritage Centre Opening Arrangements. After many years of hard work on Volunteer Management, TA is stepping back as from mid-June. She was warmly thanked by all Committee Members for her unremitting contribution to organising our volunteers, and for her participation in other community activities, most recently collecting signatures from the residents and tourists on the Green and out on the High Street for the H&DCS campaign for the restitution of a staffed Tourist Information Centre. **Action: ShK to include on agenda for the June meeting seeking a replacement.**

11) Marketing/Social Media Matters. It was suggested by AM that in 2022 H&DCS re-instate fossil hunting events which have proved to be so popular in recent years with young people. **Action: Committee Members to discuss in 2022.**

12) Chair's Vision Document. Nothing to Report at this stage.

13) Gardens/ Hunstanton in Bloom/& Greening Grey Britain. Nothing to Report at this stage.

14) Pier Project. JB reported a recent discussion with Andrew Jamieson (AJ) on his proposed visit to meet Henry Moreton in Paignton to discuss revised ideas on access to the site for the pier. **Rail Project.** Nothing to Report at this stage.

15) Talks Programme. Nothing to Report at this stage.

16) Outings. Depending on Covid 19, JB proposes to re-start outings for H&DCS Members in July and August 2021. **Action: JB**

17) Town Centre & Town Walks. In abeyance at this stage.

18) AOB. No other business.

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Dates & Times of next Meetings in 2021		
Tuesday 22nd June	10.00 am	Monthly Committee Meeting at Heritage Centre
Wednesday 23rd June	10.00 am	Extraordinary Committee Meeting – Future of Heritage Centre at Heritage Centre
Tuesday 6th July	10.00am	Extraordinary Committee Meeting – H&DCS Activities in 2021/2022 at Heritage Centre
Tuesday 20th July	10.00 am	Monthly Committee Meeting at Heritage Centre