

Ambleside Civic Trust
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, 20th March 2018

Present: Steve Dickinson (Chairman, SD), Terry Clark (TC), Rose Lord (RL), Mike Green (Treasurer, MG), David Stothard (DS), Jane Beenstock (JB), Luke Steer (LS).

Apologies for absence: Tim Brown

1. Minutes of the meeting of 21st February 2018

With an amendment to item 6 (the 'subcommittee' for the Stockghyll Park Project is a working group), these were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising

SD tabled a letter received 6 February from Cockermouth Civic Trust in regard to the setting up of an ad-hoc association of Cumbrian Civic Societies; to promote liaison on common issues, such as experience in projects such as Neighbourhood Plans and Local Heritage Lists. There was a discussion about this, and about annual (fee-paid) membership of the North-West Association of Civic Trusts. It was decided to ask Tim Brown's advice about the latter.

3. Treasurer's Report

MG reported that ACT had £934.00 in its current a/c, and £3019.00 with the Skipton Building Society. He also noted that the signatories for the latter had been changed to add SD, with Jonathan Moffett no longer being a signatory. He also noted that the Skipton BS had written to him notifying a change in their terms and conditions.

4. Charitable Trusteeship

RL outlined the situation, in a clarification and extension of the discussion held at the February 2018 meeting (Minutes, Item 3, 21-02-18). It was noted that the Stockghyll Park Project might involve ACT in partnerships with other local authorities and organisations, for example, South Lakeland District Council; and that this might determine aspects of Trustee liability with this particular project.

5. Membership

TC reported a receipt of £46.00 in memberships/donation. All reminder letters had been sent. Corporate members had yet to be approached.

6. General Fundraising

a. Plaques

It was noted that these should be approached one at a time, and that, in 2017, it was agreed that ACT should fund one, and raise sponsorship for the rest. JB agreed to source her quotations for plaque production costs, and DS agreed to check planning conditions (**Action: JB/DS**). SD reported that he had received an offer of sponsorship for three of the plaques from a local business owner.

b. White Lion Quiz and Fundraising Budget 2018-9

SD tabled a projected ACT fundraising budget for 2018-9, including projections of income from fundraising initiatives like the White Lion quiz nights, and anticipated costs, including the forthcoming ceilidh on 6 April.

c. Environmental Survey Incentive Scheme

RL reported that the Heritage Lottery Fund had a Townscape Heritage Initiative, and that this might be suitable for a future Ambleside project.

d. Other fundraising and membership recruitment ideas

It was suggested that a revised ACT membership appeal leaflet (draft tabled by SD and revised at the meeting), be inserted into the Parish Magazine, which was due to be collated ready for distribution on 22 March (**Action: SD**).

7. Planning matters

DS reported on the current set of planning applications. He noted that, in regard to application 7/2018/5075 (Grove Farm), the Highways Agency had objected.

8. Environmental Survey

RL and JB had produced a report (14-03-18) on the current state of actions in regard to the survey. Particular attention was drawn to the excess of signage in certain parts of the Conservation Area. DS to take this up with the LDNPA (**Action: DS**). It was agreed that a draft financial incentive scheme application document be produced in regard to encouraging the repair, retention or replacement of traditional building architectural features in the town (**Action: JB/RL**).

9. Stockghyll Park

SD reported that he had received quotations for a digital topographic survey of the Park, ranging from £2,200 to £7,800 (excl.VAT where applicable). He had also submitted an application for start-funding a Park education and outreach project to the LDNPA Local Communities Fund. Some dates for the first meeting of the SP working group will be circulated.

10. Any other business

MG reported on some outcomes of a meeting of the University Liaison Committee that he had attended, and that actions were noted in regard to Stoney Lane, the football pitch, (drainage), reducing Himalayan Balsam, and the noise problem from Rydal Road student accommodation.

Christmas Lights

ACT could have a gazebo in the Market Place at this event, scheduled for 17/18 November 2018.

11. Next Meeting

Tuesday 17th April, 7.15pm, Ground Floor Community Room, Ambleside Library.