

Bexhill Heritage Trustees. Minutes for the meeting held on Monday 5th October 2020

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

1. Apologies and declarations of interest

No apologies received.

RK – trustee of the Bexhill Old Town Preservation Society

2. Draft minutes for the July meeting.

These were approved.

3. Matters arising from the July meeting

a. Meetings with Rother Voluntary Action

RK and SJ had attended the on-line meetings. RVA had agreed to survey the accommodation needs of local charities. This information would help determine how far local charities may be able to cooperate to share space. The Methodist Church was for sale, but it was thought that the costs of acquiring, renovating and maintaining the building would be prohibitive. No further meetings were planned. It was agreed that Bexhill Heritage would keep a watching brief, particularly with regard to any planning applications from potential developers.

Action:

RK to determine whether the Anglicans might acquire the Methodist Church and move out of St Barnabas Church.

The Committee to remain alert to plans to develop the Methodist Church.

b. Next steps in Charity Commission registration

SJ reported that the trustees' report to members had been completed and had been tabled for discussion and approval. The next step would be to engage an auditor for the 2019/20 accounts with a target of mid-November for their completion.

Action:

SJ to engage an auditor

SJ to prepare the application

c. East Parade shelters / Bandstand

SJ reported that Tony Lightly had agreed to complete drawings that would show a way of restoring the former vertical proportions of the bandstand. This would form part of a report to RDC's Conservation Officer for the building's restoration. SJ would follow this up with Tony. The Conservation Officer had accepted proposals for a ceiling hatch, upgraded electrics, an entrance gate and a sound system but it was likely that a 'start' on the restoration would now not start until the spring.

Rother District Council had not yet responded to AM's proposal for an East Parade interpretation board.

Action:

SJ to follow up on Tony's work and send a reminder to RDC.

SJ to prepare a draft report on restoration proposals for committee

4. Trustees' draft annual report

This was agreed subject to the addition of a reference to our work with young people.

Action:

SJ to amend the report.

5. A base for Bexhill Heritage

It was agreed that the optimum position would be to have a 'shopfront' base in Devonshire Road and a storage facility for tools and equipment.

In the short term, we should store tools either with Bexhill 100 or in the Methodist Church.

Equipment required for a spring 'seafront presence' and for the bandstand restoration could be stored at the Colonnade. Screens would be positioned at the Methodist Church so that any stored items would be hidden from view. The screens would also be designed to publicise our work.

Actions:

RK to be alert to 'shopping centre' sites becoming available

RK to maintain a foothold in St Barnabas Church for the information point.

SJ to meet with a representative of Bexhill 100 to determine whether joint use of tools and their storage at Bexhill 100 workshop would be possible / desirable, and report back to the committee

RK / SJ to sign agreements with Rother District Council for a licence for the 'shop' on the Colonnade and pay the legal costs of approx. £200

AM's Trishaw group to pay half the cost of the legal work on the above.

6. Development Planning

SJ outlined the merits of using a simple development plan system to help the charity stay on track, avoid overload and prioritise our budget.

Action:

SJ to circulate example for scrutiny.

7. Meeting dates, venues and events

Activities continued to be constrained by the government's lockdown rules. It was confirmed that a Zoom meeting for members would be held with Daryl Holter as guest speaker. It was agreed to use a registration and reminder system for this meeting. Details of the members' quiz were awaited.

Trustee and committee meeting would continue to be held online using the agreed dates.

Action:

RK and AM to organise the upcoming members' meeting

RK to check progress on quiz.

8. Confidential item

RK and SJ had met with a member whose work alongside the committee been suspended. The member did, though, retain their ordinary membership with all the rights enjoyed by other members. On the basis of what RK and SJ had been told by the member, it was agreed that the existing arrangements should continue but that the member would be welcome to support work of the charity that was not 'public-facing'. The matter would be reviewed once further information became available to the trustees.

Action:

RK to contact the member to advise them of the Trustee's decision.

9. Any other business

- a. **SA** to consult members via the Newsletter on tracks to play in Shelter 3 from December 1st
- b. **SA** to follow up on 'performing rights' payments.
- c. **SJ** to write a newsletter piece on the 'graffiti art' survey.
- d. It was agreed that DBS checks must be carried out before members adopt roles that place them in contact with vulnerable adults or children.

Date of next meeting:

Monday 24th November 2020