

Hunstanton and District Civic Society

Ordinary Committee Meeting Tuesday 11 March 2014 Large Meeting Room, Valentine Road Council Offices

Present: Andrew Murray (Chairman and Interim Secretary), John Little (Treasurer), Terry Ashworth, Margi Blunden, Martin Chown, Margaret Robinson, Ivy Scales, Ann Stevens

1. **Apologies:** Norma Ham.
2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 11 February** were approved and signed.

3. **Secretary's Report, incorporating Report from Town Council**

The Secretary's Report was read and items discussed.

Installation of signs for "Free WiFi – Hunstanton". Shops would cover costs at £10 each p.a. MC said that in Jedburgh their WiFi had been free for some time.

Henry Le Strange's Vision of Hunstanton. The reproduction of the image on the Spinney tiles has been cropped inappropriately so that the railway terminal and lower part of The Green are missing. MB pointed out that the other side of the wall at the top of the Spinney was bereft of tiles.

Conservation Area Advisory Panel. MC represented the Civic Society on this Panel. He thought that the Town Council should also be represented.

Cliff-Top Shelters. The middle shelter had already been moved and set in a concrete base. Unfortunately the shelter nearer to the Lighthouse was too rotten to move. The Mercy Gray shelter had been further vandalised and AM had notified the Police, who would be keeping it under observation. Mr Penty was to let AM know the cost of moving it to become a bus shelter near the Lighthouse. We were also waiting to hear if the Construction Industry Training Board at Bircham Newton could help with the project.

Town Council. Beach Replenishment. MC wondered if we should write to the Environment Agency concerning the custom of moving sand around the shore each year, since it built up again. AM (a member of the Wash East Coast Management Advisory Group) explained that the moving of the sand was necessary to protect caravan sites and habitations, etc further along the coast. AS enquired about the high level of the sand alongside the Prom and asked if it would be cleared. AM said that the sand levels were constantly varying and the AE were supposed to monitor the situation.

Planning Applications. McCarthy & Stone plans for old Garage site. AM circulated the letter he had written to Geoff Hall, Executive Director – Environment and Planning, KLBC, registering our strong opposition to the proposed development. A major objection was that the height and massing of the proposed building would deprive the newly-enhanced Spinney of sunlight in the afternoon and evening and the view of the sunset through the trees.

4. **Treasurer's Report.** Current a/c £1,559.99, Deposit a/c £7,400.70, total assets £8,960.69. MC asked whether we should increase our subscription rates. AM said that we could not justify an increase whilst our assets are

substantial but that may well change. This would be an Agenda item for a future meeting.

5. **Report from Heritage Centre Trust.** AM said there would be a visit on 8 April of a party of schoolchildren from Leicester.

6. Preparations for Britain in Bloom

– **marketing Hunstanton as a Victorian Garden Town by the sea.** MB had not attended the last In Bloom meeting and could not attend the next on Friday 28 March at the Town Hall. AS volunteered to go in her place and at the request of TA would mention the “Garden Town” idea.

7. Progress on Projects.

Talks Evenings to Autumn 2014/Spring 2015. MC reported that he had almost finished booking talks upto 20 May 2015. MC pointed out how out of date our presentation equipment was. AM would have a word with David Jones. **Proposed Coach Tour to Bletchley Park, 24 September 2014.** MB said this idea could not be pursued due to the division of the site into two separate parts. Consequently coach companies were no longer offering tours to Bletchley. Instead MB proposed a visit to Deene Park near Corby, Northamptonshire for the same date. Deene Park was a large, attractive country house with beautiful gardens. AM mentioned a possible destination for a future visit – The industrial steam museum at Fornsett St Mary Museum near Norwich, a collection of static steam engines.

Input to Neighbourhood Plan. TA said that she had only received **four** replies to her questionnaire on what heritage assets should be preserved.

Updating and re-printing Interpretation Boards/Plaques Leaflet. AM was in negotiations about these two projects.

Oasis Way Leaflet. This would follow completion of the **Ringstead Windmill** leaflet, a pencil sketch of which was shown by MB.

8. **Formation of a Hunstanton Heritage Task Group.** AM said that a separate meeting would be held on this subject and the Neighbourhood Plan input.

9. **Date of next Committee meeting Tuesday 8 April**