

ROTHERHAM DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday, 5th October 2010 at 7.00 p.m. at Woodlands Club

Present: B. King, (Chair), S. Crowther (Honorary President), P. Hawkrige (Secretary), R. Eddington, P. Nowill, I. Hawkrige.

1. Apologies: G. Boothman, S.Davies, B. Fletcher, M. Hoggard, D. Sykes.
2. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of the 7th September 2010 were accepted as a true record, subject to the correction that the Secretary had not visited Breathing Space but had been in contact by telephone.
3. Matters arising:
 - (i) Boston Castle – The President apologised for the fact that the letter to RMBC had not been sent. It was agreed that the Secretary would extract details from the recent Newsletter item and send the letter to RMBC.
 - (ii) It was confirmed that the Treasurer had purchased the Shield for the Sheila Cameron Award.
 - (iii) The Environment Trophy was described in order that the Secretary could approach Breathing Space and secure its return to the Society.
 - (iv) RUFC Community Stadium – not yet submitted to the Planning Board.
 - (v) The Committee Lunch – Jeremy Blundell and Mary Hirst interested.
 - (vi) The content of IH's draft letter to RMBC, regarding the relocation of the Central Library, was approved. Discussion ensued re: internal restructuring of Education asset management, the possible siting of a 'Free School' in Marks and Spencer's former store etc. It was agreed that a copy of the Society's letter should be forwarded to Clr. Ian St John for information.
 - (vii) RMBC minutes – The Secretary had contacted Karl Battersby who was unaware that the Society was no longer receiving the minutes. For a trial period the Secretary would access the minutes, for meetings chaired by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Environment, from the internet.
4. Organisational review: Nothing to report.
5. Social committee: Committee Lunch: Presentation first, then the lunch.
6. Listed buildings and conservation areas:
 - (i) Conversion of farmhouse and barn to 4 dwellings, Holme Farm, Brampton-en-le Morthen.
 - (ii) Demolition of barn, 3 new dwelling houses, Church street, Kimberworth.
 - (iii) Renovation works at the Poplars, Upper Whiston Lane.
 - (iv) Conversion and extension of barn to form 2 dwellings, Thackray Farm, Brampton-en-le-Morthen.
 - (v) Installation of velux windows at Kirkstead Abbey Mews, Thorpe Hesley.

7. Major applications:

- (i) Storage of redundant London Underground train carriages on the car park adjoining Millmoor Football Ground. Details of RMBC's report on C.F.Booth Ltd's application were read out by the Secretary. Permission valid until 31st March 2012.
- (ii) The new Waverley community – details of the planning permission were discussed. It was noted that the developer was to fund two new primary schools, contribute towards the cost of a new library, highway works etc. The matter of affordable housing provision was discussed in some detail.
- (iii) Helical Governetz outline application for 60,000 sq m office development, and 120 bed hotel at Highfield Spring, Catcliffe (part of the Waverley site).
- (iv) The 'Yes Project', Rother Valley – supplemental legal agreement under S. 106.
- (v) Erection of 16 dwellings on the site of Listerdale Nursing Home – housing density a concern in the context of the South Yorkshire Housing Design Guide. Possible need for reference to the Secretary of State as RMBC land.
- (vi) Application for amendment to car parking requirements at the Manchester Methodist HA development, 19-21 Moorgate Road. Members queried what car parking provision there could be at this 12 apartment development.

8. Correspondence:

- (i) Churches Conservation Trust – Wentworth Old Church – Fitzwilliam Amenity Trust grant.
- (ii) Newsletter e-mailed to Peter Cooper at YHACS.
- (iii) Heritage Inspired – funding support ends 12/2011, bookings only being taken till November for talks by Pat McGloughlin.
- (iv) Heritage Association minutes 13/9/2010 – the Secretary read out the contents of minute no. 3 which related to correspondence with RMBC's Conservation Officer. It was also noted that the new owner of Masbrough Chapel is a Mr Haroon Rashid, a director of the previous owner's company.

9. Treasurer's report: Minimal change in the financial position.

10. RMBC minutes:

- (i) Proposals for dimming street lighting. (D32, 9/8/2010).
- (ii) The new Regional Growth Fund – a cut of 80% on previous monies available from the RDA's, and a competitive bidding process. (G39, 6/9/2010)
- (iii) Broom Road/Wickersley Road – possible traffic regulation order affecting Rudston School and the Hospice. Changes to bus lane / bus lay-by also in prospect. Timing subject to funding. (G42, 6/9/2010).
- (iv) Procurement of Library Design Services for Riverside House civic building. (G47, 13/9/2010).
- (v) ERDF funding bid for 'Soft Landing Zone' activity in RMBC Business Centres (G51, 20/9/2010).

11. Fund raising:

It was agreed that:

- (i) the remaining 33 copies of the 'Early Methodism' booklet be sold to Archive and Local Studies for £2 per copy.

- (ii) subject to any amendments suggested by the President, 100 copies of the ‘Rotherham’s Victorians (1)’ booklet be printed and sold at £2 each.

12. Items under review: Nothing to report.

13. Any other business:

- (i) R.E. raised the matter of £30,000 which RMBC proposed to spend in removing the Boots/Market fountain. It was felt that the fountain could be drained, filled in, and planted with shrubs at a much lower cost. R.E. to draft a letter and forward to the Secretary.
- (ii) LDF Steering Group minutes 17/9/2010 – adoption of an interim housing target for Rotherham of 750 net new dwellings per annum.

The meeting closed at 8.39 p.m.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2010 AT 19.00 HOURS

Note:

With regard to item 3 (iii) above I can find no record that the Environment Trophy has been awarded to the Breathing Space project which was completed in June 2007.

I have checked the Executive Committee minutes, the Newsletter, and local press coverage and find no reference to the Trophy having been awarded to Breathing Space.

As far as I can establish the Environment Trophy has been awarded for the following periods:

1992/1993	Brampton Old Hall.
1995/1996	Park Mount, Clifton Lane.
1997/1998	Rotherham Hospice/The Chesterfield Canal.
1999/2000	Manor Farm, Thorpe Salvin.
2001/2002	No suitable project identified.
2003/2004	Learning Disability Service, Badsley Moor Lane.

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	