



## Hastings Old Town Residents' Association

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday September 13th 2017 at 17-18 High Street

#### Attendance

Dick Edwards (chair), Bruce Nicol, Richard Platt (minutes) John Reynolds, Ann Novotny, Shirley Hawley, Hazel Lloyd, Christiane Gunzi, James Bacon, Vivien Harrison

#### Apologies

from Phil White,

#### Minutes of 6/7/17

Had been circulated and were approved as a full and accurate record. No matters arising not listed below

#### Reports

##### Secretary

RP + website: nothing to report

##### Treasurer

(in absentio ...PW)

Paid 2017	191
2017 New or returning Members	64
No.of donations (2017)	7
Value of donations (£)	£60.00
Balance at bank	£1,461.05
To be paid in cheques	£10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,471.05</b>

Less £280 to be paid to printers

##### Chairman's Report

###### • Surgery

There had been a good turnout of members at council meeting and people were well behaved. DE warned that no further progress is likely before Easter. The practice is likely to have 7100 patients. There will be at least 3 GPs and possibly as many as 6. Dr Chopra's patients will also join.

###### • Coastal users group September 5th meeting

More coastal communities funds money likely to be coming in. Harbour bar work has been delayed by a barge crashing in Dover Harbour.

Lifeguards scheme has been passed to RNLI. The volunteer lifeguards have been hit quite hard and their representative was dismayed by the way they had been treated.

###### • Hastings Harbour quarter

At the Hastings Council cabinet meeting Peter Chowney said that so little

was clear that HBC could not yet take a position. He set out a number of red lines (preconditions for council support) that must not be crossed. The challenge of the Rock-a-Nore location is enormous.

Comparisons with other schemes and their success or otherwise...

Developers at Brighton Marina went bust twice.

DE wrote to Peter Chowney and has received a reply. He raised the issue of the necessity of a school.

There was a wide ranging discussion.

RP asked how much of the affected land is owned by the Foreshore Trust, and proposed that, since HBC is the sole trustee, they cannot be regarded as independent.

RP read from questions that Andrew Colquhoun had sent to Peter Chowney, and PC's reply.

DE described the harbour scheme as a bridge too far. He took comfort from the fact that central government does not have the funds to provide the necessary finance.

- **Public Space Protection Orders**

- **Swan Gardens**

- Brian Green from *Robert's Rummage* has been cleaning Swan Gardens for several years. He has recently been despairing over how much damage has been done. Police have been called but do not have the resources to respond. AN will circulate DE's report to the All Saints church PPC. Lead has been stolen from the roof of the church hall five times.

- Amber Rudd has written to DE telling him that the police will "try to do more".

- DE said that the PSPO is not being enforced, and was critical of a scheme that raised hope that the situation would improve.

- The kids involved are not from the Old Town. JB said some are from St Leonards and even Essex. Ownership of Swan Gardens was questioned -- it is HBC. There was a proposal to put a larger rubbish bin in there

- **Begging**

- After the imposition of PSPO, beggars initially left their spot outside Turners, but they are now on George St. They are not begging aggressively.

- **Croft Road one way scheme**

- DE outlined the survey. RP outlined online results and read some comments.

- DE confessed that he had naively thought it would be simple, but had found that opponents are very vehement.

- CG raised the issue of large lorries on the High Street.

- VH pointed out that a corpse had been found in the neglected woodland at the top of Croft Road.

- DE listed other Old Town areas that are neglected.

## **Planning matters**

BN apologised for the fact that he had not monitored planning issues because his internet connection has been out of order

## **Members' Concerns**

**VH:** drunken behaviour on bank holiday made the Junction of George St and the High St feel very threatening. Needs more policing.

**JR:** estate agent boards -- too many.

## **Future Programme**

**Committee** 10 October at 5.00 at Eight and a Half Exmouth Place (TBC)

14 November at Newenden, 88 Croft Road

## **AOB**

Mary Platt was thanked for the splendid scones