

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

Committee meeting on Tuesday, 24th October 2017
at the Heritage Centre

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

1. Apologies for absence received from Amanda Bosworth(AB) and Judy Simmons(JS).
2. Minutes of meeting held on 26th September 2017 were agreed and signed, following amendment made to the total bank balance to read £14,582.24.
3. Correspondence, Planning and Town Council Report – The application by Bennett Homes for 3 extra points of access from the A149 opposite Old Town Way was refused, despite planning officers recommending approval. Work has started on the demolition of the Swain's building in Westgate. There are 2 vacancies on the Town Council due to the resignations of David Jones and Richard Bird. These will be dealt with by co-option on 17th Nov. BCKLWN wish to close the toilets at Old Hunstanton, they do not own the car park and, therefore, do not earn any money from this facility. One Public Estate – discussions are proceeding regarding the library, bus station, Southend Road car park, infant school, Oasis complex, Kit Kat site and the building of a budget hotel but no decisions have been made yet. A conference centre could boost all year round employment.
4. Treasurer's report – The bank balance for the Civic Society and Heritage Centre is £15,814.24. Draft statement of accounts for 2016/17 and balance sheet were handed round. We almost broke even on the main account, HHC surplus of £2200. The accounts will be passed to the auditor. A vote of thanks was given to SK.
5. Membership – We have 189 members. 20 members have not yet renewed and reminder letters will be sent.
6. Talks programme – There is one talk to be arranged. AA is waiting to hear from 3 potential speakers.
7. Website matters – 55 hits were received last month. A website has been set up for the pier – www.hhpct.org.uk .
8. Heritage Centre - Donations are now decreasing as it is now the end of the season. New car park passes are available. A donation of £50 has been paid to the McMillan Centre. There are 2 paintings of the lighthouse, one of which appeared on the front cover of Town and Around a few months ago and the artist is offering to lend us one for exhibition in the centre. This was thought to be a great idea and we will prepare a section on the history of the lighthouse. Volunteers party will be held on 29th October from 5pm to 7pm. John Smith will sell us various display boards, some of which have legs and some table top fold away. This was agreed and the total cost will be £370.

- A team meeting will be held to discuss what will need doing during the winter on Thursday, 16th November at 9.30am. Mustard TV has gone out of business.
9. Report from Civic Voice Convention – See report attached.
The next Civic day will be 23rd June 2018.
Dame Fiona Reynolds is giving the Sandys talk in London on 18th April 2018.
A vote of thanks was given to AM.
 10. Review of Heritage Trail leaflet - BH and SK have looked at this and it is now with JM for his comments. A new format will be considered.
 11. Esplanade gardens – There has been no response from Jason Richardson re the e-mail sent about the interpretation boards. AM will, again, ask for a meeting. The contents of the boards are not very good. Rosie Djurovic is re-locating. JB has ordered a framed picture of the cliffs for her as a leaving present. Everyone signed a card. A replacement will be engaged for the next 2 years.
 12. Pier progress – A presentation was made to the Hunstanton Coastal Community Team and there was a lot of interest but members requested some clarification. Queries will be sent via Jemma Curtis.
A bank account has been opened and charity status applied for.
 13. Report from railway project meeting – A meeting was held on 22nd October to inform local parishes. AM has some relevant books. The line from Wisbech to March is likely to be re-opened. Associated British Ports want to re-open the line from King's Lynn station to the port. A public consultation will be held on 2nd December at the Heritage Centre. A press release is being prepared at the moment and will be circulated when it has been agreed.
 14. Arrangements for AGM – This will start at 6.30pm. A buffet will be served followed by a talk on Astronomy. 65 persons will be catered for. £150 budgeted for catering.
 15. The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 21st November 2017 at 10am probably at the Heritage Centre.
 16. AOB – Various people are interested in attending an outing to the Norfolk Club in Norwich and names were given to JB.
Volunteers are needed to help MB & AS with the gardening.
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