

## HASSOCKS AMENITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of 241st meeting held Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Present: Diana Goodbourn (Chair), Jacqui Whatford, Juliet Strange, Catherine Cassidy, Heather West, Peter Gibbons, Tom Byrne, Chris Bere, Margaret Ford, Colin Wilsdon

Apologies for absence: Janet Slaughter, Judith Poncelet, Fred Maillardet, Dan Donovan, Kristian Berggreen, Lucinda Hawkes, Helena Spencer,  
Invited guest Amanda Kennard sent her apologies and asked to come long to the next meeting

Agreed minutes of the previous meeting, matters arising were included in the agenda

Youth Slot - TB & HS

The main celebration for Downland's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary the Half Century wood, has been planted. See Matthew Ashdown's, reply to MF's letter telling the school about the HAA project with the Turner's and plans for a seat.

The dining hall will be officially opened at the school coffee morning 2<sup>nd</sup> April

It was agreed that the HAA would not be represented with a stall at the Downlands fete in June.

Planning - JS/PG

See copy of the Planning Inspectorate's Cost Decision and Appeal Decision papers.  
Meeting at Haywards Heath Council Chambers is postponed til May because of forthcoming elections. PG explained that the application is at a stage where it could only be overturned if it went to the High Court.

Action - It was agreed that JS would write to the MSDC to express the HAA's concerns

Rail group update - CC

The plans for the station rebuild are progressing faster than anticipated. The funding is ring-fenced. Although the station will be modular, the Rail group is being consulted regarding the detailed design. Network Rail will discuss their initial plans and hold a

public consultation with a viewing of some sorts at the Parish Council. It is anticipated that work should start in the Autumn and be completed Winter 2012.

The station carpark will be expanded Summer 2012. Car parking costs remain an issue which we can't influence locally the Burgess Hill car park is cheaper to compete with nearby parking costs. The revised Sunday service is a success. The 7.21 to London has an unacceptable major overcrowding problem which is being looked into but unlikely to be resolved soon. SMART cards may be issued for passengers to purchase for their chosen price and fares are deducted for each train/bus journey.

#### Notice Boards DG

The notice boards at the top of Chancellors Park by the Infants school are hindering access when the area gets crowded with parents etc. DG, MF recently met with the Monday Group to discuss the possibility of replacing them with one larger board to be placed further back to allow access. The Parish Council insists that the board is currently owned by the HAA and as we are unable to find any records of ownership the HAA is leading on the works needed.

Action - DG waiting for the Council to advise if planning permission is required to erect a larger board, the HAA to draw up a policy on who may use the board and how to 'police' it. Cost £250

#### Wild bird field

Malcolm le Grys suggested that the HAA eventually might provide a large board, such as those at RSPB reserves, to illustrate the various birds that may be seen. In the meantime, a smaller project might be more appropriate.

Action - MF & DG discussed how to best display the local bird information with the Sussex Wildlife Trust. Mike Russell, suggested laminated cards with details of the birds and is getting back to DG with the costs for the cards.

#### Treasurer's Report - HW

Total balance £4007

Note that the recent budget has simplified accessing gift aid.

Action DG to ask Patrick Shannon if he will help the HAA calculate the gift aid for 2010 - 11

#### Any other business

JS promoted the Oldland Mill Barn Dance to be held on Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

Light up Hassocks, CC explained that events are taking place throughout the year to support Light Up Hassocks, volunteers are encouraged to be involved or manage fund raising activities and in particular a volunteer to replace Lucinda and lead the project, which is currently managed by the WI fundraising sub group. The Light Up - Christmas event will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

There will be a Curry & Quiz night held at the Hassocks Hotel on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May £10 ticket

Next meeting date to be arranged following the AGM which will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at 7.30pm at the Hassocks Hotel