

MINUTES OF HOTRA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 5pm

Attendance: Dick Edwards, Phil White, Ann Novotny, Jill Bradley (JMB), Hazel Lloyd, John Reynolds, Cllr. Dany Louise, Vivien Harrison, Mary Phillips.

Apologies: Richard Platt, Shirley Hawley, Cllr. James Bacon.

Minutes of 8 January 2019 meeting: approved. HBC awaiting response from Natural England re proposed solar panels in Hastings Country Park.

Reports

Secretary/Website: No reports from RP in his absence.

Membership: 118 paid-up members, 29 new/returning. 2 donations totalling £5. 61% paid by cheque, 39% cash, no-one paid by bank transfer. 83% gave email addresses. Bank balance is £744.59, with £20 cash to be paid in, totalling £764.59.

Chairman's Report

Isabel Blackman Centre Update

Report of Stakeholders Meeting on 17 January 2019. Represented were Magdalene & Lasher, Hastings & St Leonards Seniors Forum, Sussex Community Development Association, HOTRA, Age UK, HVA, Isabel Blackman Foundation, Housing for the Elderly. Discussions were positive, although it is not possible to take on running of the Centre as is due to cost of any redundancy payments. Focus will be on the building: how it can be used for older people and the wider community – possible future partnerships. Access and control must be retained and growing needs of older people must be recognised. DE has registered HOTRA's support re registering it as community asset to HBC. Lots of bookings for use of 1st floor, how can that be increased. HVA attempted to discover what plans ESCC has, apparently their commercial dept. had been instructed to put the IBC on the market ... Situation has very detrimental effect on elderly people living there, no "alternative provisions" available locally. £730,000 cut by ESCC in their social services budget very worrying.

Proposed Sale of St Clements Church House

Difficult building with dangerous access straight onto road. HOTRA will not object to proposed sale.

Jerwood Gallery

2 years ago formed into registered charity. Difference of opinion between Gallery and Jerwood Foundation about its day to day running. Future is optimistic as Gallery can adapt using temporary exhibitions if current collection is removed.

Amber Rudd News Update January 2019

All agreed DE to email HOTRA members inviting them to respond individually to Amber Rudd's offer and raise IBC. DE will also send letter on behalf of HOTRA.

HBC Proposed Cuts: DE requested list of cuts and their likely impact before HOTRA's March Committee Meeting. Cllr. Dany Louise suggested attending full HBC meeting on 20 February (open to public) as cuts very complex. DE will attend.

Planning Matters: Volunteer needed please to take this on (JMB declined). Proposal for balcony at Croft House, The Croft: JB to visit property and report back to DE before end of next week.

Future Programme

Sussex College now run Stade Hall. Reduction for hire to £60 for HOTRA AGM on Thursday 9 May.

Next Committee Meeting is **Monday 11 March at Jill's – 112 The Bourne**. Tuesday 9 April possibly at Phil's.

Members Concerns/News

Work has started on new Rock-a-Nore Surgery. State of pavements critical, but no parking surplus available this year.

AGM of West Hill & District Community Association on 20 March at 7pm at Community Centre. All are welcome. Jack-in-the-Green 4/6 May, and new West Hill Heritage Festival 20/22 September. Storytelling Festival to be 12/13 October this year.

Wall light at 8 Starrs Cottages hanging by a cable. ESCC removed lamp instead of repairing it. Passageway very dark.

Meeting closed at 6.24 pm. Thanks to Dick for his hospitality.