

ROTHERHAM DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday, 6th April 2010 at 7.00 p.m. at Woodlands Club

Present: S.Crowther (Chairman), B.King, P.Hawkridge, S.Davies, D.Sykes, G.Boothman, R.Eddington, P.Nowill, I.Hawkridge.

1. Apologies: B.Fletcher.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of the 2nd March 2010 were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters arising:

- i) Karl Battersby's reply re: RUFC Ltd / Guest & Chrimes site reported.
- ii) The Chairman is not available 2nd Tuesday in May due to a prior engagement so AGM re-scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday in May.
- iii) E-mail received from Alan Tate expressing sadness at Sheila's recent death.
- iv) Friends of Firbeck Hall grateful for the Society's support. They have e-mailed five newsletters which have been placed on the website.
- v) No response yet from the RMBC Chief Executive re; our letter concerning the proposed Sheffield City Region. Current developments in Manchester and Leeds were discussed.
- vi) The Secretary recently attended a meeting with 6 members of the Heritage Association regarding their proposed survey of buildings at risk.

4. Organisational review: Nothing to report.

5. Social committee: Nothing to report.

6. Listed buildings and conservation areas:

- i) 58 Church Lane, Dinnington – replace windows.
- ii) Thackray Farm, Brampton en le Morthen – part demolition of boundary wall.
- iii) 9 Moorgate Road – single storey side extension.
- iv) 14a High Street – change of use of 1st & 2nd floors to two flats.
- v) Swinton House Club – tree felling; appeal inquiry 13th April.
- vi) Blenheim House, Doncaster Road – up for sale at a price of £425,000.

7. Major applications: Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence:

- i) Invite to Dronfield Civic Society AGM – clashes with our 18th May AGM.
- ii) Alison Rodgers re; Turning the Clock Back – Rotherham Red Choir 30th April
- iii) Ian Harvey, Civic Voice, re; Trustee election. 19 candidates for 6 places. Also outlined the new organisation's mission statement and vision for 2015. To be fully effective needs the majority of Civic Societies to join Civic Voice. £1-50

p.a. per member has been set as the levy. So far 100 Societies with 20,000 members have joined which means Civic Voice has £30,000 against its first year target of £170,000. Arrangements will be made for those that join Civic Voice to be insured through Bluefin but it is not clear whether this will involve them in additional expenditure above the £1-50 member levy.

Tony Burton, Civic Voice Chief Executive, had also e-mailed to emphasise that the organisation needs to be more financially secure than was the case with the Civic Trust during its final years.

D.Sykes expressed strong views that this was a case of 'empire building'.

Members again questioned the relationship of the national body to YHACS, and the extent to which the Society's needs could be met by networking with other societies, which already takes place. Peter Cooper at YHACS has made it quite clear that the regional body feels there is a need for Civic Voice and that they are not mutually exclusive.

YHACS, AGM, 24th April in York. Possibly to be attended by S.Davies.

Further consideration of membership of Civic Voice to be deferred until the outcome of this meeting is known.

- iv) Rotherham Heritage Fair, 22nd May – after much discussion it was agreed to provide an unmanned stand utilising last year's 'Theatre display'.
- v) 23rd March Government policy statement PPS 5 identifying 6 key heritage issues and emphasising the role of the voluntary sector in 'place making'.

9. Treasurer's report:

i)	Deposit a/c	£700
	Current a/c	£749.
	Deficit on year	£238-97.

- ii) Bernard has written to Corporate Members inviting them to renew at £35 p.a.
- iii) Brian indicated that he was storing the Society's VHS recorder. Not usable now that the Society's presentation is on DVD format. B.K. was authorised to negotiate its disposal with the Talbot Lane Methodist Church.

10. RMBC minutes: Nothing to report.

11. Fund raising: Nothing to report.

12. Items under review:

- i) Environment Award Trophy:-
 - Need to determine the nomination years.
 - Circulate invitations to put forward nominations to Society members, the Sheffield branch of the RIBA, and the local press.
 - Refurbishment and new build are eligible for the award.
- ii) The Society's insurance requirements will need to be addressed in the context of the final decision on membership of Civic Voice.

13. Any other business: None.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 18th May 2010 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

AGENDA

1	Apologies	25 minutes
2	Minutes of previous meeting	
3	Matters arising	
4	Organisational review	10 minutes
5	Social committee	
6	Listed buildings and conservation areas	5 minutes
7	Major planning applications	5 minutes
8	Correspondence	20 minutes
9	Treasurer's report	5 minutes
10	RMBC minutes	15 minutes
11	Fund raising	
12	Items under review	15 minutes
13	Any other business	