

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 24th February 2016 at the Council Offices, Valentine Road

Present: Andrew Murray(AM), Terry Ashworth(TA), Margi Blunden(MB), Mavis Windibank(MW), Ivy Scales(IS), Stephen Kent(SK), Adrian Winnington(AW), John Maiden(JM), Anthony Armstrong(AA), David Jones(DJ), Neil Quincey(NQ), Alethea Gillard(AG)

1. **Apologies** from Ann Stevens (AS).
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 27th January 2016 were approved and signed.
Matters arising - With regard to the leaflets, MB said it was more about them not being marketed properly rather than bland. There are no plans to do a leaflet on Rosalind Franklin, the Dark Lady of the DNA.
3. **Correspondence, planning and Town Council report** –
Thanks to help from John Selby, the appeal relating to the building of the chalet bungalow on land adjacent to 29 Sandringham Road has been dismissed.
Planning Inspector, David Hogger published his initial findings and main modifications to the SADMP on 5 February.
Planning application 16/00082 with access from Cromer Road and Chapel Bank. Long letters of objection have been sent to the Council by residents of Old Town Way. Town Council support it at present. The 30 mph speed limit will be moved so the development will be within this area. HCS would prefer access from Chapel Bank instead of the A149. Relating to 16/00084, it was asked how they could say there will be marginal traffic impact on the A149. The closing date for responses has passed but AM will write a letter. Lynx have submitted to the Traffic Commissioners that a 36 bus will leave Hunstanton every hour for King's Lynn station. It will also go via the railway station on its return to Hunstanton.
Bronze Age wonders refers to Must Farm Quarry which is near Peterborough. Fire damage to the wooden house sank the timbers into the water and these were preserved.
4. **Treasurer's Report** Received a grant of £1,000 from Hunstanton Town Council towards moving the Mercy Gray shelter but we had to pay £1,300 to Ridgeons for timber. £47 in donations was taken at the opening weekend of the Heritage Centre. Paid out £355 for the 10,000 leaflets from the Heritage Centre account. Total in bank £11,404.04. We have 185 members, 40 of which are life members.
5. **Henry Le Strange statue** – HCS have been trying to get a statue for a long time. Mr. William Searle, via the Chamber of Trade, is trying to raise money for this and he has pledged £1,000 towards the £40,000 needed. AM proposed we pledge £1,000. We are more likely to get a grant if it is backed by the community. It was agreed we should earmark £1,000 towards the statue.
6. **Website** – nothing to report.
7. **Heritage Centre** – re-opened on 13th February 2016. Some re-arrangement of the new display boards is needed. The windows will be cleaned. The outside will cost £15 and these will be cleaned monthly, starting the early part of March when both inside and outside will be cleaned. The insides will also cost £15 and these will need to be done twice a year. TA has is willing to send a letter and a leaflet to the schools in the area from Wells, Fakenham, Downham Market and Wisbech and perhaps further afield. HCS will cover costs of postage.
8. **Talks** – MW has 4 booked for 2017 so far.
9. **Twinning with 67th USAF Special Operations Squadron** – In 2011, RAF Flight

Sgt. Mark Service, the official historian of the 67th. made contact with John Maiden, then chairman of HCS. They organised a celebration of the 60th anniversary of the 67th. becoming activated at RAF Sculthorpe and then the 60th anniversary of the tragic floods of 31 January 1953 in which 16 americans and 15 local people lost their lives. The Town Council bestowed the Freedom of the Town on the 67th in October 2014 and it was thought that twinning would be a natural development of that. A town council committee meeting gave support but a full council meeting voted to defer the matter. There should be a ceremony with representatives from organizations in the Town Hall. £2750 has been pledged towards the cost. New signs would be needed to incorporate "twinning with 67th USAF Special Operations Squadron". It was pointed out there maybe people in the town who would not approve of this. A vote was taken that HCS should resume its role in being the lead organization in promoting friendship with the 67th Squadron and all agreed, except for one abstention.

10. Progress on projects

a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – A questionnaire has been devised concentrating on housing and travel which will be circulated in the near future. When the results have been analysed, there will be public meetings to consider that and other aspects. All the people in Hunstanton will be able to vote on the plan. When CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) comes in, any developer has to pay the local authority a charge per sq. metre of internal floor area. Once a Neighbourhood Plan is in force, 25% of the money raised can be used locally for new play areas, equipment, village halls, etc. JM congratulated AW for the preparation.

b) **Pier** working party – AM has been contacted by Mysta TV, Norwich. They are researching the history of all piers and it has been suggested they go to the Heritage Centre. Filming is to be April/May. JM has a meeting with Sir Henry Bellingham on 4th March 2016.

c) **Tiles** in the Spinney – colouring did not match the existing tiles and these have been returned to the manufacturer.

d) **Outing to Wisbech** – a 34 seater coach has been booked. 10 people have also booked. The Victorian Society would like to come to Hunstanton to see the arts and crafts places in early October.

e) **Mercy Gray shelter** – Carpentry is in progress and we need a little more wood. The glazing needs to be sorted. Maps are available of the cycle routes and we may be able to use that. The website www.yournorfolkcoast.org.uk also has pictures which can be used free of charge, provided an acknowledgement for their use is made to them

11. The date of the next meeting will be Thursday, 24th March 2016 at 2.30pm at the Council Offices in Valentine Road.

12. Progress is being made on the route for a footpath from Hunstanton to King's Lynn and Sutton Bridge. West Norfolk has produced a Destination Management Plan. McCarthy and Stone are holding a public consultation from 3pm to 7pm at the Town Hall on 3rd March 2016 regarding the Swains site.