

## **Minutes of the Bexhill Heritage Committee Meeting**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

**Attendees:** Raymond Konyon, Steve Johnson, Alexis Markwick, Simon Allen, Paul Lendon,  
David Beales, Paul Wright

**Apologies:** Emily Leach

**There were no matters arising from the minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

### **1. Committee membership**

Paul Wright explained that long-standing health problems would necessitate his resignation from the committee. Paul stated that he remained committed to Bexhill Heritage and might be able to offer help when able. Paul was thanked for his work to date and received good wishes from all present. It was agreed that Paul L should be co-opted to the committee as Media and Marketing Officer. As a co-opted member, Paul would be required to stand down at the 2019 AGM but could be nominated for re-election to the committee should he wish to stand.

### **2. Finance**

SJ presented a financial update which showed the charity's financial position as continuing to be stable. £140 had been expended on the Bexhill Youth Centre clock but an anticipated grant from the Youth Centre trust would cover this.

### **3. Correspondence**

#### **a. Bexhill Carnival**

In response to an appeal from Stuart Earl, it was agreed to join in the discussion of how the carnival might develop for 2019.

**Action:**

- RK to reply
- DB to find member who might like to attend meetings and report back.

#### **b. Pages Gap winning system**

In response to a letter from, Keith Rhodes, it was agreed to lend support to a commemoration of the Pages Gap winning system. SJ suggested that we should beware of using the term 'spastic' in this context even though the 'Spastics Society' was involved in the development of the original ramp.

**Action: RK to reply**

#### **c. Alice Brown**

Ms Brown, a leading architect, had joined BH but was not ready to be an active member. No action required.

#### **d. Geoff Bennett**

Geoff Bennett, a planner, was thought to be keen to meet with the committee with a view to involvement. No date had been set as yet.

### **4. Fixed information point**

It had not been possible to secure one of the BT phone boxes in Devonshire Square as BT was generating income from the box by using it for advertising. There was some disquiet about whether

this detracted from the ambience of the Square and whether appropriate permissions, if required, had been sought and granted.

Paul Lendon reported on the possibility of BH contributing to a share of the £9,000 p.a. lease for the former Earl's Bakery in Western Road to secure a central 'base'. It was felt that the cost would be beyond our means currently but that the use of window space for a display would be welcome if it could be arranged.

The committee felt that a better prospect for a permanent base would be use of the Heritage Hub planned for the western-most shelter on East Parade. A meeting with RDC had already explored this possibility and, if RDC's bid the Heritage Lottery Fund is successful, BH might secure the ideal base. In the meantime, the committee agreed to keep all options open.

**Action:**

- AM to ask Ian Hollidge about BT phone kiosk advertising in Devonshire Square.
- PL to investigate town centre window display space.
- SJ to meet with AM to plan window display for temporary space at Methodist Church.
- SJ to bid the police lost-property fund to finance the display which should be portable.

#### **5. Pop ups and information point**

The use of the Methodist Church had started well. They are happy to provide a venue and window display space has also been made available.

It was agreed to maintain contact with and maintain a presence at St. Barnabas and to continue with 'pop ups'.

**Action:**

- DB to maintain contact with the Methodist minister.
- As to produce poster for St Barnabas sessions. SJ to print.

#### **6. Ravenside Roundabout**

RK had shared concerns with Ian Hollidge. It was agreed to add 'Bexhill in Bloom' to our letter.

**Action:**

- RK to draft letter and circulate to committee for comment.
- RK to enlist support from RDC and ESCC.4

#### **7. Events**

##### **a. Bexhill 100**

**Action:**

SJ / AM to meet at 9am. RK to bring gazebo. SJ to bring chairs, collection box and leaflets.

##### **b. Members' meeting / newsletter**

It was agreed that a newsletter should be issued as soon as possible and that it should include information about the members' meeting and the East Parade shelters. AM stated that he had the newsletter in hand. It was agreed to publicise the members' meeting as a matter of urgency. The hall had been booked and the speaker was bringing a projector. It was agreed that the Chair would invite questions from members to the committee rather than to prepare particular office-holder contributions.

**Action:**

- AM to email a reminder to members asap.
- SJ to produce media release publicising the members' meeting and send to PL.
- SJ to provide 'backing paper' and blutack to construct a makeshift screen.

##### **c. Sea Festival**

**Action:**

- RK to contact the organiser to confirm.

- SJ to prepare further leaflets and to act as 'lead' on Day 2. (It was thought that the gazebo could remain erected.)

#### **d. Heritage Walks**

Planned for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019. To be led by BH and BOTPS. Ticketed event.

#### **Action:**

- RK to contact BOTPS for event planner representative.

### **8. Projects**

#### **a. West Station Clock**

Nick Perry keen to visit tower. Video of restoration in progress.

#### **Action:**

- SA to arrange visit via leaseholder.
- AM to design commemorative poster.

#### **b. Bexhill Youth Centre Clock**

SA reported work on the clock frame which he now thought would be best fitted as a single unit. Replacement glass would replicate the original. It was agreed that there should be an 'official opening'.

#### **Action:**

- SA to approach Paul, the YC manager, over dates for an official opening.
- SJ to liaise with Mayor's office once possible dates are identified.

#### **c. Commemorative Bus Shelter**

SJ reported that a reminder had been sent to RDC but no response to date.

#### **Action:**

- SJ to raise in person at September meeting with RDC (Joe Powell) as necessary.

### **9. Engaging members**

DB had completed most of his phone calls. Positive responses received. SJ had planned his calls for early September.

#### **Action:**

- SJ to arrange to meet DB to produce final list of potential member contributions.

### **10. Planning**

#### **a. Cemetery Lodge**

DB reported that he had attended a worthwhile meeting. The plan was to retain and extend the Lodge. He was awaiting details of a further meeting.

#### **b. Sovereign Light**

This plan had been approved. No further action on the plan itself but DB to challenge RDC why approval given prior to the end of the official time for responses.

#### **c. Victoria Hall**

DB had circulated draft letter of objection to the committee. This would now be sent.

#### **d. Spindlewood**

Application process currently stalled. Nothing further to report as yet.

#### **e. Sea Angling Club**

Objection made on the basis that a more appropriate design would be preferred and that we're ready to help / advise in this regard.

**f. Replacement windows**

Pending - meeting with RDC conservation officer required to develop policy.

**g. Local List**

Awaiting EL's return from France.

**h. Little Common – former Co-op shop**

DB to draft objection.

**11. AOB – including items for next agenda**

- a. Agreed to keep RDC as an 'associate' rather than as a 'partner'.
- b. Broad Oak store visit. Agreed to raise as a meeting with Joe Powell of RDC on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- c. Trustees' meeting planned for September 4<sup>th</sup> to be changed to 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. SJ to consult EL.
- d. PL asked for a discussion of Bexhill Telephone Exchange and its anniversary.
- e. DB asked for a discussion of how best to encourage Spindlewood objectors to join BH.
- f. PL offered to investigate the ownership of the heritage photos at the Sackville Hotel whose owner seems very sympathetic to heritage issues. PL to also investigate the possible renovation of the motor race timing station. PL suggested the Sackville Bistro as a venue for a committee meal.

**Date of next meeting:**

Monday 24th September 7pm – 9pm

37 Woodville Road