



Hastings Old Town Residents' Association

MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 10th October at 5.00 at 98 All Saints Street.

Attendance

Apologies from Phil White, James Bacon, Shirley Hawley, John Reynolds, Dawn Poole, Tania Charman, Vivien Harrison

Present Dick Edwards (chair), Bruce Nicol, Richard Platt (minutes), Ann Novotny, Hazel Lloyd, Christiane Gunzi

Minutes of 13/9/17

...and any Matters Arising not included below

DE reported that Dawn Poole has followed through on beggars, and is hoping for some progress on this issue and on curtailing the proliferation of estate agents' signs.

Reports

Treasurer

Awaiting report from PW

Chairmans Report

Public Space Protection Orders – Swan Gardens – shrubs have been cut back and street lights repaired and this has led to some improvement. The police have also visited the gardens, which has also helped.

DE read from a Letter from St Clement's churchwardens about behaviour in St Clements churchyard. The following are proposals to make the churchyard less amenable to anti-social behaviour.

- Remove overgrown shrubs
- Enclose steps to boiler room
- Fenced access area behind the east end of church with locked gates.
- Fence the edge of the crypt light well for public safety.
- Movement-actuated security lighting and cameras in the area adj to the Old Town Hall.

DE proposed we suggest getting together a rota for locking the church gates.

Foreshore Trust AGM 25/9 – report

DE outlined the history of the FT and its structure. At the AGM he had questioned the retention of £1.3 million in cash at the bank, and the size of grants will consequently rise from £70k to £90k.

Croft Road survey on suggestion of a one-way scheme – there was an initial discussion of returns. RP will summarise the report [NB attached at end] and ask the County Council to consider measures to control and calm

traffic, but not explicitly recommend one way working. We should draw HBC attention to the issue of taxis using Croft Road. We will review at the November meeting.

Smaller size fire appliance – DE will attend meeting 19/10 at Bohemia Fire station.

Planning matters

BN reported...

Roebuck Centre - Ken Davis architect invited to November meeting

Roof garden in Croft Road - no grounds for objection

Wall at 77 the Bourne - no objection

22 Hill St: no objection to the removal of hoarding

1 East Parade - uPVC windows to be replaced with timber - no objection

Members concerns

CG Large lorries on High Street. Also asked about change to parking restrictions outside 17 to 22 High Street. DE said it might take 12 months

AN Benches behind new lifeboat at the end of All Saints St. Too many benches, inappropriate position. **ACTION** DE will talk to Deeday

Future programme

Committee Tues 14/11 @ Phil's 8½ Exmouth Place; Tues 12/12 @ Bruce's

Items for November Old Town Parish News

Churchyard, Foreshore Trust, Croft Road survey.

Addendum

Croft Road survey summary

Responses to HOTRA's Croft Road Traffic Survey have finally trickled to a stop, so here are the results...

Of all Old Town residents who responded 57 agree that there is a traffic problem in Croft Road; just 14 disagreed. There was also a majority in favour of a one-way scheme, though support for this was not so marked: 48 of you thought it would help, but 23 disagreed.

Croft Road residents' responses were similar to everyone else's when asked if there was a problem (13 agreed, 3 didn't), but their views were almost evenly divided about one-way working. Nine were in favour and eight against.

On the question about direction, 44 preferred uphill, and 19 downhill. Croft Road residents favoured uphill to downhill 9:3.

But it was what you all wrote in the comments section that really brought out the strength of feeling about this issue. Broadly speaking, the comments were polarised into those who thought this was a brilliant idea that should have been introduced years ago; and those who were equally adamant that it was a hare-brained idea that would make things worse and cause traffic chaos!

There were, however, some views that came up repeatedly...

- Taxis are the main culprits for speeding
- One way working would encourage speeding because motorists would know that nothing was coming the other way.
- The junctions with the High Street, and Hill Street are especially dangerous

- Thoughtless, illegal parking makes the problem worse
- If a one-way scheme is introduced, it should cover only the narrowest section in the middle

Given the strength of feeling on this issue, and the equal division of opinion among Croft Road residents, HOTRA does not feel that we can unequivocally recommend a one-way scheme to the County Council. We propose instead to present them with the results of this survey, and highlight the fact that the overwhelming majority of Old Town Residents feel there is a traffic problem. We believe the County Council should carry out a proper traffic survey and consultation, and bring forward proposals that would reduce the risk for pedestrians and motorists.