

HASSOCKS AMENITY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 PM

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| | Margaret Ford (Chair) | Catherine Cassidy (Rail Group Chair) | |
| | Judith Poncelet (membership) | Peter Gibbons | |
| | Bob Kenhard (Treasurer) | Georgia Cheshire | |
| | Fred Maillardet | Jonathan Soper | |
| | Colin Wilsdon | Paul Mercer and Liz Mercer | |
| | Anne Knowles (observer) | Erika Woodhurst-Trueman | |
| | The chairman welcomed Anne Knowles, who had already joined the Green Group, as an observer. Erika who, alongside Fred Maillardet, was representing us at the merger discussions with Hassocks Community Partnership, attended for the latter part of the meeting. | | |
| 1 | Apologies were received from Juliet Merrifield, Janet Slaughter, Virginia Pullan and Jordan and Megan from Downlands School. | | |
| 2 | The Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were agreed and signed. | | |
| 3. | <p>Resignation of Membership Secretary</p> <p>Judith announced, with regret, that owing to increased work commitments she found herself unable to continue as membership secretary.</p> <p>Members recalled that she had served for over ten years, overseen the change to computerisation of membership records, and had always been ready to help at all our activities. She would be greatly missed.</p> <p>Liz Mercer had offered to take her place, an offer which was gratefully accepted.</p> | | |
| 4. | <p>Operation Watershed</p> <p>At short notice, HAA had been asked to administer funds available through WSCC Operation Watershed to investigate flooding issues in Hassocks. A grant of £11,000 had been received in respect of the Lodge Lane/Downlands Avenue area and Parklands Road. Contracts had been issued, and the first reports received. These were now being studied and discussions with the contractors were on-going.</p> | | |
| 5 | <p>Group Reports</p> <p>The Green Group. Georgia reported that she was now a member of the Parish Council's Environment Committee with the happy result of enhanced co-operation, with the Council funding matching ironwork baskets on the east side of Grand Avenue as well as funding general planting and new displays on Keymer Parade. We were now responsible for the planting and maintenance of eight sites in the village. A programme had been drawn up and the Group would be meeting seasonally to plan their work.</p> <p>Members expressed their appreciation of all the work Georgia and her group had done. They had already transformed parts of the village. It was especially pleasing that the Group was now working in close collaboration with HKD Transition on improving the Herring stream. This, in conjunction with the knowledge gained from Operation Watershed, the involvement of the Sussex Wildlife Trust and the Ouse and Adur River Trust was beginning to indicate the need for HAA to have a much more focussed concern for environmental issues in Hassocks.</p> <p>The Community Working Group. Fred Maillardet took the meeting through the first draft of the discussion document <i>Planning for the Future</i> (previously circulated) and Erika, who had been mainly responsible for the drafting also responded to comments and questions. The draft met with general approval, the only substantive alteration being a re-arrangement of the structure of the Community Partnership, suggested by Colin.</p> | | |

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| | <p>Erika and Fred would continue to meet with representatives of HCP (Catherine Cassidy and Jeremy Wakeham). It was anticipated that some of the gaps in the document would be filled by December and that an informal get-together of all interested parties might be possible in February.</p> <p>Fred and Erika were thanked for the many hours of work that they had devoted over the last few months which had resulted in impressive progress.</p> <p>The Rail Group. Catherine reported that the Group was still waiting for a draft of the new December timetable. In the meantime, rail services seemed to be more stable. The constant closure of the ticket office was a source of concern, especially as it was now often closed in the afternoons and sometimes at weekends. Now that the new franchise was in place, this, and other local issues, would be raised with the new management when a date can be agreed.</p> | |
| 6 | <p>Treasurer's Report</p> | |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is attached. 2. A request was received from Steve Berry for a donation towards the advertising costs of his website : www.hassocksandhurstpierpoint.info After carefully considering the application for there was general appreciation for all the work done in keeping the site up to date and relevant, but there were some aspects that members wanted to know more about and some hesitation about the most appropriate way to help. It was agreed that Jonathan would meet with Steve to discuss further. Post Meeting Note: Steve has not yet decided what he wishes to do with the site and so the matter is in abeyance until further notice. 3. Paul Mercer needs to be added to the bank mandate. | BK |
| 7. | <p>The Village Lottery</p> <p>Bob proposed the lottery for 2016 should run from January 2016 through to December rather than bridging two years. The lottery should also benefit those groups actively involved in running of the scheme which would now include groups within Hassocks Community Partnership. The proceeds for 2014-15 of £1000 each to the Scouts, Light Up Hassocks and HAA should be made. This was agreed. Volunteers were forthcoming to assist with the running of the new lottery and Bob agreed to arrange a team meeting as soon as possible to kick off the planning and allocate responsibilities. It was agreed that the record keeping, allocation of numbers etc. should rest with Paul and Bob.</p> | BK BK |
| | <p>8. Bus Services</p> <p>The Chairman reported that Peter Gibbons had alerted her to a change in bus timetabling from 1st September. The 40X service between PRH and the Sussex County Hospital was now to be supplemented by a second service run by a different bus company. Unfortunately, both services were routed through London Road/Stonepound, so that neither served the needs of Hassocks residents living in the centre of the village. It was agreed that the Chair ask for a meeting with the Sussex Bus Company. A minor change of route via Ockley Lane/Keymer Road (the Library)/Spitalford/Stonepound would enable many more people to access the hospital where parking was so difficult that even car owners would use a bus service if it was available. It was agreed that Margaret contact the Sussex Bus Company and ask for a meeting. [This has now been requested, and John Rose (Age Concern) is happy also to be involved.]</p> | MF |
| | <p>9. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 1st December</p> | |

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2130.

HAA TREASURER'S REPORT 29-09-15

Cash balances:

| as at 29/09/2015 | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Bank Current | £704.79 |
| Bank Deposit | £21,292.38 |
| Lottery Current | £378.93 |
| Cash to hand | £22,376.10 |

Restricted & Discretionary Funds - Balances.

| Station Group Fund | DR | CR |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| Opening balance | | £2,172.46 |
| Leaflets/other | -£193.88 | |
| Balance | | £1,978.58 |
| Spitalford Bridge | | |
| Opening balance | -£1,388.87 | |
| Spending/Donation | -£1,514.22 | £235.00 |
| Balance | -£2,668.09 | |
| Lottery | | |
| Opening balance | | £5,216.33 |
| prizes paid/issued | -£1,504.00 | |
| new members | | £27.00 |
| Balance | | £3,739.33 |
| Op Watershed | | £13,236.00 |
| Bank Balance | | £22,376.10 |
| Total Restricted Funds | | £19,326.28 |
| Other spending ytd | -1900.51 | |
| Total unrestricted funds | | £1,149.31 |

Income Expectation & Spending Commitments

- a. Income - £1000 from lottery
- b. Spending - £500 for HPC tree planting, £150 towards Herring Stream regeneration.
£200 for village planting, £1000 for LUH and £1000 for Scouts??

