

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

HDCS COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

Date - Wednesday 13th May 2020 at 10.30 am

Venue -The meeting was a virtual one using Zoom; all participants joined in from their homes.

Present - Anthony Armstrong (AA), Terry Ashworth (TA), Amanda Bosworth (AB), Margi Blunden (MB), 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, Jeremy Simmons and Mick Smith.

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

3) Minutes of meeting held on 29th April 2020 – no comments; minutes approved by all participants on Zoom. AB authorised ShK to sign them on her behalf.

4) Matters Arising – not otherwise on the Agenda

a) Funding for Heritage Centre - See item 10

b) Coastal Community Team - ShK has arranged with CCT for TA to stand in for AM as HDCS Representative when necessary.

c) Green Plaques. ShK had circulated possible draft of plaque for Mary Rhodes **Action – AA to consider improvements for wording and circulate to Committee.**

d) Mercy Grey Bench Refurbishment. It was agreed that the bench should be coated with wood-stain, with gold lettering for the signage. **Action – AA**

e) Captain Fryett Bench. The Borough have passed the bench to someone for refurbishment but cannot now remember to whom, nor where it is currently located. Enquiries continue.

Action: AA

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

Hunstanton Town Council – Will hold a ‘Virtual’ Council Meeting on Thursday 21st May at 6pm. Brief reports on Pier and Railways Projects have been requested by the Town Clerk (Jan Roomes). No Agenda can yet be found on the HTC website. Unclear if members of the public may join the meeting, or not. **Action – AM/JB**

Planning – AM has asked Jan Roomes to seek a report from BCKLWN Resilience & Emergency Planning Team on the actions they are taking regarding the Pandemic also what actions HTC are taking to assist in controlling it in this area. **Action – AM to advise Committee once reply received.**

Sandringham Pictures have been offered for sale to HDCS by Paul Kidd (resident of Peterborough). After discussion it was decided not to accept the offer. **Action: ShK/StK**

Hunstanton Pictures – six good photos covering King George V Silver Jubilee have been offered as a gift by Colin Needham (resident of Cromer). Gratefully accepted by Committee. **Action ShK/StK.**

Time Sheet for a week’s work in Hunstanton Hall dated 1936. Offered to HDCS by Elizabeth Drury. Gratefully accepted by Committee.

Photograph Album from AM. Needs specialist book-binding work which a ShK/StK family member has kindly agreed to undertake. Offer gratefully accepted by Committee. **Action ShK/StK**

6) HCS Accounts. All in order – some minor expenses and income.

7) HCS Membership. All in order. A list of 183 HDCS members’ locations was circulated to Committee prior to the meeting. 157 members are ‘district’ members and the balance from

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other counties in the UK (who may also in some cases have second homes in the district), and from overseas.

- 8) **HDCS Newsletter.** AB recommended Committee carefully now consider plans and a risk-analysis in good time, ready for re-opening the Heritage Centre when appropriate. Key questions raised by Committee were; how to manage visitor numbers/opening hours/cinema usage/visitor pathways within the Centre/queuing outside the Centre/provision of sanitiser points/sale of masks/access to cellar/polycarbonate protection at the Reception Desk etc. Committee members were asked to think about all these issues in time for the next Committee Meeting at the end of May. **Action – All**

The article on Mercy Gray for the June issue of Town & Around June, as well as any other input for the next HDCS Newsletter to be circulated to Committee. **Action – StK/AM.**

StK/AM to also circulate any other input for next HDCS Newsletter.

- 9) **Formation of a Company** limited by guarantee, not having share capital. In process – not yet completed. **Action - StK**

- 10) **Heritage Centre Lease and Acquisition (Fund raising Ideas).**

Research continues on potential funding opportunities available from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other sources for acquisition of the Heritage Centre. The Committee also discussed smaller, less expensive projects requiring sourcing of funds at a much lower level. Such projects could include creation of local records, a new form of heating for the Heritage Centre, displays for newly acquired materials, polycarbonate screens for reception (check Tesco & West Norfolk Glass), online access to exhibits or local heritage themes **Action – All**

- 11) **Preparation of Teachers Packs for Schools, Children’s Quiz** etc is progressing and will be circulated to Committee before long. **Action - ShK.**

- 12) **Chair’s Discussion Document** is progressing and a Board Planning Document will be circulated to Committee in a month or so. **Action - AB.**

- 13) **Gardens, Hunstanton in Bloom & Greening Great Britain.**

MB continues renew & re-plants as necessary and advised that the Borough will attend to the Signpost Garden near the Mercy Grey Shelter. The table with seating there also needs attention. **Action - MB to oversee and ask for Committee support when necessary.**

- 14) **Pier Project.** JB advised that funding for acquiring Hunstanton Pier Company and/or building a new pier is likely to be unavailable until the pandemic is over and done with. However, once the pandemic becomes history, the growth in popularity of UK’s seaside resorts is forecast by the National Pier Society to grow rapidly, and the resurgence of Hunstanton will begin.

- 15) **Rail Project.** A first report from NCC on the feasibility of reinstating the King’s Lynn-Hunstanton railway line is expected in a matter of days. **Action: AM to circulate.**

- 16) **Talks Programme.** Off agenda for the time being – potential speakers wary of confirming dates even in 2021. **Action – AA will re-book programme as and when feasible.**

- 17) **Outings Programme.** Off agenda until outing venues reopen to the public. **Action - JB will re-book programme as and when feasible.**

- 18) **AOB – None**

Date & Time of next Virtual Meeting	
Wednesday 27 th May 2020	10.30am