

Hunstanton & District Civic Society

Ordinary Executive Meeting 9 September 2014 at 9.15 am At Hunstanton Heritage Centre PE36 5AH

Present: Margi Blunden (Acting Chair) John Little (Treasurer), Terry Ashworth, Martin Chown (Minutes), Ann Stevens, Norma Ham and Margaret Robinson.

1. Apologies and Election of Chair for this meeting: Andrew Murray, Ivy Scales.
Chair Margi Blunden

2. Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12 August approved and signed.

3. Secretary's Report – incorporating report from Town Council:

Planning Applications and Development:

13/00850/FM McCarthy & Stone – A planning Inspector is to hear the appeal against the failure of the Borough Council to make a determination beginning at 10.00 on Tuesday 9 September at the Borough Council Offices, in King's Lynn, on Wednesday 10 September the hearing will be at Bishop's Lynn House, 18 Tuesday Market Place. **Daniel Parton or John Maiden may speak.**

14/01022/FM Hopkins Homes have applied to develop land south of the Bennett's estate for 166 homes having main access from Hunstanton Road, Heacham.

Hunstanton Environmental Landscape Programme (HELP) have asked HCS to host a public meeting in Smithdon's school Hall to organise a campaign against this planning application, which is opposed by Hunstanton & District Civic Society; Heacham Parish Council; the Local Highway Authority; the Campaign to Protect Rural England; and Hunstanton Environmental Landscape Programme. This is so that residents of both Heacham and Hunstanton can express their opinions.

A discussion followed. Concerns were raised about the role of HCS in this controversial issue in the town, where some residents are at variance with the Town Council, which now favours the application. The point was strongly made that HCS should not become inappropriately involved, and that housing development is often opposed on principle, and HCS should not be seen to be negative. As this issue had developed over the summer months, there had been no opportunity for the Committee to consult the membership at a Talks evening. The Committee had discussed the development at previous meetings, and had submitted a detailed response to the application. (HCS has opposed the application on the grounds that it would in effect produce a community adjacent to Hunstanton but not integrated with it. The access from Hunstanton Road was not appropriate.)

The discussion revolved around the role that HCS might play. In the end it was put to the vote as to whether Hunstanton & District Civic Society would be willing to host the event at Smithdon, the principle being that it was the role of the public meeting to get the views of local residents, and for the meeting to decide whether or not to organise a campaign. If the meeting decided to organise a campaign it would not depend solely on HCS members. The Committee backed the HELP proposal on this basis by 5 votes to 2, and agreed to underwrite the hire of the hall as long as there was a collection of donations towards those costs from the attendees.

Correspondence

Spinney Tiles. Alistair Beales has confirmed the cost of the replacement tile is £155.00 plus VAT, as a corrected version showing Henry Le Strange's planned town of Hunstanton. (see item below)

HCS web-site is to be updated to incorporate a section on Heritage Centre
BC – Alistair Beales – Spinney Tile replacement cost £ 155 +vat
Cllr Paul is doing a survey concerning the town's toilets.
Norfolk Police newsletter
Rural services network news digest.
Regenerating Hunstanton news – Jemma Curtis

4. Treasurer's Monthly Report, Membership renewals:

Current a/c £712.06, deposit a/c £7,415.39, total **assets £8,127.45**

There was some discussion about the role of gift aid, and it was decided that John Little would speak about it at the next Talks evening.

Membership renewals

Terry Ashworth reported that all have gone out and some are coming back completed. The Committee voted thanks to Terry and Ann for organising it all so well.

5. Report from Hunstanton Heritage Centre Trust Item held over

6. Method of sale of Heritage Plaque, Ibberson, Ringstead Mill leaflets

MB suggested Heritage buys leaflets on block at 30p to sell on at 50p. Agreed unanimously.

7. Replacement of Inaccurate Ceramic Tile at Performance Area

The Committee took the view that the cost of replacement (see above) of £155.00 plus VAT was not the responsibility of HCS as the error had been made by others.

8. Progress on Projects

Update Web-site: Martin reported that he had created a lead article for the new page for the Heritage Centre, and also has updated the editorial for the existing pages. He said that he had been in conversation with David Jones about the method of making the necessary alterations. Some discussion ensued and it was decided to have the Website as an Agenda Item for the next meeting.

Ringstead Windmill's historical associations leaflet

Margi reported that Ringstead replacement leaflet has now been reprinted and corrections made. Apology from Margi and Ivy for printing too soon, although we had waited over two months for feedback from the owners.

Talks Evenings for Autumn 2014 / Spring 2015

Agreed to provide publicity to Dersingham Voice and Heacham Newsletter and John Little for facebook. LINK magazine and Brancaster newsletter

No further input on the following:

Re-location of Chapel Bank shelter

Input to Neighbourhood Plan

Heritage Open Day

9. Date of next committee meetings – Tues. 7 Oct. Tue/ Wed 11/12 Nov

10. AOB There was none.

The meeting closed at 10.20am