

NOTES OF

Hastings & St. Leonards Coastal Users' Group AGM

Held on Tuesday, 21st November 2017 @ 1800hrs

East Hastings Sea Angling Association, Hastings

Present:

Paul Carter (Chair) – East Hastings Sea Angling Association
Cllr Kim Forward (Vice Chair) – Deputy Leader / Lead member for regeneration, HBC
Alan Care – Hastings and Rother Disability Forum
Andre Palfrey-Martin – Save Our Heritage Group
Christine Boulton-Lane – West of Haven Beach Users Association
Cllr James Bacon – HBC (Old Hastings Ward)
Cllr Judy Rogers – HBC (Castle Ward)
Cllr Mike Howard – HBC (West St Leonards Ward)
Daniel Hubbart – 1066 Boardriders
Dan Matthews – Hastings Pier Charity
Di Cooke – Hastings Lifeguards
Dick Edwards – Hastings Old Town Residents Association
Kaylass Ramaglan – Southern Water
Kevin Boorman – Hastings Borough Council
Laurence Bell – White Rock America Ground Business Group
Mel Jones – Love Hastings
Sam White – Epic Life/Hastings Windsurfing
Steve Peak – Friends of Hastings Country Park
Tina Matthews – Hastings Pier Charity
Allison Pascual – Hastings Borough Council (notes)

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies were received from:

Aaron Woods – Hastings Borough Council
Chief Insp Steve Curry – Sussex Police
Chris Richards – Hastings Adventure Golf
Chrissie Daniels – Blue Reef Aquarium
Cliff Meaden – Epic Life
Colin Dormer – Love Hastings
Paul Joy – Hastings Fishermen's Protection Society
Rob Woods – Love Hastings
Yasmin Ornsby – Stade Partnership

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Three nominations for Paul Carter for the position of chair were received prior to the meeting and he was duly appointed without vote.

One nomination was received for Cllr Kim Forward for the position of vice chair and she was duly appointed without vote.

In the spirit of partnership working, the chair is intending continue with co-chair arrangements as previously but in line with the constitution the above appointments were made.

3. CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The draft amendments to the constitution were circulated prior to the meeting. Di proposed acceptance of the amended constitution. This was seconded by Christine and agreed by the meeting.

4. NOTES OF LAST MEETING (5TH SEPTEMBER)

Accepted as an accurate record

Matters arising:

- Cycle lane – Aaron has continued to chase East Sussex County Council and has been advised that the line will be reinstated in due course
- Rock-a-Nore wheelchair access – progress has been slow as unexpected problems have been encountered
- Winch Road – Kevin advised that the barrier needs replacing and confirmed that the cars do not belong to anyone from the fishing industry. Aaron will be asked to follow up. **Action: Kevin/Aaron**
- Stamco site – Kevin and Christine have discussed following the last meeting
- Coastal Communities Fund round 5 (CCF5) – the round of funding was to be announced this autumn but has been postponed. Discussions continue with potential project partners and an update will be given when available
- Small grants – comments were passed to the Charity Committee and an increase in funding has been agreed
- Deck chairs – franchising a concession is being considered for next year
- Intelligent signage at Rock-a-Nore – has been updated and the messages being shown are now relevant
- Hastings Lifeguards – HBC are happy to help with the logos if needed and colleagues have been asked to spread the word about the work of the organisation
- Management of Stade Hall – the invitation seeking expressions of interest is due to go out tomorrow, alongside a press release. A number of voluntary organisations who may be interested will be invited to tender for the operation and any bonafide not for profit organisation in town is entitled to submit an

expression of interest. Kevin clarified that the management of the Stade Open Space will remain with HBC, but obviously liaising with the Stade Hall management

5. FORESHORE TRUST ITEMS

a. Annual report of the Grant Advisory Panel

The report was noted.

This group is a key consultee for the Foreshore Trust and a recommendation has resulted in the increase in the levels of funding for both the Small grants and Events groups.

It was suggested that the Protector for the Foreshore Trust be invited to supply a written report as part of the annual cycle of reporting to comply with the Charities Commission requirements. It was agreed that request will be put forward although this may not be granted. **Action: Kevin**

b. Lifeguard Service

It was recognised that there has been conflicting information between the RNLI's policy for red flags, which was applied nationally to all RNLI lifeguarded beaches, and that which used to operate in Hastings. It was agreed that one of their senior supervisors will be invited to a future meeting to clarify. **Action: Kevin**

6. COASTAL ITEMS UPDATE

a. Harbour Arms Works

At the last meeting it was reported that the works were delayed as the granite is yet to be delivered. There are only three barges that would be capable of transporting the granite, which were not available. The works have now been postponed until next March.

b. Coastal Communities Fund (CCF4)

Delivery of CCF4 continues:

- Mel has been employed as the White Rock Co-ordinator under the programme and is linking with partners in the White Rock area and Havelock Road
- The Wi-Fi project is being extended
- A marketing campaign to promote the area is also being carried out and material will be published soon
- The White Rock fountain will be refurbished (subject to satisfactory structural survey results) and the consultation opens tomorrow

The Source continues to deliver events and just last night won the Historic England Heritage Angel award for the “best rescue of a historic building” as well as the Historic England Followers’ and Telegraph readers’ People’s Choice Award for a heritage project at an awards ceremony held in the Palace Theatre in London. Although this is good publicity for Hastings, Alan raised the lack of disabled access The Source as an issue. At the consultation stage, assurance was given that the build would be fully accessible, but this did not come to fruition. Kevin agreed to take this point back to ensure that the fountain development will be fully accessible.

Action: Kevin

c. Harbour update

At its September meeting, HBC Cabinet supported the principle of the proposed harbour and agreed to support the development of the business case.

Kevin explained that this is not a council driven project and although support was given, this in no way guarantees that the development will go ahead. A number of feasibility studies will have to be conducted to understand whether the environment is suitable for the development to go ahead. The drawing that was presented was an artist’s impression and in no way the final plan. It was confirmed that HBC has not contributed any funding towards the development at this stage. The developers are currently working on the project plan and timeline and it is not yet known when this plan will be published. It is likely that they will be engaging with local stakeholders at this point.

d. Net shops update

A restoration plan is going to be implemented soon and a site meeting is coming up. The area is being cleaned and will be made to look better and it is hoped this will be completed in the next couple of months.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Charity Committee Minutes 25th September 2017

The minutes were noted by the meeting.

b. Charity Committee AGM Minutes 25th September 2017

The minutes were noted by the meeting.

8. MEMBER UPDATES / ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Herring Fair last weekend – was a really successful event. Kevin thanked all who supported it. Lots of positive feedback was received and there was lots of herring available

- Pier – has seen an increase in footfall and social media followers since winning the RIBA Stirling prize and it is hope more will visit following further promotion.
- Hastings Lifeguards – are still struggling despite approaches to various organisations for support. Di has tried to contract the RNLI but has been unsuccessful. The club is booked to cover four major events next year, but its membership and income stream has been hit heavily. Any support will be very gratefully received. The chair has agreed to facilitate the discussion off line between Hastings Lifeguards, RNLI and HBC. **Action: Paul**
- West of Haven – problems had been encountered as the area is very exposed to problems with gates and unwanted visitors. It is recognised that ongoing problems are hard to solve but HBC colleagues Aaron Woods (Resort Manager), Ken Dullaway (Beach Inspector) and Paul Cosson (Parking Enforcement Manager) have been very helpful and Christine would like to have her thanks extended to them.
- Love Hastings – has been busy with the Christmas parade and lights switch on which takes place in Queens Road and around the town centre this coming Thursday
- Miniature railway – celebrates 70 years next year. Happy Harold will be celebrating 90 years
- West St Leonards Bathing Pool – display board is being created in house at HBC
- Bottle Alley – Sam explained that they have received a lot of good feedback on the lights which have been installed. HBC has arranged a formal switch on which will be taking place this coming Saturday at 5pm. Meeting place is at the Pier
- Storytelling Festival – took place the weekend before last and was very well attended. Dick extended his thanks to all who took part and to the Mayor for leading the procession
- Frost Fair – takes place in Kings Road, St Leonards on Saturday, 25th November
- World record Spurdog – was caught in the summer and it has been confirmed as a world record weighing 25lbs, 4oz. This has beaten the old record by 6lbs

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6pm, Tuesday, 27th February 2018 – Muriel Matters House

Meeting closed 19:26

Distribution:

Hastings & St Leonards Coastal Users Group
Charity Committee