

# Wirksworth Civic Society

## Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2005

### *Draft minutes*

#### **Present:**

Colin Pidgeon, Chair  
Graham Barfield, Secretary  
Janet Pidgeon, Minuting Secretary  
Barrie Joyce  
Ian Dare  
Adam Lathbury  
Ken Acons

#### **Apologies**

Marian Vaughan  
Andy Link

#### **Minutes of previous meeting**

Agreed

#### **Matters arising**

- Wirksworth Care Centre – concerns raised do not appear to have been addressed.

*Action: GB to remind MR*

- Memorial clock – GB met with George Millward - prime position confirmed as being Memorial Hal.l
- Market Celebrations 2006 – next meeting of Steering Group 9th May at 11.00am.

*Action: Chair to attend*

Discussion on role of NOW in celebrations; GB explained that NOW acts a device in terms of accessing funding; CP indicated that NOW has an extended brief carrying additional time for to enable Diane Sheppard to extend her role.

- Posting Minutes of CS Committee Meetings on the website –discussion on whether unapproved minutes should be made public;AGM Minutes have already been posted.

Agreement to post future minutes as '*Draft*

*Action: JP to email minutes to Andy Link after consulting Chair & Secretary*

- Town Map & audit – ID is currently undertaking monthly audit of his area, no major issues to report so far.

Marion & Gerry Vaughan & Jeremy Taylor have volunteered to take on an area

*Action: ID to contact & follow up*

MV has reported broken paving stone outside Peak House.

Discussion on establishing next steps in liaising with the appropriate bodies on issues & repairs etc.

Issues from audits to be brought to Committee.

There is no town map showing responsibilities of District & County Councils.

*Action: BJ & AL to investigate*

- a) *mechanism for liaising with Town Council re audit issues*
- b) *Ordnance Survey maps with a view to mapping responsibilities as issues arise*

*GB to send letter re footpath outside Peak House to R. Hardy, Highways Dept*

- Merit Award – photo of Owners of Peak House receiving their award published in Peak Advertiser & Matlock Mercury.

### **Agenda Items**

- GB reported that he is collecting & sorting papers from previous Officers of the Society.

He has discovered that the Society is affiliated to the National Civic Trust at a cost of £50 p.a. with £190 for insurance (25% of the annual income from subscriptions).

*Action: GB to investigate*

- a) *whether the Society needs public liability cover as buildings used for meetings are likely to have their own*
- b) *what we are covered for*

- GB has discovered the a copy of the Constitution amended in 2001; copies were circulated.

*Action: to be discussed at the next Committee meeting & may be posted on the website*

- GB informed that the Baptist Church is opening its newly refurbished hall on Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2.00-4.00pm; opening ceremony 4.00pm.

*Action: CP & JP to attend; may raise insurance – if appropriate; GB to follow up with letter*

- Outstanding from AGM – no Treasurer elected.

*Action: a)JP to become Acting Treasurer*

*b) signatories to be: GB, JP, BJ*

- Financial situation – Balance- £1650.65  
Sculpture account -£1171.31.

- GB circulated list of activities for next season –thanked by Committee for highly impressive programme.

*Action: draft programme to be posted on website – GB to action*

- Subscription- proposed increase to be discussed at a Committee meeting closer to AGM.

*Action: CP & GB to add to agenda when appropriate*

- Environmental improvement on edge of churchyard – BJ explained the history and background to the area, including removal of seats & wall & introduction of paved area with reduction of planting. Scheme was not well received & area is perceived to be bleak.

Sculptural stone bench already proposed for area with commercial sponsorship sought.

BJ proposed considering sculptural enclosure of area to complement wall, which previously completely encircled churchyard.

AL emphasised intended use of area as performance space, but currently under-utilised.

Committee agreed proposal in principle; initial step to approach individuals involved in local Arts' activities to discuss process, possibly to invite designs from local artists, linking into Art & Architecture Trail.

*Action: as first steps of process, BJ to invite Jenny Hoon & Ralph Selby to next Committee meeting*

- BJ reported that photos of paved area have not yet been sent to David Knightly Charitable Trust who provided funding.

*Action ID offered to take photos; BJ to send on*

### **Any other items**

- KA has been pushing the District Council to undertake a survey of retail & commercial properties in Town Centre, including vacancy rates, rent levels, etc & to inform Civic Society of requests for planning permission. He has received a letter from Paul Goodson, Planning services Manager, agreeing to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the Town Centre between 2005 & 2008 , subject to receiving a grant.

*Action: KA to draft a letter of thanks with a request for an early assessment & will follow up with a reminder; GB will send the letter*

- CP queried the relationship between the CS & the Town Council & the mechanics of communication.

It was explained that MR sits on the committee for the Conservation Area & Listed Buildings; otherwise, we are reliant on people noticing things & drawing them to the CS Committee's attention.

GB reported checking on 3 applications drawn to his attention by MR; he wrote on behalf of the CS requesting that they be turned down.

CP expressed concern over a development impinging on the Heritage Centre

*Action: KA volunteered to look at planning applications & bring them to the Committee; he will liaise with MR on areas of responsibility.*

- GB drew attention to The East Midlands Amenities Committee & passed on information to the Chair.

- Agendas for future meetings.

*Action: Chair & Secretary to set agendas jointly*

***Next meeting: Tuesday 31st May, 7.30pm***

***10 Summer Drive***

***Please confirm attendance***