

HASTINGS & ST.LEONARDS COASTAL USER GROUP MEETING

Notes of the meeting held on 16th August 2011

Present:-

Cllr Trevor Webb	Hastings Borough Council (Chair)
Nick Sangster	HBC Resort Services Manager
Jill Bradley	Hastings Old Town Residents Association
Steve Peak	Friends of Hastings Country Park
Kevin Boorman	HBC Head of Communications and Marketing
Paul Carter	East Hastings Sea Angling Association
Catherine Parr	America Ground and White Rock Business Group
Andre Palfrey Martin	Nautical Heritage Association/Gensing and Central St.Leonards Forum
Anne Scott	Old Hastings Preservation Society
Bernie Goldman	Hastings Urban Bikes
Dean Baker	Hastings Voluntary Lifeguards
Di Cooke	Hastings Voluntary Lifeguards
Philip Ornsby	Fishermen's Museum
Yasmin Ornsby	Stade Partnership
Chris Richards	Hastings Adventure Golf
Christine Boulton-Lane	West of Haven Beach Users Association
Cllr John Hodges	HBC
Cllr Peter Finch	HBC
Amy Shortman (ACS)	HBC Resort Services Team Administrator
Alan Care	Hastings & Rother Disability Forum

- 1. Apologies:-** Lawrence Bell, Marion Page-Mitchell, Paul Joy, Judy Scott, Virginia Gilbert, Brendan McDonagh, Bud White.
- 2. Foreshore Trust Items:-** NS introduced the Draft Foreshore Trust Business Plan 2011 -2014. Members were encouraged to comment during this:-

Item	Comments
Executive Summary – Item 2 / 5	<p>CR asked NS for clarification on a number of points relating to grant distribution. It was felt by the group that clarification of what was deemed to be “Charitable Purposes”, for example do they need to be events/activities by a registered charity?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action:- Request clarification from Borough Solicitor on where money can be granted and the grant making criteria. • Note – the Grant Making criteria will be agreed by the Charity Committee on 07.09.11
P.7 SWOT	AS requested that this incorporate other important parts of the town's heritage, including Burton St.Leonards and the Fishing Industry. It was felt that although these areas were not all on Foreshore Trust Land, investment in these areas

	<p>would add value to the Trust Land and help to maximise assets. It was suggested that SMART objectives were used to find further opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action:- Include the Historic Built Environment and Hastings Fishing Fleet to the SWOT analysis.
P. 8 Organisational Structure	<p>NS clarified that any operating surplus produced after funding the proposed Repairs & Renewals and Grants programme and is likely to be held in a holding account. An annual Report and Financial Account will be produced by The Head of Financial Services. NS proposed that the Seafront Action Plan be reviewed at the next CUG meeting as this would be a good opportunity to review progress and emerging priorities. NS clarified that the Foreshore Trust land was granted to the Town and 'subjects' not the Council. An independent surveyor appointed by the Foreshore Trust is currently drafting a recommendation to clarify the detail of boundary between Foreshore Trust and HBC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action:- ACS to circulate Foreshore Trust Map when agreed to the group. • Action:- Review the Seafront Management Plan at the next CUG meeting - All
P.11	<p>YO asked for clarification. Cllr Hodges commented that there needed to be a process of managing expenditure/income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action:- An Annual Report & Accounts will be presented to the next Charity Committee on 07.09.11 – ACS to circulate
P.11 items 29-34	<p>White Rock Baths</p> <p>NS updated those present on a proposal by "Life Cycle" which is being considered. The proposal was one of three received after from an invitation from the previous Trustee to visit the White Rock Baths and put forward proposals. The potential operator is likely to be responsible for the building works rather than the Foreshore Trust. A contribution of £167k has been agreed in principle which HBC have agreed to match.</p> <p>CR expressed concern that this had opportunity had not been advertised with the available grant and that other private businesses had therefore not been given equal opportunity to apply. It was felt by the group that other private businesses may well come forward with proposals in the knowledge that some financial contribution is available. Cllr Hodges expressed concern that issuing a short term lease did not in anyway prohibit a bigger scheme for the site and a longer term lease. CP expressed concerns about large pots of money going directly to one company and commented that whatever plan goes forward must be sustainable.</p> <p>NS informed those present of the costs involved in bringing</p>

	<p>the building back into use. AS raised the question as to whether “Life Cycle” were of Charitable Status. NS suggested that the term “grant” should be replaced with “contribution”.</p> <p>Cllr Hodges proposed that the White Rock Baths be advertised to the private sector with the available “contribution” before any short or long term lease is offered/agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Hodges proposed this and Anne Scott seconded. CR and CP withheld vote due to potential conflict of interest. 12 voted for this.</p> <p><u>Action</u>:- A request is made to the Foreshore Trust/HBC that the White Rock Baths are advertised to the private sector, taking into account the available contribution.</p> <p><u>Action</u>:- A Register of declared interest for CUG members is produced – ACS to circulate a register with minutes</p>
P.13 item 39	<p>CR expressed his concern about not expanding the car park at Pelham. CR commented that he gained business from the availability of parking in the area.</p> <p>AS requested a viewing area in Rock-a-Nore Car Park. SP also requested this. NS agreed to put forward as a short agenda item at the next Coastal User Group meeting.</p> <p><u>Action</u>:- ACS to add Viewing Areas – Rock a Nore Car Park as a future agenda item.</p>
P.20	<p>KB explained the current management and funding arrangements for the Stade Open Space and associated buildings</p>