

MINUTES OF THE BEXHILL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2018

ATTENDEES: Raymond Konyon (Chair), Simon Allen, David Beales, Steve Johnson, Paul Lendon, Alexis Markwick, Tony Teehan

APOLOGIES: Emily Leach

The Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting held on 24th September were signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

ACTION/LEAD

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 24TH SEPTEMBER

- i) Bexhill Carnival** – David Slim and Lee Goubert were liaising with The Carnival Committee to help regenerate the Parade. RK liaising with them. RK
- ii) Window Display** – RK had spoken to Redwell Estates about placing static displays in empty shops. It appears that Rother District Council (RDC) would expect anyone doing this to be liable for NNDR and utility bills which would render this impossible. RK would provide text for a flyer for circulation to Estate Agents promoting tidy window displays, AM would design this flyer and SJ would arrange printing. RK to distribute on a one to one basis with Estate Agent managers. RK
AM
SJ
- iii) Roller Banner** – this is currently on display in Sackville Methodist Church and available for use at events etc. AM
- iv) Ravenside Roundabout** – due to Health and Safety considerations the regeneration of this Roundabout would cost c.£20,000. The issue was due for discussion at the next Town Forum Meeting.
- v) Membership Renewal** – SJ to draft a letter for RK to send to renewing members. SJ to investigate the establishment of a BH Locality Card offering discounts at local businesses. RK to run this idea past the Neighbourhood Watch Committee, as they had a similar scheme. SJ
RK
- vi) Base for BH** – No news on East Parade Shelters HLF bid, which may incorporate a heritage centre. SJ to meet Rother Voluntary Action to see if they have any space available. SJ
- vii) West Station Clock Commemorative Poster** – SJ had poster framed. Station House is up for sale so cast some doubt on whether the poster should be sited in Eras of Style, eventually decided to get SA ask if it could be placed in the Café. SJ to organise an unveiling with Patrons and Councillors. SJ
SA
- viii) Fire Safety** – Mike French is leading.

2. FINANCE

Currently have 188 members. Donation of £20,00 from Bexhill 100 Motoring Club. Total income now £4,062:09. Charity Commissioners registration threshold is £5,000, however some BH funds were ring-fenced and therefore not applicable for inclusion in any Charity Commissioners figure. AM to add HMRC Charity Number to the Website. SJ
AM

3. CORRESPONDENCE, METINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- i) Letter from Clock Tower Court (CTC)** – This suggests the reestablishment of the bell into the Clock Tower. TT, who lives locally, said he had informally canvassed neighbours who were not enamoured with the SJ

idea. RK has asked CTC if they have canvassed flats opposite them in Park Avenue but has yet to hear back. Needs feasibility study for RDC. Clock is in need of repair as the clock faces are currently suffering from water ingress. SJ will update RDC on condition.

ii) Joe Powell RDC – Trustees had met Joe Powell and had a positive exchange. He has delegated day to day issues to Deborah Keneally and Lindsay Goodwill. Outstanding issues like the List of Assets and ownership of the De La Warr bus shelter needed resolution. RK
SJ
AM
EL

iii) David Dennis, BH Remit – The Friends of Coombe Valley have asked if BH should extend its remit to include Crowhurst and Coombe Valley. It was agreed that RK would send letter of support for their work and adopt a watching brief. Any extension of remit would require a change to the constitution and agreement of the AGM. RK

4. EVENTS

i) Members Meetings

a) Need to consult members on the best uses of the Bexhill 100 £2,000. RK to draw up list of projects for them to consider. RK

b) It was agreed that meetings in 2019 should be staggered throughout the week, rather than always on the same day, to allow members with other standing commitments an opportunity to attend.

c) SJ spoke to Mike French about Raffles. He will take £25 from the Raffle funds for prizes. Raffles to be held at the Quiz Night and Members Meeting on 10th December. SJ

ii) Quiz Night – Tickets were selling slowly. 50 buffets had been booked so this number may need to be reduced nearer the time. Need to promote Quiz Night at Members Meeting. RK to ask Madeleine to promote on social media. SA agreed to loan a projector for the evening. RK
SA

iii) Coffee Mornings – RK to ask Madeleine and possibly Val if they would be interested in organising coffee mornings with a view to providing social events with short talks, to be held at Quakers Meeting House (cost £15).

iv) Heritage Walks and Talks Day 21 September 2019 – Manor Barn is being provided free of charge. SJ compiling programme with Key Note by Bexhill Museum Director followed by optional break out groups, including indoor and outdoor activities. RK to follow up possible additional speakers including Geoff Hutchinson on Martello Towers and Friends of Coombe Valley. RK
SJ

v) Bexhill 100 – RK asked about seafront programme in 2019 and is awaiting a response. RK

5. PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES

i) West Station Clock – everything running fine, suggesting SA offer Bexhill Museum the material on the clock. Exploring the possibility of lighting the clock, need to ask membership if there are any qualified electricians who might help. SA

ii) Bexhill Youth Centre – also running fine, needs annual inspection. SA also investigating lighting. SA

iii) Memorial Bus Shelter – SJ to find out who owners are and investigate if Highways England are able to award this project a heritage grant. SJ

iv) Sackville Methodist Church – AM and DB visited. The Church has a brick Tower with a wooden spire. Tower has several slit windows which AM

might be illuminated. Can't access Tower due to bird droppings, but electricity is available at least half-way up the Tower. Costings for any work are currently unknown as are any likely contributions. AM and RK will clear pigeon droppings, with strict adherence to Health and Safety considerations. DB
RK

6. HEATH AND SAFETY

Health and Safety Policy in place, but needs stricter adherence as noncompliance will void insurance – especially in potentially hazardous environment like the Sackville Tower.

7. ENGAGING MEMBERS

DB has established lists of 40+ people willing to undertake various jobs for BH. These need to be actively followed up. Members to be reassured at next meeting that Data Protection protocols are being adhered to. The Members Meeting also needs to be trawled for volunteers to help lead/organise events. DB

8. PLANNING

i) Cemetery Lodge – DB reported that Peter Payne is doing an architect's sketch showing that it is possible to extend the building sensitively. Anthony Lightly is doing an external site visit on 23 October. RK and AM will also attend. DB

ii) Victoria Hall – DB reported that an updated plan had been produced, but he had told them that BH would still be objecting. DB

iii) Spindlewood – DB reported that applicants are pursuing a surface water draining strategy. DB

iv) Replacement Windows – RK reported that he hadn't heard back from RDC and would pursue. RK

v) Sutton Place – DB reported that the application had been refused. DB

vi) Di Paolos – DB reported that BH had submitted an objection. The outcome is currently undetermined. DB

9. COMMITTEE DINNER

PL to organise this after Christmas, possibly at the Sackville Bistro. PL

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i) Badges – SJ reported that Simon Elford can produce them at £5 per lapel pin. Blackrooster Badges (on the internet) were offering 100 at £1.31 each. Possible use would be as Young Heritage Guardian Awards to involve younger people in BH's work. Decided to put on hold due to cost considerations.

ii) Lee Goubert is happy to undertake some pro-bono work as Historic Building Consultant.

iii) The Static display at St Barnabas Church has been updated and AM invited Committee Members to check it out. AM

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Committee Meeting will be **26th November at 19:00** at Trafers, Egerton Road.

Next Members Meeting will be on **12^h November at 19:00** at Friends Meeting House, Albert Road.