

HUNSTANTON SOCIETY

MINUTES of MEETING of HUNSTANTON SOCIETY Committee TUESDAY 17th January 2023 at 10.00am

Venue - The meeting was held at Heritage Centre, Hunstanton

Present – Tony Armstrong (AA), Amanda Bosworth (AB), Bob Clark (BC), Jackie Cunliffe (JC), Bill Cunliffe (BC), Sheila Kent (ShK), Stephen Kent (StK) and Andrew Murray (AM)

1. Welcome and Apologies

AB, Chair, welcomed Committee members to the meeting. Apologies received from Valerie Everitt (VE)

2. Minutes Secretary

Sheila and Stephen Kent (ShK and StK) agreed to take notes to write up into minutes

3. Minutes of meeting of Committee Meeting on 13th December 2022

Approved and signed by AB

4. Matters arising from meeting held on 13th December 2022

StK reported that the book on Hunstanton & Wells-Next-the-Sea had still not arrived. A response had been received from Lewis Little accepting our offer for him to spend a week of work experience at the Heritage Centre 3rd to 7th July. All other matters arising covered in Agenda

5. Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting 14th December 2023

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. Approved for submission to the next Annual General Meeting.

6. Draft Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting 14th December 2023

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. Under item 3 – The time allowed to change from Working towards Accredited Museum Status to become fully accredited should be 3 years and not 5 years. Amendment made. Otherwise the minutes were approved for submission to the next Annual General Meeting.

AB, AM, ShK and StK had met on Sunday last to complete the Arts Council form 'Eligibility Questionnaire for the Accreditation Scheme for Museums and Galleries in the United Kingdom'. One part of the form requested evidence that this Society and our officers undertake to complete the process within the allotted three years. The meeting agreed that this should be the case and that every effort would be made to complete the process accordingly.

7. Correspondence, Planning, meeting reports

AM reported that the Planning Review had been adjourned by the Inspectors – a letter will follow.

AB had received an email about the Town Notice Board; the couple indicated that they would like to re-join the Society and would be willing to help with external repair/maintenance work (such as painting of Mercy Gray shelter).

AB gave a short report on the following meetings:

- the Hunstanton Advisory Group, meeting on 12 January, had spent some time discussing its draft Terms of Reference with a view to getting them formally signed off as soon as possible. The discussion was followed by oral reports on progress of actions previously agreed
- the meeting of the West Norfolk Tourism Forum on 17 January had focussed on the six strategic aims of the West Norfolk Tourism Development Plan (Employment; Sustainable

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Tourism; Innovation; Accessibility; Experiential Tourism; Developing the Product). Grants of up to £200 will be made available for community events arranged for the Coronation in May. AB advised that she had informed the Forum of our change of name and pending application for Museum accreditation

- arrangements were well in hand for Floods commemoration, with walk from Ski café up to the Heritage gardens, service at the Floods Memorial, display boards in Town Hall, and films to be shown in Princess Theatre, courtesy of Brian Hallard.

8. Treasurer's Report

StK summarised his Treasurer's Report previously circulated and provided bank statements that backed up the balances recorded. He also reported that Barclays Bank have notified us that they are closing the Hunstanton branch on 12th April. However, we can still bank monies etc using the Post Office. StK then reported on the great difficulty communicating with Barclays and the fact that our account is still the wrong type commensurate with the Society now being a Limited Company and that the signatories needed updating. It was resolved that

- a) Treasurer is to attempt to make contact with the bank to make whatever changes are necessary to correct the type of account that we have and to change the name of the Society reflected on the account. Also
- b) To arrange for Committee members Stephen Kent, Amanda Bosworth, Andrew Murray and Jacqueline Cunliffe to be the signatories on the account in place of those previously approved as signatories.

9. Membership Report

ShK reported that our membership currently stands at 153, although there are still a small number of members who have not yet renewed their membership for this current year.

10. Talks Programme

There had been a lot of discussion at the Planning meeting held on 9th January, with some suggested potential presentations on current topics of interest to members of the Society as well as local residents. These are to be pursued. They include the Tidal Wash Barrier, Wild Ken Hill, the Lighthouse, Hunstanton Hall and Drove Orchards (following our guided tour last year).

11. Newsletter

Items of interest could include the history of some of the china mementos we have in the display cabinets, ammonites and other fossils off the beach, old bottles that are found on the beach, the "stone-man of Hunstanton". Other subjects also suggested.

12. Heritage Centre

Decision has been taken to reopen the Centre on Wednesday, 15th February, the same day as the evening talk.

AM reported that two of the faulty light fittings in the main room had now been replaced to great effect.

STK reported that the application to obtain 'Working towards Accredited Museum Status' was now well in hand. (see 6 above).

AB reported that there are currently 31 volunteers to 'man' the Centre during opening hours. Coffee morning for volunteers planned for Tuesday, 31st January. Volunteers had been asked for their opinion as to whether we should start to charge an entrance fee for

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the Centre. Of the responses received, 14 were against and 7 for; the decision therefore is not to charge an entrance fee this year, but this will be kept under review.

Wisbech Society have confirmed a group visit to the Heritage Centre on 27th June which would also involve a town walk, probably to view the Ibberson buildings.

13. Marketing/Social Media

It was noted that all our marketing materials (website, notices, leaflets, business cards, etc.) will need to be updated to reflect the Society's name change. Printed materials will have to be amended and reprinted.

Discussion re our leaflet distribution: locations to be reviewed and amended.

NB. Sandringham Visitor Centre will no longer stock leaflets.

14. Gardens, repairs to benches

Canny Jones has kindly taken over from Margi Blunden the maintenance of the gardens that we care for. No further news on a replacement for the Capt Fryatt bench for which we have retained the original back rail that needs some refurbishment and some display material.

15. Outings

AM is planning to organise a trip to Forncett Steam Museum on Sunday, 2nd July.

16. Date and Venue of next Committee Meeting

A suggested date of Tuesday, 14th February was agreed.

The meeting closed at 12.17pm

Distribution: Tony Armstrong (Talks) (AA), Amanda Bosworth (Chair) (AB), Bob Clark (RC), Jackie Cunliffe (JC), Bill Cunliffe (PC), Val Everitt (VE), Sheila Kent (Secy and Membership Secy) (ShK), Stephen Kent (Treasurer) (StK), Andrew Murray (Liaison) (AM),

Dates & Times of H&DCS Events		
9th Feb 2023	10.00am	First meeting History Group
13th Feb 2023	10.00am	Cleaning morning in preparation for new season
14th Feb 2023	10.00am	Committee meeting in Heritage Centre
15th Feb 2023	2.00pm	Heritage Centre opening
15th Feb 2023	7.30pm	Talk by Dr Paul Richards – King's Lynn Docks, Past & Present