

**HASTINGS OLD TOWN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE CLIVE MORRIS
ROOM, ST CLEMENTS CHURCH, TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2021**

Dick chaired the meeting and welcomed Patricia Bond to her first Committee Meeting. We hope she will join us.

Attendance: Dick Edwards, Jill Bradley, John Reynolds, Ann Novotny, Ady Maylam, Shirley Hawley, Raquel Lebron, Sam Taylor, Cllr. James Bacon. Patricia Bond attended as an observer.

Apologies: Phil White, Mary Phillips, Cllr. Julia Hilton.

In her absence Cllr. Hilton sent the following email message to Jill:

"If I don't get back in time could you give my apologies and also flag up a meeting on **Saturday 6 November at 12.00 pm** that I am hosting, at All Saints Hall, where Roddy Crockett from Sustrans will be talking about how we can create liveable neighbourhoods from the bottom up, making our streets safer for active travel and exploring ways to cut car dependency through for example, car clubs. Followed by a bread and soup lunch by donation. Also, James and I are hoping to be running a consultation on Swan Gardens re-planting on Friday 15 October from 4.30 – 6.00 pm. Venue TBC. We are not sure if St Clement's Church will be easily accessible due to the scaffolding so the new venue The Nest may be an alternative possibility but I haven't had a chance to talk to them yet. James may have more info by tomorrow evening. Finally, the Clean Water Action Group are running a People's Assembly to plan future campaigns against sewage being discharged in our water by Southern Water on Thursday 7 October from 18.30 – 20.30. Eventbrite link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/clean-water-action-peoples-assembly-tickets-177545502377?aff=erelexpmlt>."

Dick mentioned the Auditor's report unavailable at the AGM will be put on the website.

Dick asked for any volunteers to be Chair following the resignation of Sarah Forrest due to work commitments. Sam Taylor volunteered again, and was proposed by Raquel and seconded by Ady. All present voted in favour, except for one abstention on the grounds of concern that the right candidate had been identified this time given the very short tenure of the previous Chair and suggestion of a trial period until the end of the year. This was overruled. Therefore, Sam is the new Chair of HOTRA subject to approval by the membership at the next AGM.

WORK PLAN

Membership and communication with members: we all need to recruit new members. A draft newsletter was circulated: thanks to Ady Raquel and Sam for their work. Suggestions to encourage new members include re-launching discounts with local traders, special monthly offers at a designated shop/restaurant. "Join us and get benefits!" please ensure Phil is involved in this. Newsletters will be emailed, with paper copies delivered to those not on the internet and put on noticeboards, in the launderette, etc, and will include a membership form. Requests for permission to email newsletters will be emailed beforehand to comply with Data Protection. Reasons to join will be on the form (HOTRA's achievements and campaigns). **ACTION: Ady/Raquel/Sam**

The Nest: Dick attended the opening and was impressed. 7 jobs have been created for younger people. Sally Gregg is keen to get activities up and running. Sam to write a letter of congratulation from HOTRA. Regarding alcohol licence concerns, naivety around

accepting an events licence vs advertising a non-alcohol venue was acknowledged.

ACTION: Sam

Anti-social behaviour in St Clements Churchyard and Swan Gardens: Cllr. Bacon met with PCOs and others in September. Recently things have quietened down. Let's hope that continues.

Swan Gardens brown tailed moth consultation: to be held on 15 October at 4.30pm at The Nest. Donations from community in memory of others killed there could be considered and appropriate plants chosen.

Southern Water: HOTRA's Resolution will be considered at the Coastal Users Group Meeting re-scheduled for 12 October.

Potholes and pavements: Post Office Passage is still outstanding. The resident of No. 2 corner of The Croft and Croft Road has been trying to get a safety guard to protect his home and pavement damage from vehicles. **Action: Cllr. Bacon**

Vice President's Report - Isabel Blackman Centre

Matters are progressing.

Secretary's Report

Jill had emailed congratulations to Kevin Boorman and his team at HBC for the new high quality directional signage on the East Hill and information board about Minnis Rock. The vegetation and drains had also been cleared. She will send HOTRA's thanks too.

ACTION: JILL

Treasurer's Report

Phil had reported before the meeting that membership remains the same as last month at 108 and the bank balance figures remains the same at £1,557.49.

Planning Matters

No update on scaffolding in All Saints Street.

Other Matters

Concern expressed by nearby resident about the Balcony Bar above Webbes wanting a licence variation for 10am to 11pm. Would HOTRA support an objection? Dick said yes.

Licensing review needs scrutiny. It appears the same policy as that of 5 years ago is being re-adopted.

John thanked those involved for clearing vegetation at the top of The Croft. Drains need cleaning.

Patricia offered to give her CV and business card to Sam.

Next Committee Meetings: 2 November, 7 December.

Meeting finished at 18.05.

Post-meeting note: Jill requested thanks from the Committee to Richard Platt for his assistance with the website for the past few years. A card and small gift will be given to him in appreciation.

