

## MINUTES OF CAAG MEETING ON MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> 2022

### Present

Alan Hughes Resident Berwick	Dorothy Slater SIT
Zoreen Hill Berwick Civic Society	Ros Kain NCC Conservation Officer via Zoom
Michael Greener BTC Councillor	Bob Steward FBDMA
Margaret Shaw Resident Berwick	Margaret Thomas Resident Tweedmouth

### Apologies

Catherine Seymour NCC Councillor	Martin Lowe Historic England
Stephen Scott Chamber of Trade	Eleanor Scott NCC Conservation Officer
Georgie Hill NCC Councillor	Chris Burgess Archaeologist
Marion Mead Resident Berwick	Graham Brown BTC Councillor

Julie Kennedy. Berwick Community Trust

1. In the absence of CB MS Chaired the meeting. She welcomed those present and was able to update the group on the health of MM -that she was now home from hospital and the feared heart attack was a false alarm The group expressed their very best wishes to her.
2. **APOLOGIES** JK, MM, GB and as usual, GH,SS,ML,CS. CB sent a belated email apology.
3. **MINUTES OF MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24th** MS thanked MM for pointing out typos and grammatical mistakes -These have now been corrected. BS corrected initials to RK not RS on action regarding Historic England personnel
4. **MATTERS ARISING OTHER THAN ON THE AGENDA**
  - MS thanked those who had made suggestions as to what could be included in the talk to Rotary
  - The draft Site Visit protocol has been previously circulated. It was accepted without amendment
  - Martin Lowe has provisionally accepted the invitation to attend the April CAAG meeting. He has been unwell and off work for some time.
5. **TREASURERS REPORT** MM Marion in her absence had asked MS to inform the group that there were no changes to either income or expenditure on the account since the last meeting. (£898 73)
  - **REPORT FROM WTH MS** read this and will send as attachment. Members asked whether the date of the symposium had been confirmed The title is 'Old Walls for Young Minds' Several members expressed an interest in attending
  - A Zoom meeting is being held on April 20<sup>th</sup> so more information should be available for the next meeting

## 6. UPDATE ON CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN RK

- RK indicated that the brief was being finalised prior to tender to undertake the Conservation Area Management Plans (CAMPS),
- Public realm would form part of the brief
- CAAG has been part of the submission and it is hoped that CAAG members will participate practically for which training will be provided.
- RK Jules Brown Zinnie Denby Mann were coming to Berwick the next day to walk the conservation areas. MG offered transport but the logistics suggested that they take up MS offer to transport them from the station to Spittal so that they could walk back to Berwick AH and MT offered 'comfort' stops en route

## 7. CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Update on Grammar School site, Main Street Tweedmouth and LNER station and 5, Quay Walls.

Amended plans seem to have been lodged for the interior of the Grammar school site Members were invited to look prior to the next meeting.

- Stone condition survey was in 2015 RK does not feel the condition of the stonework is as bad as has been suggested.
- AH queried whether the Freeman had been approached.
- MG said meeting of Freeman trustees would take place on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Ref: LNER planning application for improvements to the former station master's house MS spoke to Ian McCaffery re this application. He had not been consulted and would pursue this. It would seem that others in the Conservation team were aware of the application.

- MS has been informed that permission has been granted for 100 plus parking spaces on the west of the line.

### 22/00633/FUL 38, WEST ST -SHOP FRONT ALTERATIONS

- This is potentially a significant development as the rear of the property need extensive work before it can be amended to holiday accommodation, gallery and workshops. The penne to be enlarged by removing a single shop front (The larger window would remain)
- RK was involved in a pre -app discussion
- The conservation architects Hales and Son have been engaged.
- Concern expressed as THI money was spent on the property which now seems not fit for purpose

The Foulis /dock area development is unlikely to go ahead as the applicant doesn't own the land. The conservation officer had recommended refusal.

22/00768/FUL 43, MAIN STREET TWEEDMOUTH sub divide a two bed house to 2 no 2 bedroom property - not discussed

22/00747/FUL 74,MAIN STREET TWEEDMOUTH Amend window detail -not discussed

21/03143/MISC VENITIAN PAVILION CAR PARK -OVERNIGHT STAYS FOR UP TO 5 MOTOR HOMES

- Confirmation is required that planning permission is not required . It may need local monitoring to ensure an overnight stay isn't extended,

22/00447/LBC -18, PALACE STREET. The proposed plans were viewed

- The attached photographs taken by AH give a clearer understanding of the area.
- The plans seem to be an ancillary to the main house and not a standalone.
- The external staircase to become an internal one and the roof to be raised on the single storey.
- Further discussion required.

9. If time permits CAAG presentation to Rotary Time did not allow for this

#### **AOB**

- BS noted developments in Struthers' Yard for which there doesn't seem to be any planning permission
- The Town Centre forum was mentioned and ZH kindly confirmed the membership of the group to include Rob Murphy NCC Cllr Georgie Hill Stephen Scott Chamber of Trade, Graham Brown BTC John Robertson.
- MG has kindly agreed to forward the planning applications that are discussed by BTC planning group (This he has now done)
- AH asked about enforcement when buildings such as the Grammar School are allowed to deteriorate to such a massive degree through lack of appropriate management .It was pointed out that NCC are unlikely to contemplate enforcement against themselves .He has a series of photographs showing the continuing deterioration and emails reporting concerns but these concerns were not acknowledged.
- MG said that a Town Councillor was suggesting that some of the money should be used in repairing/recreating Jimmy Strength the legendary strong man of Berwick who played a violin. His statue used to stand on the Palace St Green but now lay in ruins behind the museum
- ZH said that the Civic Society had looked at this as a project but it was likely to be extremely expensive.
- To note that the Spittal Point application is still live and had been approved.

10. **DATE TIME VENUE NEXT MEETING April 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30 AM at the WEB**