

ROTHERHAM DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

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

Present: B. King (Chair), S. Crowther (Honorary President), P. Hawkrige (Secretary), D. Sykes, P. Nowill, M. Hoggard, I. Hawkrige.

1. Apologies: S. Davies, B. Fletcher, G. Boothman, R. Eddington.

2. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of the 1st June 2010 were agreed as a true record with the correction to the spelling of 'Philippa'.

3. Matters arising:

- (i) Work is ongoing on the 'Rotherham's Victorians' booklet.
- (ii) Boston Castle – a letter had been sent to Clr Barry Dodson, Chair of Area Assembly, but no reply received. As things stand security will be provided by an auto dial system to which Green Spaces staff will respond as soon as possible. P.H. to contact J. Staveley (Green Spaces) and T. Brannen to get further clarification.

4. Organisational review:

Mr & Mrs Harrison (Life Members) having moved to Tickhill now find it more difficult to attend and had suggested their withdrawal in order to save the Society money. The Committee felt that they should continue to be notified of important Society matters.

Life Members:	48
Standing order members	20
Cheque members	10

5. Social committee: Nothing to report.

6. Listed buildings and conservation areas:

- (i) Single storey extension, Old Hall Farm, High Street, Kimberworth.
- (ii) Satellite dish, Main Street, Ravenfield.
- (iii) Conversion of stables to 5 dwellings, Barker Hades Road, Letwell.
- (iv) Shop fascia sign, Imperial Buildings – provoked discussion as to whether the Society could object to the spelling used by some shops – 'Yella', 'Boi' etc. It was concluded that there were no grounds to do this as these were being used as trade names.
- (v) It was agreed that Karl Battersby should be contacted to establish the current status of the Three Cranes project in the light of the funding cutbacks affecting Yorkshire Forward..
- (vi) It was agreed that the Quarterly Liaison Meetings need scheduling.

7. Major applications: Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence:

- (i) The President reported receipt of correspondence relating to the draft South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide. Prepared with the support of 'Transform South Yorkshire' to inform the Local Development Framework process. Document in libraries and on the website. Comments by 4 pm Friday 23rd July.
This provoked a wide ranging discussion. It was agreed that P.H. would respond by questioning whether the draft document remains valid in the light of the coalition Government's recent decisions in relation to 'garden grabbing' and housing densities. If it is still valid can more time be allowed for comments.
- (ii) YHACS meeting, Bridlington, 24th July. Includes presentation by Graham Bell, North of England Civic Trust, on the Grainger Town initiative, Newcastle. The Chairman agreed to contact S. Davies on this.
- (iii) Rotherham Heritage Association minutes – reference to several owners of important old buildings being in bankruptcy. Thames House, George Wright building mentioned.
- (iv) Friends of Rotherham Archives – correspondence re: new display case.
- (v) Letter from Leeds Civic Trust re: Heritage Open Days forwarded by RMBC with the suggestion that the Society organise this as the RMBC member of staff is on maternity leave. P.H. to enquire of the Heritage Association whether this is their area of interest.

9. Treasurer's report:

Current a/c: £1,283.

Deposit a/c: £ 700.

10. RMBC minutes: Nothing to report.

11. Fund raising:

- (i) Concerns re: declining membership, lack of social events, lack of meetings addressing important issues.
- (ii) P.H. didn't meet the T.R.C. Principal as anticipated, and had now obtained a staff contact with whom he would raise the issue of student membership.
- (iii) Newsletter needed to explain what the Society is currently doing. The President to look at this matter.

12. Items under review:

- (i) The Sheila Cameron Award – for service contributing to the aims of the Society. It would possibly comprise a small shield and P. H. is to obtain some

idea of the cost. It would be awarded annually and Mr George Cameron should be asked to present the first one.

- (ii) The Stan Crowther Environment Award – no responses yet. P.H. to send a press release to the Rotherham Advertiser and contact RMBC Planners. It was agreed that 2008 and 2009 would be the qualifying years. End of September for applications.

13. Any other business:

- (i) Belvedere Hotel, Moorgate – D. Sykes indicated that local residents had received a letter about turning it into a community pub – no further discussion.
- (ii) The President had spoken to Keith Billington about the chairmanship but he showed no enthusiasm for the idea.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 3rd AUGUST 2010 AT 19.00 HOURS

AGENDA

1	Apologies	
2	Minutes of previous meeting	25 minutes
3	Matters arising	
4	Organisational review	
5	Social committee	10 minutes
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	