

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

HDCS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 10 am

Venue Heritage Centre, Hunstanton, PE36 6BB

Present

Anthony Armstrong (AA), Terry Ashworth (TA), Margi Blunden (MB), Amanda Bosworth (AB), Robert Clark (RC), Sheila Kent (ShK), Stephen Kent (StK), Andrew Murray (AM), Mick Smith (MS) and Ann Stephens (AS).

Agenda Items

1) Welcome and Apologies.

AB welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from John Bridger (JB) and Jerry Simmons (JS).

2) Minutes Secretary. ShK and StK volunteered to write up the minutes for this meeting.

3) Minutes of meeting held on 17th December 2019.

The minutes were agreed by all present for signature by AB.

4) Matters to be raised not otherwise on today's Agenda

- a) AB reported that an email and a letter have been written to West Norfolk Tourism Forum and Hunstanton Coastal Community Team respectively requesting the organisations to allow us to have two representatives on each of their Committees.
- b) StK presented some recommendations and quotations for a replacement Laptop and Digital Projector for use in the Heritage Centre and at our Talks evenings. These were discussed and accepted for purchase at a total cost of £713.15.

5) Correspondence, Planning & Hunstanton Town Council Report (AM)

- a) AM Reported that he was attending Civic Voice AGM and Duncan Sandys Lecture Tuesday next week which had been postponed following announcement of the General Election.
- b) AM also reported that the reason for the Town Council deciding not to submit a response to the Regeneration Consultation was that they had not been asked to respond.
- c) There were no Planning matters to be discussed although it appears that the application to build on the land next to 29 Sandringham Road had not been decided upon yet.
- d) There was some discussion about Greening Great Britain and the plans to plant huge numbers of trees (see policy adopted by North Norfolk District Council at the end of 2019 and proposals currently under discussion at BCKLWN). AB suggested that we might consider identifying potential locations for new or replacement trees during our spring walkabout.
- e) Likewise, following the recent Panorama programme, the subject of mixed-use communal space was discussed. It was agreed that this Society should actively contribute to discussions about such matters, wherever possible; with this in mind, we will consider drafting a note to the Coastal Community Team with respect to future development of the bus station. **Action: AB/AM/ShK**

6) Treasurer's Report (StK)

StK had circulated his Financial Report prior to the meeting. Not a lot of activity since the last meeting and the total balances stand at £15,073.

7) Membership Report (ShK)

Nothing to report since the last meeting.

8) Formation of a Company Limited by Guarantee not having a share capital.

StK reported that he had obtained a price for setting up such a Company but had been advised that the cost of £325 plus VAT could well be higher due to the complexities of creating Articles

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of Association based closely with the current Constitution of the Society. He planned to see our Accountant Adviser in King's Lynn shortly to discuss this. **Action: StK**

- 9) **Heritage Centre Lease** StK and AM reported that we were close to agreement in formulating a Lease that was acceptable to both the Society and the Landlord but with one or two items that needed resolving and the transferring of the Society into a Company Limited by Guarantee still to be resolved the process should be concluded soon. ShK asked a question about what happens if something occurs upstairs that results in damage downstairs (such as a leakage as has happened recently) and currently the lease makes us responsible for all maintenance regardless. Splitting of the Utilities between to two floors was still being worked upon. **Action: JS/ShK, StK and AM**
- 10) **Heritage Centre Formal Opening:** StK reported that over 100 Invitations to a total of 115 and so far most had responded positively. A number of items were discussed
- a) AM suggested that a flower display may be nice and in addition, button-holes for the Committee and a bouquet for Alison Gifford and a bottle for Paul Richards would be very acceptable. He will ask Marie Rix if she can help. **Action: AM**
 - b) The possibility of obtaining a number of car parking slots for the more important guests was suggested and again AM said he would make enquiries. **Action: AM**
 - c) It was also suggested that a Public Address system would be useful. Enquiries are to be made of Hughes and any other possible sources **Action: AM/StK**
 - d) AM reported that he had organised a Scottish Pipe Band (from Norwich) which he advised he would generously pay for. This was agreed to although it was mentioned that there was another event that day in the form of 'Love West Norfolk'. Agreed that he would try to coordinate with the LWN group to make maximum use of the band for the benefit of both groups. **Action: AM/AB**
 - e) There was concern that the Pipe Band might well attract the public to come into the Heritage Centre when we only have space for the invited guests. Agreed that we should obtain a sign possibly for the 'A' Frame to tell people entering the Centre that we were holding a function for invited guests only and that the Centre opens to the public the next day. An article going into the Town & Around will also explain this. **Action: AM/StK**
 - f) Catering for the event was well in hand with AS, MB and ShK. In addition bottles of Cava may well be the chosen drink along with regular wine that we have in stock and soft drinks would be acquired ideally with flutes borrowed/hired from the wine supplier. ShK and StK will source the wines whilst AS and MB will source the soft drinks. **Action: AS/MB/ShK/StK**
- 11) **Gardens/Hunstanton in Bloom & Greening Great Britain**
AS reported that two Duke of Edinburgh award students from Smithdon would be starting the planting of the garden areas outside the Heritage Centre this coming Sunday. Painting of the planters was discussed and agreed that they should be painted the same green as the doors and railings but should not add the 'HC' lettering previously planned. **Action: MB/AS/MS**
- 12) **Heritage Centre – Teachers packs, Quizzes and new display and Rotas**
The first two were being worked upon. New displays are in the planning stages for two subjects – History of Searles and History of the NatWest Bank. **Action: ShK/StK/AA**
TA would shortly be asking for volunteers to 'man' the Centre from Saturday, 15th February.
- 13) **Hunstanton Pier** – There was nothing to report regarding the Pier project although it is hoped that our new MP, James Wild might be attending the Heritage Centre opening although after the event itself is finished when Norfolk Councillor, Andrew Jamieson might also attend. It is hoped that this would provide an opportunity to get James Wild on side.
- 14) **King's Lynn/Hunstanton Rail Project** – AM reported that the rail group had met at the Heritage Centre last Friday when good discussions were held. The subject of the Rail project (along with the Pier) would also be raised at the Heritage Centre opening day.

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15) **Talks Programme** – AA reported that progress was being made with the talks for next year.

Action: AA

16) **Outings** – No further action at this stage. **Action: JB**

17) **Town Centre (and High Street) and how to improve character and appearance** – No further action at present. Need to start arranging walks around the Town to start listing areas requiring attention **Action: Committee Spring walk around the town.**

18) **AOB.** AM reported that arrangements were in hand for a ceremony at the Floods Memorial on 31st January. She would talk to John Maiden so we are aware of what is being organised

Action: AB

19) **Dates & venues for next HDCS Meetings:**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday 11 th February 2020 HDCS Committee Meeting	10.00am	Heritage Centre
Tuesday 17 th March 2020 HDCS Committee Meeting	10.00am	Heritage Centre

The meeting concluded at 12.21am.

StK 17th January 2020