

Hunstanton Civic Society

Ordinary Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday 13 March 2012 at 9.15 am In Large Meeting Room, Valentine Road

Present: Andrew Murray (Chairman and Interim Secretary), Anthony Gooch (Treasurer), Margi Blunden, Sue Boxell, Norma Ham, John Maiden, Ivy Scales

1. **Apologies:** None.
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 February 2012** were approved and signed.
 - **Matters arising.** AG reported on a meeting of 12 March concerning the bid to revitalise Hunstanton Town Centre in response to the Mary Portas Review. Those attending included our 3 Borough Councillors –Liz Watson, Richard Bird and Paul Beal, the Deputy Mayor, Elaine Clutton, from BCKL&WN, Alistair Cox, Town Centre Manager, Chris Bamfield, and Jemma Curtis, a representative from County Highways, Mike Larkin, Debbie Harrington, High Street trader and Anthony Gooch for the Civic Society. There was an initiative to bid for a grant from a £1M pot with grants of upto £100K to be awarded. Hunstanton was to be entered in the coastal category. The Chamber of Trade would be the bidder. The Town Council had produced a prompt sheet of discussion points, mainly focussed on doing something about the Spinney. This could encourage interaction between locals and visitors. An attractive site not managed very well, the Spinney had become a no-man’s land used by dog-walkers, whereas it could be a “hub”. AG suggested it could become a junction for an East/ West land train to connect with Searle’s North/ South service. It should be noted that Searles service is not run at a profit. NH suggested using the little side-street alongside Legge’s and adding a water feature amongst the trees. AM said that there was a possibility of the roadway being partly pedestrianised. AG stated that there were no plans to develop the Spinney (contrary to rumours) The ideal hub in that part of town would be the Princess Theatre, should it reopen. AG would be attending the next meeting on 19 March.
3. **Secretary’s Report.** – as circulated
 - **Community Orchard.** This was a real success and junior schoolchildren would be planting flowers. In addition, at a Joint Management meeting of The Green JM had proposed the planting of trees in front of the Hangar and the Azam building.
4. **Treasurer’s Report.** £1,794.88 in current a/c, £7,300.37 in deposit.
5. **Possible change of name of the Society.** Owing to lack of enthusiasm the idea was not pursued.
6. **Report from Green and Pier Sub-Committee.** Still waiting to hear from the Heritage Lottery Fund. On the subject of registration of the Green as a Town Green, copies of letters between Borough Councillors and HCS had been circulated among committee members giving reasons why the BC do not consider best.
7. **Report from Heritage Sub-Committee.** For the Open Days in September it was planned to produce a leaflet featuring the most interesting of the Herbert Ibberson houses. A workshop would be held in Norwich on 27 March on how to organize Open Days. The proposed plaque in memory of Henry Le Strange would not be ready for the

anniversary of his death on 27 July. A talk would be given on this date by Kath Fryer on the subject of HLS {*Andrew – what do HLS stand for?*}.

8. **Report from Focus Group.** Not provided as meeting was not held. New date of 2 April was proposed.
9. **Site-Specific Allocations and Retirement Complex.** Members were not keen on too many retirement buildings. We would like to address the age balance, should Hunstanton expand. How could we increase employment opportunities? Concerning any future care home, MB said we should aim for one of quality, with properly trained staff.
10. **Design Brief for Town Centre.** A draft was has been prepared by Jemma Curtis at Borough Council.
11. **Policy on payment for flood defences and coastal erosion.** The Town Council would be meeting in a week's time on this subject.
12. **Date of next meeting Tuesday 10 April at 9.15 am.**