

**BEXHILL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2018 AT 19:00**

ATTENDEES: Raymond Konyn (RK) (Chair), Simon Allen (SA), David Beales (DB), Steve Johnson (SJ), Emily Leach (EL), Alexis Markwick (AM), Tony Teehan (TT)

1. APOLOGIES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 22ND OCTOBER 2018 AND MEMBERS MEETING ON 12TH NOVEMBER 2018 **ACTION/ LEAD**

There were no Apologies for Absence nor any Matters Arising from either of the above meetings and RK signed off both sets of Minutes as a true record of proceedings. **RK**

2. FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

i) Monthly Financial Report - SJ reported that income is currently £4,449:39 including £493 carried forward. This is still below the Charity Commissioners threshold. The West Station Clock Project showed a deficit of £178.33, but as this is ring fenced it does not impact on the total. AM offered to produce a report for the next meeting on membership renewal. It was felt that a similar report at quarterly intervals would be useful. Members were reminded of their impending membership lapse with reminders 1 month and 24 hours beforehand. **AM**

ii) Advertising Budget (Golden Times) – This magazine has a page of Organisations that are available for people to join. An insertion here would cost £30 per insertion. It was felt that more specific advertising within Bexhill and the production of news stories would be a better use of resources. However, the Committee agreed that the establishment of a small Advertising Budget would be a sensible idea and SJ would investigate. **SJ**

iii) Paul Lendon's resignation & the role of Media and Marketing Officer - The Committee had received a written resignation from Paul Lendon and another Media and Marketing Officer therefore needed to be recruited. The roles of Public Education & Events Co-ordinator and Bexhill Heritage Events Co-ordinator were also vacant. RK offered to take on the latter role and was thanked by the Committee. RK also raised the question of who would deputise in the role of Chair should he become indisposed at any time. SJ volunteered to take on this role. **RK**
RK/SJ

iv) Clarity between Trustees and Committee roles – DB asked for more clarity between the roles of Trustees and Committee. He noted that the Committee were not mentioned in the Constitution. It was explained that Trustees look at the strategic direction of the organisation, whilst the Committee had an action role and looked after day to day operations. It was agreed that AM would add the minutes of Trustees meetings to the website to enable greater visibility of the Trustees role. **AM**

v) Privilege/Loyalty Card – SJ reported that Picture Craft have signed up to the idea. SJ was to investigate the reaction of other businesses in Bexhill and leads and contacts in any firms were welcome. SJ offered to create a crib-sheet to explain the scheme which could be more widely shared. **SJ**

3. EVENTS

i) Quiz Night – It was felt that stronger publicity was needed for future events, but over 50 people had attended and feedback from members said they enjoyed the evening. The Quiz Night showed a £84.50 profit. The Buffet costs were deemed to have been too high and thought needs to be given to utilising the Refreshments Team for any future events. A larger venue might be needed

and future Quiz Nights should fit in with events where more members would be targetable. RK offered to ask the AGM for members views on the types of events they would like to see.

RK

ii) Coffee mornings - The Refreshment Team were holding a meeting at the De La Warr Pavilion (DLWP) to organise Coffee Mornings. There was the possibility of using a new Café venue for smaller meetings and gatherings that is opening in Sea Road

iii) AGM – Town Hall – RK wondered if Bexhill Heritage should approach Rother District Council (RDC) to see if we could use the Town Hall for the 2020 AGM. However, in discussion it transpired that the Town Hall would only be available during the day and therefore the Committee felt this might prevent too many members being able to attend.

iv) Heritage Day – September 2019 – SJ reported that Manor Barn was being provided free and a full line up of speakers and events had been established. Publicity would be needed nearer the time and a bus to take people from Manor Barn to DLWP needed to be booked.

4. PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES

i) De La Warr Bus Shelter – SA reported that Kensey Investments Limited owned the shelter, but they ceased trading in 1963 and ownership has now been vested in The Crown. Treasury Solicitors have said they will recommend The Crown divests itself and the likely outcome of that will mean ownership will pass to Burgess Salmon Solicitors. There was some discussion about whether it would be appropriate for Bexhill Heritage to seek ownership of the shelter. It was, however, felt that this was not Bexhill Heritage's role and perhaps we should seek to persuade RDC to take it on. SA will write to the Solicitors to seek clarification.

SA

ii) Sackville Road Methodist Church – SA reported that the pigeon waste had now been largely cleared by Bexhill Heritage. A gap in the roof had been identified as the pigeon access point but the roof narrowed considerably at that point so access was difficult. The possibility of employing a "cherry picker" was discussed but dismissed on cost grounds. SA would investigate if a temporary staircase could be fixed to the existing structure and accessed to block the hole.

SA

iii) Ravenside Roundabout – SA said that there was nothing to report here.

EL

iv) Local List – EL told the meeting that a test survey on part of London Road had taken place. Tony Lightly will draw up an architectural terms crib-sheet to help volunteers to make information capture easier and more consistent. Nothing has been heard from RDC.

AM

v) Pages Gap – RK said that the project now rested with Keith Rhodes, but AM offered to find out the costs of replacing the sign that RDC had removed.

vi) Broadoak Stores – RK had received a large (23mb) Excel Worksheet from RDC however there seemed to be nothing of interest in it for Bexhill Heritage.

vii) Max Faulkner Placard Reinstatement – RK reported that the Plaque is now in the Town Hall but it's future should be considered within the context of the East Parade redevelopment. RK undertook to ask The Chairman of Bexhill Old Town Preservation Society, Dorothy Smith if she wanted the original plaque reinstated, as she had previously expressed concern at possible inaccuracies in

RK

the existing wording. RK also undertook to ask RDC if Bexhill Heritage could inspect the existing plaque.

viii) West Parade Clock Tower – SA reported that RDC had not responded to SA’s mail about the clock bell and the clocks current state of disrepair.

ix) Bexhill Athletic Club – SA said there had been no progress as the missing clock mechanism cannot be located.

SA

x) Resilience – RK said that these Projects were the most public face of Bexhill Heritage and therefore some thought needed to be given to how to build some resilience in the system in case SA was not available.

5. PLANNING

DB

i) Local Plan – DB said he would draft a response to to the DASA plan after the discussion to be held on Wed 29th Nov at which Cllr Hollidge would be present part time.

AM

ii) Cemetery Lodge – DB said that there was nothing new to report as a reply is still awaited from RDC. AM had contact with Jay Brewerton as she had expressed interest in Cemetery Lodge but it was unclear which organisation she was representing or what her interest was. AM undertook to explore this.

iii) Victoria Hall – DB reported that the matter had now been concluded, albeit unsatisfactorily.

iv) Spindlewood - DB reported that the applicants had submitted a full drainage scheme to English Nature and we are awaiting their response. There is no plan for foul drainage in the scheme and the local system does not have the capacity to cope.

DB

v) Replacement Windows – DB reported that there had been two significant applications made for replacement UPVC windows opposite the DWLP. RDC seem to be considering the best way forward and DB offered to contact the two RDC case officers to get a greater understanding of their position.

vi) Sutton Place – DB reported that this had been refused.

vii) Di Paolos - DB reported that the application we had opposed had been refused by RDC and another application had now been submitted which looks much better.

RK

viii) Conversion of shops into Residential Units – RK reported that the old Halifax building in Weston Road had been converted into residential use. Clarity was needed from RDC as to the planning process for this conversion as no one had seen a request for Change Of Use. A lot of these shops have original features under the new shop facades and these need to be preserved.

ix) Little Common Co-Op Site – DB reported that another application had been submitted but it was no improvement on the previous one.

6. CROWHURST/COMBE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP

RK had met with Peter Hunnisford who had informed him that things were still developing and suggested that Bexhill Heritage should wait until they are properly formed with a constitution before considering partnering.

7. COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

The Committee felt that the Beaulieu Road Open Space should go into the RDC Assets Register. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. RK explained that he had to declare an interest here and couldn't be involved in the discussion.

RK
AM
SJ

8. IT ISSUES

i) Business E-Mail Account – AM raised the possibility of establishing a Microsoft Exchange shared e-mail account. It was felt that more detailed consideration needed to be given to evaluate the advantages (such as a more professional Bexhill Heritage e-mail address rather than personal, and MS Tools) against the costs and practical implications of using the new system on a day to day basis. RK, AM and SJ agreed to meet to explore this further.

ii) Visibility of Charity Number on Website – It was agreed that the Charity Number had the necessary visibility and no further action was needed.

AM

iii) Addition of Peter Payne's details – AM confirmed that these had already been added to the Website.

RK

iv) Meeting Dates – AM will add the schedule of 2019 meeting dates to the Website.

9. BEXHILL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEAL

As Paul Lendon had resigned from the Committee someone needed to pick up the organisation of this event. RK said that he would circulate some suggested January dates. The Committee agreed on the Wickham Bistro as the venue.

RK

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i) Public Realm Strategic Framework Document – DB mentioned the Public Realm Strategic Framework document which had recently emerged. As it stands the document seems muddled and says nothing about the East Parade Regeneration. Although it contains some good suggestions it is rather late and its status is unclear. RK agreed to ask Cllr Ian Hollidge if Bexhill Heritage could comment on the document in detail.

RK

AM

ii) Member's Meeting on 10th December 2018 – AM stressed the need to promote the talk by guest speaker Luciana Haill of Apparitions. RK agreed to send a mail to members promoting this.

iii) Newsletter – The next Newsletter should be issued in January and AM was working on pulling it together.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING 17TH DECEMBER 2018, AT 19:00 AT TRAFFERS, 19 EGERTON RD, BEXHILL-ON-SEA TN39 3HJ