

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

HDCS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date Tuesday 16th April 2019 at 10.00 am

Venue 2 Clarence Road, Hunstanton, PE36 6EG

Present

Tony Armstrong AA, Terry Ashworth TA, Margie Blunden MB, Amanda Bosworth AB, John Bridger JB, Dave Harris DH, Sheila Kent ShK, Stephen Kent StK, John Maiden JM, Andrew Murray AM, Ann Stevens AS.

Agenda Items

1. **Welcome and Apologies.** JM, as Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Robert Clark RC and Jeremy Simmons JS who arrived later in the meeting,
2. **Minutes Secretary.** JB volunteered to write up the minutes for this meeting.
3. **Minutes of meeting held on 14th March 2019.** The Minutes were agreed and signed by JM.
4. **Matters arising.** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2019.
Matters to be raised not otherwise on the Agenda for 16th April 2019.
 - Report on the HDCS visit to Ely Cathedral.
 - Historic Towns & Villages Trail / Treasure Trail - **Action AM & StK to investigate website.**
 - SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) - **Individual members to respond to AM with any input before 29th April 2019**
 - Treasurer's Report re new Signatories – **remains to be actioned from 14th March 2019 HCS meeting**
5. **Correspondence, planning & Hunstanton Town Council Report (AM)**

The following issues were noted and discussed:

 - a) **North Norfolk Guide Action - AM to submit information to the Editor about the Heritage Centre when it is ready;**
 - b) **Town & Around** – Information circulated by AM;
 - c) Local Plan – 60 pages of key information from the Plan (which is 669 pages long in total) have been circulated to the Railway Group, HDCS and Villages. Feedback is required by 29/4/2019. AM has since responded to NCC on the Consultation.
 - d) **Trees by Hunstanton Church in Greevegate. Action - AM to send photo to Vicar & Pam Lynn the Conservation Officer KLWNBC.**
 - e) HTC Community Coffee mornings on last Saturday of each month are proceeding well.
 - f) Following NALC Procedures, a new Assistant Town Clerk (Jennifer Christie) and Caretaker (Steve Roomes) have been appointed. Both are 37hrs/week appointments.
 - g) Process is in place to fill vacancies on HTC via appropriate means.
 - h) Historic Towns & Villages Forum. There is an annual subscription of £60 per year. It was agreed that HCS should join this Forum.
6. **Treasurer's Report.**
 - a) **HCS Visit to Ely Cathedral** - After the very successful visit of 32 HCS members and guests on this visit, a profit of £15 was recorded.
 - b) **HCS Funding Application to Ørsted A/S (formerly DONG Energy)** to cover costs for the former Nat West Bank was rejected. A separate application for funding from the

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European LEADER grant funding programme has failed eligibility as, at the time of application, HCS had neither a signed lease, nor planning permission for change of use from commercial banking to community facility. This fund opportunity is now closed. JM queried whether the Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) might be worth investigating.

Action: StK/AM to investigate

- 7. Membership Report.** Two new members have joined HCS in the month preceding the 16th April meeting. One of these new members has also volunteered to assist HCS in the Heritage Centre when it is open to the public. Any new members joining after 1st May 2019 will be given membership to include membership up to 30th September 2020.
- 8. Heritage Centre Update**
 - a) **Lease** – no further progress as at 16th April 2019
 - b) **Expenses:** water bill high (£37); electricity costs low but moving to EDF on 12th May 2019; gas with Total Gas Hire at present (no standing charge and no usage so far).
 - c) **Schedule of works:** HCS is extremely grateful to all volunteers who have participated in the renovation works. Some volunteers have put in exceptional effort. The gas central heating and all utilities will need to be separated between ground and first floors in order to create separate billing arrangements. See separate schedule for details of the £1,500 spent on the Bank project so far.
- 9. Gardens/Hunstanton in Bloom & Greening Great Britain**

Gardens. Work continues. June Hammond has joined the team.
Greening Great Britain (GGB) – if there is a GGB Project Officer for Norfolk, Hunstanton needs to participate in this project. **Action - MB to establish if there is a County GGB Project Officer.**

Heritage Centre Planters & other Beds. Work continues. **Action - MB to prepare a budget for 2019-20 to send to StK.**

BCKLWN – **Action MB - to ask Roger Partridge if there is a possibility of a contribution from the Borough.**

Captain Fryatt Bench at St Edmunds Church – deemed to be unsafe and needs repairs. **Action - MB to contact Roger Partridge and ask the Borough to attend to this.**
- 10. Pier Project.** JB confirmed that the project continues. However, at the moment discussions are being held on a confidential basis preparatory to signature of a non-disclosure agreement which it is hoped will presage a big step forward in the process. Further news will of course be disclosed to HCS as soon as feasible.
- 11. King's Lynn/Hunstanton Rail Project.** AM stated that Howard Johnston had successfully presented the Railway Project to KLWNBC. Andrew Jamieson is arranging for a similar presentation to be made to NCC in Norwich. Two cheques had also been recently presented to the Barclays bank account for the railway project. AM also noted that over 4m passengers have travelled on the Borders railway line which was re-opened only four years ago.
- 12. Interpretation Boards.** A meeting is to be held in two days' time in the Heritage Centre with Roger Partridge to agree final versions of all the Interpretation Boards. Outcomes to be shared at the HCS meeting in May 2019.
- 13. HCS Posters & Town Notice Board.** Has been refreshed by ShK and StK.

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14. Talks Programme. Action – AA to send email to HCS Committee for suggestions/ideas.

15. Visits Programme. Visits in 2019 booked so far include Langham Dome & Wells Malting Trust (May 16th 2019) and RAF Coningsby (June 20th 2019). Waiting to hear from CITB & Frimstone. Three potential ideas for future HCS visits were tabled at the meeting: Bell Foundry Loughborough, Spalding Gentlemen’s Society, Heckington Windmill and a return visit to Peckover House, Wisbech. Action – JB to circulate list of ideas for visits for remainder of 2019 to HCS Committee.

16. AOB - Opening Ceremony for the new Heritage Centre. The 3rd August 2019 being the anniversary of the opening of the first Heritage Centre at 15 The Green in 2009 was agreed to be a suitable date. Contact to be made with The Lord Lieutenant for Norfolk’s office to discuss the possibility of a ‘royal’ opening ceremony. This all to be considered, along with any other suggestions, at the HCS meeting in May 2019.

17. Date & venue for next HCS Committee Meeting:

Tuesday 14th May at 10am at the new Heritage Centre if possible - TBC.
