

# HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

## MINUTES of MEETING of H&DCS Committee – TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 10am

**Venue** - The meeting was held in the Heritage Centre

**Present** – Tony Armstrong (AA), Amanda Bosworth (AB), Margi Blunden (MB), 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 Bob Clark (BC) and Valerie Everitt (VE).

**2. Minutes Secretary.** Sheila and Stephen Kent (ShK and StK)

**3. Minutes of meeting of Committee Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022.** Approved and signed by AB

**4. Matters arising from meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July – NTR**

**5. Correspondence & Planning** (ShK and AM)

**a) Planning and HTC** – AM advised that Howard Johnston had reported that four 60 foot lengths of railway track had been dug up on the Southend Road Car Park Development. No-one is quite sure what we could do with them but all agreed that they should be salvaged. AM also reported that the Neighbourhood Plan was now in force. As our independent examiner advised the Borough that policies relating to second homes and ratio of building to plot size be deleted, HTC may seek professional advice about reviewing the plan. He also reported that an HTC Extraordinary meeting had been called (subsequently postponed) to discuss issues with the Bus Station and Southend Road developments. He also reported that the new bus shelters destined to replace the bus station were in production, although it is understood that no lease has yet been signed. AM also mentioned that a planning application had been submitted for development of an annex plus 3 detached houses in the back garden of Ashley House, 3 Westgate. The committee has received a copy of the plans for consideration and potential comments.

**b) Re the Bus Station and Southend Road Developments** – it was agreed that we should write to BCKLWN to enquire as to the reasons for the delays in these developments.

**Action ShK**

**c)** AB reported that the Hunstanton Advisory Group meeting would be held during the week. Committee members discussed the possibility of putting forward a proposal for a Heritage Action Zone to regenerate the High Street. AM will try to obtain a copy of the Shop Front guide previously endorsed by BCKLWN and circulate amongst the Committee.

**d)** AM advised that the Hemporium shop is being taken over by 'By the Book' run by Adrian Eden, to be opened next week. Mr Eden would like to sell some of the publications held by the Heritage Centre. This was generally supported by committee members as a positive partnership with a local business and an out-of-hours revenue stream for the Heritage Centre.

**e)** Mr Eden has also asked for information about former Reading Rooms around Hunstanton, a topic that will require some research - Kelly's Directory might be a source of information and it may be worth contacting Dick Melton.

**f) Mercy Gray Shelter** – The shelter has now been re-anchored at cost of new brackets (£35.78) plus some carpenters' labour to mend broken plank and pushing the shelter back into position. Agreed that we need to arrange a work day to sand down and paint the shelter – suggested Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September.

**g) Edith Cavell and Capt. Charles Fryatt benches** – Cavell bench ready to be reinstalled, possibly for the anniversary of her execution on 12<sup>th</sup> October. AB to follow up with Resort Services and Chris Durham (BCKLWN). **Action - AB**

**h) Talks** - TA reported that despite all his efforts, he has not quite yet been able to arrange all the Talks for next season. Definitely no Talk for 21st September and it was agreed that

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this should not be a Talks day. December Talk after the AGM should be some films which StK should be able to capture off the internet with permission of the author, Chris Taylor.

6. **Treasurer's Report** - StK noted the accounts circulated to Committee before the meeting were in good order. Committee unanimously approved the accounts in principle. He stated that the Nationwide Account was now closed and all funds transferred to the Barclays account. Heritage Centre donations were not improving very much at all despite being mid-summer.  
Agreed that we should hold a Volunteers' Coffee Morning on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> September and encourage all volunteers to attend for a discussion on potential measures to face the challenges of reduced visitor numbers and low donations.
7. **H&DCS Membership Report** – ShK reminded the Committee that we needed to send out Membership renewal documentation early in September to be accompanied by Chair's Report and an Overview of plans for the future of the Society along with the Talks programme.
8. **Talks Programme & Life Stories** See 5(h) above.
9. **Newsletter** - The Heritage Open Days in September are to be promoted on our website and would be advertised in the next Newsletter and in Town & Around. Articles on notable residents of Hunstanton were in production and ideas for other articles suggested.
10. **Heritage Centre and Civic Voice** - Apart from items referred to above, there were discussions concerning monies lost by Civic Voice, Accreditation of the Heritage Centre as a Museum and on-line training being put on by Share Museums East which AM might attend. Suggested that this should be discussed top of the next Agenda for the Committee.
11. **Civic Voice** – see above
12. **Marketing/Social Media** - NTR
13. **Gardens, Replacement or repair benches** – see above  
A photo display board and other boards were provided at the Hunstanton in Bloom judging event in the Town Hall. The judging seemed to go well, and Carol Bower (Chair of In Bloom) thanked the Society for its support.
14. **Progress on Pier & Railway Projects** – NTR on either
15. **Outings** - Visit to St Botolph's Church, Boston on 3<sup>rd</sup> August went well – 6 attended. Outing to Forncett Industrial Steam Museum on 18<sup>th</sup> September to be arranged. **Action – AM**
16. **Town Centre Walks** – NTR
17. **Any other Business** – MB mentioned a walk on 17<sup>th</sup> September (probably along the South Promenade) for her grandson, currently in hospital.
18. **Date and Venue next Committee meeting** – set for Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September at 10am at Heritage Centre

Dates & Times of H&DCS Events		
12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10.30am	Volunteers' Coffee morning
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10am	Committee Meeting Heritage Centre
18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	H&DCS Outing to Forncett Industrial Steam Museum, Norwich
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	10am	Work day sanding and painting Mercy Grey Shelter
12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	??	Reinstallation Edith Cavell Bench in St Edmund's Chapel Ruins
19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	7.30pm	First talk of the season - Dreamy Hollow's WW1 Trenches – Nigel Day
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.30pm	AGM and Talk/films