

Bexhill Heritage Trustees. Minutes for the meeting held on Monday 6th July 2020

In attendance: Raymond Konyn, Steve Johnson, Simon Allen Alexis Markwick

1. Apologies

None received.

2. Declarations of interest

RK – trustee of the Bexhill Old Town Preservation Society

3. Draft minutes for the November (2019) and May meetings.

These were approved.

4. Members' responses to the draft constitution and update on Charity Commission registration

There had already been an overwhelmingly positive response to the draft constitution. SJ outlined next steps in the registration process.

It was agreed to retain St Barnabas Church as the charity's 'official' address. AM agreed to check for letters each week when important correspondence was expected.

5. Evaluation of the charity's current work and its profile in the town.

SJ gave an update on the restoration of **Shelter Number 3**. It was agreed that a movement-activated sound system would be a worthwhile and notable addition to the shelter. It was agreed to purchase the necessary components within a budget of £300. AM was working on a design for the interpretation board. All other matters were well in hand and the renovation was now slightly ahead of schedule.

SA reported that the Coronavirus lockdown had meant that no further progress had been made on the **West Parade Clocktower**.

RK reported on the acquisition of a **K6 telephone kiosk in Normans Bay**. A contract was awaited from BT as were ideas from the Residents Association with regard to future use. Residents in Beachlands had restored their phone kiosk. The Normans Bay kiosk was reported to be in poor condition and would need restoration.

SJ reported that a survey of potential stakeholders was being conducted to determine possible future uses and renovation priorities for **Shelter Number 1**. The RDC Conservation Officer had requested that Bexhill Heritage should carry out a 'scrape test' to determine original paint colours. RK agreed to look for the results of a test conducted previously.

It was agreed to postpone work on the **De La Warr Road Bus Shelter** in order to prioritise work on Shelter Number 1. It was felt that the bus shelter was sufficiently robust not to be under threat whereas Shelter Number 1 was in an alarming condition. It was further agreed that Bexhill Heritage should look to fund work on the bus shelter from reserves and any donations linked specifically to the bus shelter's restoration.

RK reported that Claire Baldry was conducting a risk assessment with regard to reopening the **Sackville Road Hub**. Claire was keen to reopen. However, RK had heard that the building might soon be up for sale and that this might prevent reopening. RK agreed to ask Claire for an update.

SJ expressed concern that the charity's proposed **survey on graffiti art** might not reflect well on the charity. It was agreed to discuss the nature and form of the survey at the next committee meeting

6. Strategic priorities

RK was to attend a **Rother Voluntary Action on-line seminar** on the directions local charities might take in the light of the current pandemic. SJ suggested that local charities have the potential to play a key role in supporting and helping to rebuild the community. He agreed to forward some note on these ideas to RK in time for the seminar.

It was agreed to hold a **Question and Answer session for members** on Monday 10th August. SJ and SA would contribute papers / reports as would RK. RK and AM would organise the on-line session.

7. Meeting dates, events and venues

Trustees discussed arrangements for the **official opening on Shelter Number 3** on 14th August. It was agreed that SJ should finalise arrangements with representatives of Rother District Council and advise members.