

HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday 26 August 2020 in the Morris Room, St Clement's Church

Attendance: Dick Edwards, Jill Bradley, Cllr. James Bacon, Shirley Hawley, Tim McEwan (potential new committee member), John Reynolds, Cllr. Dany Louise, Ann Novotny

Apologies: Phil White, Hazel Lloyd

Minutes of 10 March committee meeting approved unanimously.

Matters Arising: Vivien Harrison has stood down from the Committee. DE to write expressing our thanks for her support over the past four years.

Reports

Treasurer's report: in PW's absence, DE read his email detailing 161 paid-up members (36 new or returning), and £25 donations. 80% of membership fees are paid by cheque, and 87% of members have email. Balance at bank is £1,012.69.

Secretary's report: none.

Chairman's Report

1. How can we complete AGM business? September newsletter to include reduced AGM agenda and nominations request for position of Chairman (with brief description of role and definite date for return of nominations). To be hand delivered with due care for Covid-19 precautions. Then Extraordinary Management Committee Meeting to be held to sign off accounts and appoint new Chairman and any new Management Committee Members. Management Committee email addresses to be included in newsletter for members to contact with any concerns. JB suggested a Plan B is needed in case of no nominations for Chairman. DE said each Committee Member (in alphabetical order) would take the Chair for one month.
2. How should we operate over the coming months? It was unanimously agreed Management Meetings would continue and be held at St Clement's Church. AN to bring potential new member to next Management Meeting.
3. What does a Vice Presidency mean? DE would like to take role of VP and be the named link for Isabel Blackman Centre on Management Committee. All agreed.
4. How do we keep members informed? A new online mail system is proposed.

Isabel Blackman Centre

New company being set up limited by guarantee, underwritten by Hastings Seniors Forum, AGE UK East Sussex, HVA, and HOTRA. Lloyds Bank branch in Edinburgh very helpful

and new account is up and running. When Charity Commission issue a number letters can be sent requesting pledged donations. Independent valuation of property required, which agreed with ESCC's £450,000. Hopefully keys will be available in September, and IBC to open two days per week with Management Team run by AGE UK East Sussex. Tea/coffee, lunches, advice and transport available (to be paid for). Also, Central Hall (next to Bodyshop) to open two days a week. Both venues will support 1,476 pensioners living in poverty in Hastings. IBC will then be available for hire to local groups for meetings etc. HSBCC asked to confirm two parking bays for kitchen deliveries and five opposite – their support for the IBC at no cost. Many thanks to DE for his hard work.

Swan Gardens

JB says HBCC would like to take it over in the long term, meantime JB asks any concerns regarding maintenance etc. please report on MyHastings website. Brian Green works hard to clear up mess – thank you.

Members Concerns

- York stone paving taken out from Croft Road to Sinnock Square where SSE are installing new mains must be replaced. JB to contact ESCC Highways.
- In High Street from Turners to Land of Green Ginger pavement very patched with loose stones. Is this on list of work to be done?
- Fagins have put up menu blackboard on Hastings Wall. Is this acceptable?
- Land grab along The Stade – pathway by boating lake still unusable and another ride has appeared.
- Scaffolding in George Street – JB trying to get information on what's happening.
- Rubbish still not being removed along The Bourne. JB discovered it's not on a cleaning rota! In-house cleaning contract supposed to be better. Thanks to JB for hard work trying to sort this out.
- Steps down to Tackleway from East Hill not weeded and slippery in wet weather, dangerous. JB to find out who is responsible for maintenance.

Future Programme

Next Management Committee Meeting will be **Wednesday 16 September in the Morris Room, St Clement's Church**. Future meetings: Wednesdays 14 October and 11 November

Meeting finished at 17.05.

Post-meeting note from Secretary: I have omitted usual logo awaiting decision on name of future President to be discussed in next Management Committee Meeting.