

## **BEXHILL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING    On-line meeting Monday 18th May 2020**

### **Committee:**

Raymond Konyon	(RK)	Chair
Steve Johnson	(SJ)	Vice Chair/Treasurer
Alexis Markwick	(AM)	IT Support Officer/Historian
Simon Allen	(SA)	Projects Coordinator
John Swap	(JS)	Membership Officer
David Beales	(DB)	Planning Officer
Anthony Lightly	(AL)	Chartered Building Surveyor
Jeanette Eason	(JE)	Committee Clerk

#### **1. APOLOGIES        None**

#### **2. DECLARATION OF ANY EXISTING OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST** NONE

#### **3. APPROVAL of MINUTES for the February, March and April meetings, and MATTERS ARISING from the April Committee meeting**

#### **4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (TL)**

Separate email report submitted to committee (DB):

- i) Cemetery Lodge – no further information
- ii) Spindlewood – no movement on RDC website. Last report to the Council Planning Committee was not posted to website. The next meeting of the Planning Committee is due on Thurs 28 May. It is understood that Bellway are the "preferred" developers for this site (by the landowners), and perhaps the deal will not be finalised until planning permission is granted.
- iii) Sackville Road flats – objection submitted. Considered to be over commercial development on an unsuitable site. Currently undecided.
- iv) 3-5 Eversley Road – observations submitted re extensions, planned porch and bin store. Currently undecided. Decision expected by 1/07/2020.
- v) Others - Recent observations on proposed flats at 28 Collington Ave, have been copied to Ward Council Members for info. Originally planned to build 18 flats, the reduced at stages to 14, 11 and now 9. The development will be out of keeping with Collington Avenue. Very much out of keeping with the rest of Collington Avenue.
- vi) Revamped RDC website – No further update
- vii) Building controls – No further update but anticipate Government changes to planning rules to stimulate house building. Our BH observations on the ESCC Environment Strategy are with the council.

#### **5. PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES**

- i) Number 1 Shelter / Bandstand – SJ it was reported that there has been some damage to the shelter. It is in poor condition and known that there is dry rot, but recognition by Bexhill Voice to BH efforts with the shelters and restoration. Sadly there is no change to the misuse of the area, with food and drink being thrown around, scratches to the paint and acrylic glass, and fly posting. Unfortunately the posters are stuck to the windows which will be very difficult to remove without inflicting further

damage on the acrylic windows. Sadly the anti-vandalism posters from RDC and No Smoking signs do not appear to be working.

SJ has visited recently, taken photos and engaging with a group of people to put together a list of findings/details/desired outcomes. Aim to get RDC to agree to take action by summer. It is difficult to know where funding for restoration may come from, but it is considered it will need to be closed off in autumn, as further damage could put restoration in Jeopardy. There was discussion re whether RDC will help or engage with the restoration plans. Leasing from RDC will be required if agreement to refurbish.

**Action : SJ to collate list of findings and suggest a design brief, including proposed disabled access, gating to secure at night and during winter months etc.**

- ii) Number 3 Shelter – (SJ & SA) It is anticipated there are another 7 weeks works required. There are outstanding issues e.g. lighting (SA), the benches are still dismantled and being worked on. The two metal supports needs someone to use a drill and specific fitting to clean them ready for the primer and top coats of paint. SA confirmed he is making the loft hatch (photos of current progress to date). The benches and the lighting will need to be fitted/fixed prior to the anticipated re-opening (photos of work to date shared with meeting). It was also confirmed that the scaffolding cannot be removed as the roofers still need access. The Battle manufacturer have had some issues when firing the finials. As soon as the ridge is completed, the roofers can come back to finish off. AM mentioned about the plans to put a time capsule in the roof. It was agreed that could be done at a later date. (AM) There will need to be an Interpretation Board ready for the formal reopening. After discussion it was agreed it should be the same size as those for the Motor Museum and positioned separately to the shelter. Also suggestion that perhaps could include information about all the shelters on the seafront, rather than one each. It was also suggested that perhaps there could be a smaller plaque inside the shelter saying “Restored by Bexhill Heritage at request of RDC”. RK stated that would probably need permission from RDC. Perhaps a mock-up of a small discrete plaque could be designed, to show to RDC.  
**Action : SJ and AM : includes Interpretation Board/“Restored by BH” plaque. SA – shelter loft hatch and metal seating supports**
- iii) Bexhill Town Flag – agreed to put the project ‘on ice’ until after the emergency is over. BH still believe it needs to be ‘made in UK’ and to include Community Input. KR happy to either wait for a face to face meeting or Zoom type meeting.  
**Action: SJ agreed meeting towards end July.**
- iv) Civic Pride Award – SJ said nominations would be needed by the end of June, to enable the member’s consultation and voting at the November Members meeting. To go out membership for consideration via newsletter. Retained three categories from last year.
- v) Newsletter – AM confirmed it was in progress. It was agreed that the DLWP article would be included, plus SJ to provide a report about the shelter with photos, plus RK to write a modified Chair report. Also to include confirmation of membership extension only 3 months and nominations for Civic Pride Awards. The newsletter will be accompanied by the Charity Commission application notice to all members. AM to access printer in Methodist Church for those members not on email. JS to collect for hand delivery before 1 June. **Action: AM, SJ, RK, JW**
- vi) Keeping in touch with members – SJ mentioned that a company in London had recently arranged for a video link Q&A session with their committee taking queries from members, and wondered if that would be of interest to BH members. It could be live streamed and hopefully we could get lots of interesting questions during the session. Potentially next month (June).

**Action : SJ and AM to investigate and organise separate email invite and question submission.**

## **6. Finance and Governance**

- i) Committee roles – SJ sent an email with an outline of the amended role descriptions, and the additional secretary (Charity and Administration) roles. It was discussed and suggested that Mary Law be offered the position of Administration Secretary. New document to be adopted after minor revisions re voting rights for Committee and Admin secretaries. Proposed: RK Seconded : SJ & TL **Agreed**
- ii) Application for registration to the Charity Commission – discussion of individual processes, prior to formal submission.
- iii) Membership report – Membership extensions, but not shown on system at the moment. AM confirmed he is manually extending those who have no already expired prior to March. RJ & SJ already discussed 3 mth extension *only*, due to virus but recognising that BH work has not stopped during lockdown, still active, telling people what we have been doing during lockdown. Additional entry on newsletter to remind people they have had an extension – to date members only advised by email. All in favour of recommending memberships from the end of May – no further extensions. JS to be trained how to access membership database. AM/JS to discuss separately, needs face to face training preferably. In future 4 committee members with access.  
**Agreed unanimously**
- iv) Finance update – SJ provided two months' worth of accounts looking very healthy. £6282.07 balance. Money brought forward from last year, plus includes grant from Co-oP and Rother DC support nearly £1k (Co-oP £1249, they doubled the amount accrued on the scheme due to Covid19) both received in April.
- v) Fund raising – SJ waiting for Trade paints to reopen and because hoping to expand will possibly want to get on board asap. Could hold raffle online, buy tickets. Discussion re prizes. Committee to consider options – quiz, raffle? Various online quizzes around, with donation for quiz sheet or access code.

**Action : TL & JE to work on quiz questions.**

## **7. Any other business**

K6 Red Telephone Box – RK : verified where it is located. Confirmed it is part of the community in the location. AM thinks it would be used by community as notice board, as there are quite a lot of permanent residents. Proposal to adopt for £1, look after it, what do with it? Suggested keep it in location, paint it and maybe lock off with posters and notices on inside of windows – a person or small group locally could be asked to look after. Committee agreed to accept offer, RK to take on further enquiries and form to complete to purchase.

Post from Church – AM collected and distributed.

Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

## **7. Dates of next scheduled meetings:**

- **(Members Meetings)** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June (Sussex Day Event Evening) Postponed
- **(Committee Meeting)** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 7pm – online meeting