

## MINUTES OF THE BEXHILL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY 21 JANUARY 2019

**ATTENDEES:** Raymond Konyn (Chair) (RK), Simon Allen (SA), David Beales (DB), Steve Johnson (SJ), Alexis Markwick (AM), Anthony Lightly (AL), Tony Teehan (TT)

**1. APOLOGIES:** Emily Leach

### **2. MATTERS ARISING AND CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018** **ACTION LEAD**

**i) Disappearance of Photographs.** AM confirmed that he has replaced the missing photographs from the display at St Barnabas Church and it was agreed that no further action was necessary.

**ii) Trespass.** DB asked if we should send a copy of the minutes from the 17<sup>th</sup> December Committee Meeting to the Leader of RDC. It was agreed that their presence of the Bexhill Heritage website was sufficient exposure.

**iii)** No further Matters were reported and RK signed off the Minutes as a true and accurate record. **RK**

### **3. FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

**i) Committee Membership - Co-opting Anthony Lightly.** Anthony Lightly was co-opted onto the Bexhill Heritage Committee, this would need ratification at the AGM in April. DB and AL agreed to work together on planning matters in future. **DB AL**

**ii) Monthly Financial Report.** SJ reported that Bexhill Heritage had accrued £140 in memberships in January, which consisted of a mix of new members and renewals, bringing the total membership to 211. The major expenditure during this month was the purchase of a projector which AM would hold. Everyone agreed this would be a great help in presenting information to members and the wider public in a professional manner. Web hosting fees had risen to £5.99 per month, following the end of the initial trial period. It was agreed to continue to use this service as it provided a robust and reliable platform.

Total income stood at £4,680:49, which included £493:00 carry forward, expenditure was £1,598:67, giving a balance of £3,081:82.

**iii) Privilege/Loyalty Card.** No progress had been made since the last meeting, but this was a long term goal so this presented no problems. **SJ**

**iv) Membership Leaflets.** AM reported that he had updated the leaflet and produced 40 copies in readiness for the Coffee Morning. Thought needed to be given to asking The De La Warr Pavilion if our literature could be included on their Community Board. **AM**

**v) Bexhill Heritage Lapel Badges and Pens.** It was agreed to ask the membership if they thought badges were a good idea. Also bios with the Bexhill Heritage logo on them would be produced for sale at £1 each. **RK SJ**

**vi) Frequency of Members' Meetings.** It was agreed to ask members at the AGM whether the number of members meetings should be set at 5 with the option of including the occasional Coffee Morning if considered appropriate. **RK**

#### 4. EVENTS

SJ

**i) Coffee Mornings - Volunteers for talks.** RK asked for volunteers for a 10 minute talk at the Coffee Morning on 26<sup>th</sup> January. SJ undertook to do this. Thought needs to be given to identifying speakers for future events.

RK

**ii) Bexhill Forum meeting 1<sup>st</sup> March – Volunteer for Speaker.** The Forum meeting was to focus on “Making Bexhill Better – Tourism and Built Environment”. It was agreed that RK, SJ and DB would attend with slides arranged by AM.

SJ

SB

AM

**iii) Heritage Day 21 September - Planning Progress.** SJ agreed to send a reminder to those who have undertaken to participate.

SJ

**iv) Attendance at Bexhill Public Events 2019.** It was agreed that Bexhill Heritage would attend the following public events in Bexhill in 2019:

Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> April (Easter)	Bexhill 100 Easter Bonnet Display
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Anglo Continental Market
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Bexhill 100 Seafront Display
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Bexhill 100 Seafront Display
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> July	60's Revolution
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Great Gatsby
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> July	Bexhill 100 Seafront Display
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Festival of the Sea
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Anglo Continental Market

At this stage it was felt that representation at the following events would not be the best use of available resources:

Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	1066 Bike Festival
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Aug (BH)	Bexhill 100 Classic Car Show, Polegrove

RK

SJ

RK undertook to ask members to volunteer to help with these events, they would always be accompanied by an experienced Committee Member. SJ undertook to send RK his database of contacts.

#### 5. PROJECTS

**i) De La Warr Bus Shelter.** Thought was given to the possibility of offering to purchase the site for a nominal amount. This was however complicated by the inclusion of a considerable package of land which would have liability implications for Bexhill Heritage. AM offered to produce a map showing the exact area involved so Committee Members would have a greater understanding of the undertaking. Once this plan was available Committee Members should undertake a site visit. The Land Registry records would need to be checked to see if any of the adjoining houses might have a claim on the land.

AM

**ii) Ravenside Roundabout.** Bexhill In Bloom were concerned about the condition of the roundabout which had resulted in them losing a considerable number of points in the recent assessment of the Town. Cllr Hollidge and the Bexhill Forum were also interested in pushing this forward and it was felt that these bodies alongside Bexhill In Bloom would be the appropriate people to take this further.

**iii) Local List.** Nothing new to report.

RK

**iv) Max Faulkner Plaque.** SA reported that the plaque is still in RDC's Offices. The Council are happy to allow Bexhill Heritage to reinstate it and a site inspection was needed to identify the correct position, following which RDC approval would be required. Need to liaise with Dorothy Smith to see what additional information may be required.

SA

**v) West Parade Clock Tower.** SA reported that RDC Officer Deborah Kenneally found the key to the Clock Tower and an inspection could take place next week.

**vi) Pages Gap.** Keith Rhodes was pushing forward with this and currently there was no further action required by Bexhill Heritage other than seeking sources of funding.

**vii) Bexhill West Station Clock.** SA reported that Eras of Style has changed hands and the new owner seems quite open to the idea of keeping the clock working. He is also considering renovating the outside of the building.

**viii) Barrack Road Cemetery.** SA reported that The Hanoverian Society had erected a plaque which has now disappeared. No one is sure how or when this occurred. This is within BOTPS custodianship of their conservation area.

**ix) Sea Road Air Raid Shelter.** It was agreed that Bexhill Old Town Preservation Society were in the lead here since it lies within BOTPS custodianship of their conservation area and no further action was needed by Bexhill Heritage.

## 6. PLANNING

**i) Rother District Council Sam Bachelor New Planning Officer.** DB reported that Sam Bachelor had been appointed and it was understood that his title would be Development Manager.

**ii) Cemetery Lodge.** DB reported that nothing had been heard from RDC nor the embryonic Trust. Local opinion seemed against the new access proposals at St Mary's Lane and in favour of reconfiguring the existing junction.

DB

**iii) Spindlewood.** DB reported that RDC were unlikely to object to RAMSAR. It was likely that this will continue for some time.

**iv) Replacement windows.** DB is due to have a meeting with Tanya Szendeffy to cover this issue. RDC seemed unclear on the best way forward.

DB

**v) Di Paolos.** DB reported that this has now been approved and therefore no further action was needed by Bexhill Heritage.

SJ

**vi) Drill Hall incl, Royal Sussex Emblem restoration.** DB, AM and SJ have as produced a letter to go to members seeking their views on the plans and including some great photomontages by AM which bring the plans to life. DB had written to RDC Officer Ben Hook twice to ask if he was happy for Bexhill Heritage's proposals to be published, but had received no reply. SJ undertook to revise the draft letter which needs to be issued this week. AM took to investigate if Lord Buckhurst's (The Earl De La Warr) family were involved with the Regiment.

DB

## 7. DRAFT RDC PUBLIC REALM DOCUMENT

DB had drafted a letter to RDC in readiness for the forthcoming consultation period. The current document makes no mention of the East Parade, the Shelters nor the land around them. This was a major omission which needed to be addressed.

DB

## **8. COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER**

DB asked if members should be asked for nominations for items to include on the Community Asset Register. It was felt that the purpose of the Register was not widely understood and SJ agreed to produce a detailed explanation of the roll which could be included in the letter. Following an initial sift by the Bexhill Heritage Committee this list could be forwarded to RDC. It was felt that this would have more impact and produce a better quality product than piecemeal identification of areas. SA offered to run an eye over the draft when it was available.

**SJ  
SA**

## **9. BEXHILL HERITAGE LEGACY**

Paul Lendon had suggested that Bexhill Heritage should give thought to asking members to consider including a legacy to Bexhill Heritage in their wills. This has been very successful for a number of organisations. SJ agreed to consider how to liaise with local solicitors to make them more aware of Bexhill Heritage. It was, however, agreed that this was not a priority.

**SJ**

**SA**

## **10. SKILLS CENTRE – 25 YEAR LEASE**

SA reported that the Skills Centre was a modern building which is currently vacant. It was thought ownership rested with ESCC. This building could be available for Bexhill Heritage to use for events and SA agreed to contact ESCC to see if access were possible.

## **11. BEXHILL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEAL**

SJ reported that all orders were in and the costs had been communicated to all the individuals attending, however he reminded the meeting that drinks were not included in the prices quoted. Everything was ready for the evening and the meeting confirmed that they were looking forward to the event,

**RK  
DB  
AL  
AM  
SA**

## **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

RK reported that Tanya Szendeffy, the RDC Conservation Officer had agreed to a meeting with Bexhill Heritage. She has asked for an agenda which DB agreed to draft. RK, DB, AL, AM and SA would attend and 30<sup>th</sup> January was suggested as an appropriate time.

## **13. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

**MEMBERS' MEETING MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019, AT 19:00  
AT FRIENDS HOUSE, ALBERT ROAD, TN40 1DG, BEXHILL-ON-SEA**

**COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019, AT 19:00  
AT TRAFFERS, 19 EGERTON RD, BEXHILL-ON-SEA TN39 3HJ**