

## ROTHERHAM DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

### Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday, 7th September 2010 at 7.10 p.m. at Woodlands Club

**Present:** B. King (Chair), S. Crowther (Honorary President), S. Davies, B. Fletcher, P. Nowill, I. Hawkridge.

1. Apologies: P. Hawkridge, G. Boothman, R. Eddington, M. Hoggard, D. Sykes.

2. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2010 were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters arising:

- (i) Boston Castle – The President is to do a strong piece on this subject on the front page of the forthcoming newsletter. He read out a letter from Janet Worrall outlining changes to the scheme in the light of RMBC financial cutbacks. Potentially now up to 90% Heritage Lottery Fund grant. March 2011 HLF Committee. August 2011 earliest start date. Support required by the ‘Friends of’ for its inclusion on the Buildings at Risk Register. The President is to draft a letter to RMBC expressing dismay and dissatisfaction about it dragging its feet and not pressing the case harder. This letter to be sent by the Secretary. I.H. read out an extract from Andy Lee’s (Green Spaces Operations Manager) letter regarding current and future security arrangements.
- (ii) The Sheila Cameron Award – B.F. indicated the cost of the Shield would be £90, and circulated a catalogue containing the recommended design which was agreed.
- (iii) RUFC Community Stadium planning application consultation. Reply sent 10<sup>th</sup> August seeking to address key issues contained in the 450 page Environmental Statement and 350 page Planning Support Statement. RMBC since responded that the (Planning Board) report will *also address the issues raised within your letter*. No date for the Planning Board meeting yet agreed.
- (iv) The Committee Lunch – Secretary to put details on the website. 29<sup>th</sup> October, 12 noon, Brecon Hotel agreed. Also to be referred to in the Newsletter. The Chantry Room holds 16 people. If more demand will use a larger room.

4. Organisational review: Nothing to report.

5. Social committee: Nothing to report.

6. Listed buildings and conservation areas:

- (i) Demolition of outbuildings and extensions to rear and side plus a detached garage, Step Cottage, 22 Church Street, Wales.
- (ii) Two storey side and single storey rear extension, car park extension etc at Aston Hall Hotel, Aston for Tomahawk Holdings Ltd. Reference was made to the fact that the company had gone into administration the previous week.
- (iii) Re-roofing, new roof lights, gutters, fall pipes at 4 Laughton Road, Dinnington
- (iv) Installation of new shop front & signs, 33a Effingham Street for Eden Mobility.

7. Major applications: Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence:

- (i) Charity Commission News. Issue 31 the last printed issue. Published online in future.
- (ii) Civic Voice 'news alert'. 'Breakthrough for Street Pride Campaign'.
- (iii) Civic Voice 'your voice' I.H. read out the key points from issue 4, August 2010.
- (iv) Directory of Social Change – 'Social Change Awards' - sent 31<sup>st</sup> August with a closing date of 3<sup>rd</sup> September for nominations!
- (v) Heritage Association Newsletter: Referring to Masbrough Chapel, Guest & Chrimes Building, and a talk by Stephen Gay on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 'Scenic Britain by Train'. Reference is also made to the fact that Dignity Funerals Ltd ARE responsible for the upkeep of Moorgate Cemetery. It is now likely that the Probation Service will be involved in its upkeep in much the same way they were involved before Dignity took over.

9. Treasurer's report:

Current a/c £1,528 – 24.

Deposit a/c £ 700 – 38.

B.F. referred to a letter received from RBS warning that a large number of branches were to be sold off to Santander Bank. He also referred to the fact that on the RBS Gold Account it is no longer possible to have standing order arrangements.

10. RMBC minutes: This matter still needs progressing by the Secretary.

11. Fund raising: Nothing to report.

12. Items under review:

- (i) Newsletter: The President added to earlier comments indicating that:
  - Page 1 – Boston Castle.
  - Page 2 – Volunteers needed / The Sheila Cameron Award.
  - Page 3 – Government policies in the melting pot / Environment Trophy.
  - Page 4 – Firbeck Hall and its purchase by Jason Cooper of Georgia & India Trading Co for £350k. / Anyone for Lunch?It was agreed that 100 copies be printed with VAR assistance.

- (ii) Environment Award Trophy. It was reported that the Secretary had visited the Breathing Space premises seeking the return of the trophy, which could not be found. The Secretary was asked to formally write to Breathing Space requesting its return or alternatively for payment to be made to cover the cost of a replacement.  
Press release sent to the Rotherham Advertiser but no article has yet been published.

13. Any other business:

- (i) Reference was made to the recent announcement that the Central Library would be relocated to the new Riverside House civic offices on Don Street. It was agreed that I.H. should write to RMBC and seek further clarification e.g. temporary or permanent move, relocation options for Archives and Local Studies, Arts Centre, and York and Lancaster Regimental Museum.
- (ii) It was noted that a number of committee members are receiving correspondence with the envelopes having become opened or unstuck. The quality of the envelopes being used needs looking at.

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 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	