



Hastings Old Town Residents' Association

Committee meeting minutes

Wednesday 15th February at 88 Croft Road

Present

Dick Edwards, Richard Platt (minutes), Ann Novotny, Phil White, Hazel Lloyd, Vivien Harrison, Shirley Hawley, John Reynolds

Apologies

Richard Stevens, Christiane Gunzi, James Bacon, Dawn Poole, Satu Pitaken

Minutes

The committee had already received and read the minutes of meeting January 3rd. Corrections:

- **Matters Arising** delete 'seafront' and insert 'on street' before the word parking.
- **Planning Matters** the footpath is named TamariSK steps not TamariND

Matters Arising not listed separately below: none

Reports

Secretary RP + website: nothing new

Treasurer PW including membership. 120 members paid up. 33 new or returning. £1519.41 assets in total.

Chairman's Report

Old Town crime – Cllr James Bacon to follow up the failure of the Police & Crime Commissioner to reply to HOTRA correspondence. There has been no further news, so JB will raise either in the Labour Group, or in the council as a whole.

Surgery Petition 981 signatures already collected. The deadline has now been extended, so the total will exceed 1000.

Planning Committee meeting DE outlined his attendance at the meeting at which another petition, regarding Ecclesbourne Glen, was presented, and explained the relevance of this to the surgery petition.

Smaller fire appliances – there has been a reply from East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service via Amber Rudd but the response was stock and inadequate. A smaller appliance will not be available until 2018 and will be shared with Rye. The meeting asked DE to respond, raising the issue of fire service liability in the event of a fire, given that HOTRA has warned of the danger.

Croft Road – fly tipping + tree pruning. VH reported that she had emailed HBC every time there was fly tipping, and had removed rubbish herself.

Tipping in the woodland is the responsibility of Rangers, who are working to remove some of the rubbish.

Re cycling collection failures – glass in The Croft, paper in All Saints Street. DE emailed several responsible individuals, and received warm words in reply, but no result.

West Hill Community Centre – Has an AGM 22/3 @ 7.00. Everyone invited.

Strange letter to the Chairman. DE showed a letter from a former resident of the flat below his, accusing DE of abusing his position. It appears to be an eccentric fantasy.

New Fisheries Local Action Group grant of £800,000 towards regeneration on the beach. HOTRA will ask Dawn Pool to outline how the money will be spent.

Planning matters

57 Croft Road. Applied for permission to change to a "home-tel". Owner Shaun Clarkson is rumoured to be planning to market it as a party house. A HOTRA member has raised concerns about potential noise and disturbance and Hastings council is involved.

Future programme

Committee 14/3 @ 18 High Street;
11/4 @ Hazels, 98 All Saints St.

AGM 5th May in the Stade Hall.

Discussion of who might be guest speaker ? DE suggested the Leader of East Sussex County Council; RP proposed a local Celebrity.

Members' concerns

AN toilet closures. DE will write on behalf of HOTRA

PW new methods of payment to supplement cheques: possibly direct payment via FPS.

SH a new, bigger lifeboat fits into the boathouse and will arrive in 18 months.

Any other business

High Sheriff Michael Foster is having a thank you reception and invites committee members on March 24.

WI markets A £300 charge has been proposed for checking kitchens. This would make the market uneconomic for almost all contributors. DE to write to the Country Markets Association who will forward his contribution to the organisation arranging the the consultation.