

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY
Committee meeting on Tuesday, 18th October 2016
at the Heritage Centre

Present: Andrew Murray (AM), Terry Ashworth (TA), Ann Stevens (AS), Tony Armstrong (AA), Stephen Kent (SK), John Maiden (JM), Brian Holmes (BH), Sheila Kent (ShK), Margi Blunden (MB), Ivy Scales (IS), Alethea Gillard (AG), John Bridger (JB)

1. Apologies received from Adrian Winnington and Mavis Windibank
2. The minutes of the meeting on 5th September were approved and signed. There were no matters arising.
3. Correspondence, Planning and Town Council Report – The land at Old Town Way is now for sale as it is worth more with planning permission. 3 Councillors have resigned. Due to the piling work done by McCarthy and Stone, a large crack has appeared between a window and the Council chamber. The Town Hall front has been damaged to such an extent that the front needs to be taken down in sections and rebuilt. Great Yarmouth Heritage Trust are hosting a Seaside Heritage Conference on 20th October. AM is unable to attend. JB agreed to attend. We have received the latest Open Space and the Victorian magazines.
4. Treasurer's report – This is in 2 sections. Accounts up to 30th September and then from 1st to 18th October. £3,500 has been transferred from the Deposit account to Current Account. £3256.25 was sent to the Borough Council in respect of the Henry Le Strange Statue Fund. Heritage Centre still receiving donations. Balance as at 18th October on all Society cash and bank accounts totalled £14,450.23 The first draft of the accounts for the year show a deficit of £850.03.
5. Membership Renewals – These are still being received.
6. Website – We have had 55 hits over the last month. Nothing has been changed.
7. Heritage Centre – The end of season party went very well. 6 bottles of wine were left over which will go towards the AGM. Centre closes on 13th November. New displays are needed. Some research and displays will be done during the winter. We need a bigger TV and we now have a small computer which will sit under the TV. Donations taken during July, August and September are £265 higher than those taken last year.
8. Signage on approaches to town – The County Council want £1,700 for the sign. It would be better if we put the sign 'Victorian seaside town' nearer Sandringham Road. JM will try and get the money from the Council for the signs.
9. Consideration of proposals by Mr. Bridger regarding the way forward for the pier – JM introduced Mr. John Bridger. He proposed HCS set up a small working party to investigate this project. Draft proposals for building a new pier were handed round. Stage 1 would be to identify which piers have been restored or rebuilt within the last 5 to 10 years. We should visit organisations which have been involved and we would also need money to carry out a feasibility study. On 3rd November at Bishops Lynn House, Dong Energy are discussing bids for a fund of £465k/yr for 20 years and we should be eligible to bid for some of that money. Mr. John Bridger was co-opted onto the Committee.
10. Consideration of the dress and positioning of the statue of Henry Le Strange – Various designs of dress were looked at. He should not be dressed as an Admiral but as a Victorian gentleman. He should be placed somewhere near the Green. There is a meeting on 19th October.

11. Participation in the educational aspects of the HLF renovation of the Esplanade Gardens At a meeting a few weeks ago, 31 education activities have been suggested. HCS have been asked to participate in various education activities over a period of 3 years. We are not sure if we can commit ourselves for this amount of time. Activities include history workshops, town guide training, town guide tours, create a digital archive and on line resource, themed evening walks and exploration of the Le Strange archive.
12. Neighbourhood Plan – There will be a presentation day on 12th November from 10am to 6pm at the Community Centre. We hope to present the draft policies. Refreshments will be provided
13. Bus services to King’s Lynn – When Norfolk Green ran the bus service, there was a reciprocal arrangement that bus and train times were printed on each others timetable. Now the buses coming back to Hunstanton do not stop at the station. Lynx will now be going to the QE hospital but the Stagecoach service runs at almost the same times.
14. AGM arrangements on 14th December – TA and AS will arrange the food.
15. The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 15th November 2016 at 10.30am on the Council Offices, Valentine Road.
16. Canny Jones wishes to retire from gardening work at various public gardens in Hunstanton at the end of the year. We should acknowledge her support in some way. More volunteers are needed. MB will write an article for the next Hunstanton Town and Around. The railway bed needs more ballast.

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