

MINUTES of the MEETING of the HERITAGE SUB-COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on TUESDAY 15 JANUARY 2019 at 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Councillor Ms L C Howes (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs A E D Barham
Councillor Ms L M Cross (substituting for Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill)
Councillor Ms L M Hall
Councillor D J Mote

ALSO PRESENT: Brenda Bobby – Friends of Swanscombe Heritage Park (FOSHP)
Shirley Fahy - FOSHP
Martin Harding, Assistant Town Clerk & RFO
x3 Members of the public

ABSENT: Councillor R J Lees

399/18-19. **ARRANGEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS REGARDING FILMING OR RECORDING THE MEETING.**

The Chairman explained the arrangements and constraints relating to the filming or recording of the meeting.

400/18-19. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill.

401/18-19. **SUBSTITUTES.**

Councillor Ms L M Cross substituted for Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill.

402/18-19. **TO DECLARE INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

The Chairman gave the opportunity for the meeting to be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

403/18-19. **URGENT ITEMS / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES.**

There were none.

404/18-19. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2018.**

Recommended: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

405/18-19. HERITAGE PARK IMPROVEMENTS.

The ATC/RFO gave a verbal update on ongoing work being undertaken for improvement to the Heritage Park.

Members were informed that the ATC/RFO was due to meet with Historic England shortly to formalise a plan to create a Heritage Watch group, this may follow the Heritage Watch conference scheduled for 6 February 2019 in Ramsgate. The ATC/RFO confirmed he would be in attendance and had been asked to give a presentation on managing heritage in an urban setting.

The ATC/RFO confirmed that North Kent Countryside Partnership (NKCP) had completed works on phase one of the pond through to the liner being installed. The site had now been left secure and further funding was being sought to install the pathway, fence and dipping platform. The ATC/RFO was due to have a meeting with NKCP to discuss phase two which would involve the planting and finishing of the pond, this work was hoped to be delivered in April this year.

Natural England and the ATC/RFO would be undertaking a site visit at the end of February which would include an update on progress made and also to gather information on what activities could be incorporated around the geological conference in July which would include a dig at the Skull Site.

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO continue working on the current funding projects and report back to this Sub-committee from the planned meetings with Historic England, NKCP and Natural England.

406/18-19. HERITAGE DESIGNATION & HERITAGE WATCH.

Members were provided with examples of heritage markers that would be available from Historic England as part of Heritage Watch.

Members discussed the designs and felt that it would not be in the Town Councils interest to create its own marker to designate specific sites as the options provided by Historic England would be sufficient to highlight assets within the Town.

Members felt that when choosing the final design, consideration should be given to what the other trial sites (Hollingborne & Ramsgate) decide upon as this may help to establish an identifiable marker across all locations.

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO liaise with Historic England regarding the designs being chosen across all three trial sites.

407/18-19. FRIENDS OF SWANSCOMBE HERITAGE PARK (FOSHP) REPORT OF ACTIVITIES.

Brenda Bobby provided an update which included that the next community event would be the Easter Egg Hunt in April.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

408/18-19. **HERITAGE PARK WEBSITE**

The ATC/RFO reminded members that any items to be included on the website needed to be forwarded to him.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

409/18-19. **ANY OTHER ITEMS RELATED TO HERITAGE.**

The Chairman updated members that the Local History Group had been made aware that the roof of the chapel in Swanscombe Cemetery had deteriorated along with the pathways. Members agreed to send a letter to Dartford Borough Council (DBC) highlighting these issues and asking whether DBC had any plans to make the required repairs.

The Chairman recently attended a consultation event by Arts Council England bringing together project ideas for a joint Dartford & Gravesham initiative. More events were planned for late January and the Chairman would circulate any information on these to the Town Council.

410/18-19. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Recommended: That the next meeting be scheduled for Tuesday 2 April 2019 at 10.00am.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 10.35 am.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Chairman)