



Hastings Old Town Residents Association

Minutes of management committee meeting 9th January 2018 at East Hill House.

Attendance

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

A small celebration

The committee congratulated DE on his recent MBE.

Minutes

...of the meeting held 12/12/17 and any Matters Arising not listed below.

DE expressed frustration at the lack of progress on public order, begging, rough sleeping.

PW asked DP to investigate why Swan Gardens bins are not being emptied. DP explained that Kier are negligent because they are losing the contract.

DP reported that the wall on Salter's Path/Love Lane is subject to enforcement action.

Reports

Secretary – RP including website: nothing

Treasurer PW including membership: 8 renewals and 2 new members this week.

Chairman's Report

Hastings Opportunity Area – further details of the background and plans including the picture in local schools. DE summarised the poor state of Hastings schools. He expanded on what he wrote in the January newsletter. He outlined proposals for a more effective apprenticeship scheme.

Emily Westley will be the speaker at the HOTRA AGM. He went on to stress that more resources are needed for mental health support. There will also be specific budget for maths and literacy.

Campaign for Coordinated Parking – DE summarised parking problems in the Old Town and asked what our next steps should be. There was a wide ranging discussion. DP explained the difficulty of making changes and why they took so long.

Meeting re drug suppliers with Chief Inspector Curry scheduled for 31/1 at the History House in Courthouse Street.

Rock a Nore pavements – call to ESCC for clear programme of works. DE will confer with the county councillors to ensure that proper repairs are made before the Ice House Surgery opens.

Planning Matters

Security lights on rear of Old Town Hall. No objection.

Opening hours at 50 George St (Seed) for take-away – up to 01.00am Fri & Sat nights. DE suggested objecting but DP instead urged DE to talk to the owner first.

Members' concerns

DE: **Railings** Old Humphrey Avenue, Oxford Terrace, All Saints Street. Have not been painted. DE will propose reprinting to the County Council.

AN: poor decorative order of **Lloyd's chemist**

RP: Suggestion: **widening of walkway on beach edge at Pelham**. He will produce proposal

PW: fell down **pothole on Hill Street**. Names mis-spelled on Swan Gardens casualty board.

VH: Snowflake night shelter: **reported several fatalities** among rough sleepers.

Future Programme

Meeting re Drugs as above 31 January

Committee meetings

13 Feb at HL's, 98 All Saints St

13 March at VH's Newenden, 88 Croft Road

AGM Friday 11 May

AOB

Vehicle arson on Croft Road. JB and DP reported that HBC was investigating but no progress yet.

DE corrected the impression he gave in the newsletter that **Ore Library** would close. The decision is not yet final. The HOTRA website will correct this and provide a link to the campaign to keep it open.

DE paid tribute to DP who is soon retiring as a councillor.

DE thanked the committee for their support about his MBE.