

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSOCIATION OF CIVIC SOCIETIES

MINUTES OF THE YHACS MEETING HELD ON 28TH APRIL 2018 AT THE CITY HALL, LEEDS

DELEGATES PRESENT AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

See Appendix 1

Welcome from Kevin Trickett.

Kevin welcomed everyone to Leeds City Hall and thanked Leeds Civic Trust for organising the meeting. Jane Taylor of LCT explained that the architect of the building was Vincent Harris and it was opened in 1933 by King George V.

Minutes of last meeting held on 30th September 2017 at Bradford

These were proposed by Jane Taylor, seconded by Clare Nash and approved by the meeting.

Matters arising

None

Chairman's Report

Kevin Trickett reported that following her election at the AGM, Alison Drake MBE had joined the YHACS committee.

A YHACS Bulletin had been issued on GDPR, which becomes operative from 25th May. Societies need to demonstrate that their processes comply with the legislation and show an audit trail not only of their decision making around the handling of data but also for the data they hold and how it is accessed and managed. Strongly recommended that Societies publish a privacy policy (suggested text can be found in the Bulletin – adapt as required). While societies can continue to contact their members about subscriptions and matters to do with the administration of the society, communications that relate to soliciting donations and to the marketing of events and other activities needs to be subject to a right to opt out for existing members while new members after 25th May will need to expressly opt in to such communications. Societies may need to redesign their membership forms accordingly.

The second YHACS Futures workshop had been held in Leeds and design workshops were now being considered. There may have to be a charge for these to cover facilitator fees, venue hire and refreshments.

Deborah Wall at Historic England had drawn attention to Heritage Angels nominations and asked that societies consider making nominations – see the HE website.

Treasurer's Report

Richard Ward reported that the balance was £6,008.24 plus funds for Market Weighton Society. Four societies have still to pay subs for 2018: these are being followed up.

Guest Speaker – Bill Phelps, Chapeltown Community Housing Ltd

Bill described his long-term role as 'trying to fix the dysfunctional housing market'. He described the community based co-housing development in north Leeds which is, after many years of planning, going ahead. It took a long time to get planning permission and appoint architects via a

competition. The development achieves a balance between householder privacy and communal provision via a community house. The garden, laundry facilities, guest accommodation and some dining events are communal. The objective is to combat social isolation. Residents own 25-99% of their property and different age groups are represented. The community house charges are related to each resident's ability to pay. The scheme makes Leeds a leader in this type of housing provision in the UK. There is some concern about adjacent properties, one of which may now to become a large Dixon's Academy, which could dominate the co-housing.

Guest Speaker – Aisling Ramshaw CEG Kirkstall Forge

A large housing development of over 1,000 houses is being built on the site of the former Kirkstall Forge in the Aire Valley NW of Leeds city centre. Aisling detailed the history of the site which has centuries of industrial use from before the dissolution of Kirkstall Abbey in 1539. The works produce high quality ironmongery. Some small buildings on the site are listed and will remain.

The site is on the railway line from Skipton, Ilkley and Bradford into Leeds and a station opened in 2016. This is aimed to reduce car usage. Residents will have footpath access to Kirkstall Abbey. The first phase of 112 houses will be built this year. A primary school is planned as part of the development and there will eventually be local shops. The houses and apartments will be built in terraces with larger than average space standards, but smaller gardens. They will be energy efficient. The office development at the station is already part-let. There is an S106 agreement for affordable housing.

Guest Speaker – Andrew Jackson, Chair, Yorkshire Regional Group of the 20th Century Society

Andrew spoke about the work of the Twentieth Century Society which was founded in 1979 and has within its remit all buildings from 1914 to the present for which it is a statutory consultee. The society was founded in response to the shocking demolition of the Firestone Building in West London (on a bank holiday the day before it was due to be listed).

The society is a charity and a membership organization with regional groups. They arrange to get buildings listed, undertake casework where buildings are under threat and run study tours (one is coming up in Leeds and Huddersfield 6-8 July).

For more details see <https://c20society.org.uk/>

Conservation Areas – Helen Kidman

Helen explained the work on conservation areas she had been involved in for both YHACS and Civic Voice. A report is going to the All Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies on 8th May. The CV working group is concerned that the formal list of conservation areas at risk is only part of the story. Lack of conservation officers, absence of assessments and management plans, problems with enforcement and pressure to develop are all having a negative impact on conservation areas across England. Civic Voice is calling for stronger support for them. It is still not too late to provide information on conservation areas at risk – contact Helen direct.

Report back from the regional meetings of the North West Association of Civic Trust and Societies (NFACTS) and East of England – Helen Kidman

Helen had attended NFACTS AGM in order to support closer working between our two organisations. The association has experienced difficulty in recovering from the sudden death of their chairman John Kershaw, who was also a trustee of Civic Voice. A study visit to Heaton Hall near Bury is their next event. The committee was re-elected. YHACS representatives are invited to future meetings and NFACTS representatives will be invited to YHACS meetings. We will also exchange newsletters.

Helen had also attended the inaugural meeting of a Regional Association for East of England, in Norwich, which is being led by Mary Ash, a CV trustee and committee member of the Norwich Society. Members from five societies had attended, got to know each other and shared interests and experiences. These included Hunstanton, Gt Yarmouth, March, Colchester and Norwich. Attempts will be made to contact more societies in the area (Peterborough and Cambridge and possibly Look! St Albans. A short heritage walk round Norwich was very interesting. A further meeting will be held in the autumn at Gt Yarmouth.

Just a Minute – a round-up of news and views from local societies (where each society present gets to speak for just one minute!)

Martin Hamilton (Leeds) showed a video clip (see the Welcome to Leeds website) on blue plaques commemorating women.

Kevin Trickett (Wakefield) advised that Wakefield was looking at three blue plaques commemorating women as part of a Forgotten Women of Wakefield project being led by a Wakefield-based organisation, Dream Time Creative.

David Moss (Selby) announced the newsletter competition winner – Richard Ward. There will be another competition in the next newsletter.

Malcolm Sharman (Hull) advised that the Banksy graffiti had been saved. A run down area was being considered for similar artworks.

David Blackburn (Ilkley) advised that a recent speaker from the Yorkshire Dales River Trust had been excellent and might be of interest to other societies. The Ilkley design Awards had had good local publicity both on Ilkley Chat and in the Ilkley Gazette.

Clive Woods (Aireborough) raised concerns about empty buildings especially hospitals such as Cookridge, Chapel Allerton and High Royds. Fulford Park in York is listed but empty buildings are vulnerable and need good security. A national problem - wondered if this can be taken to the APPG? (Helen Kidman will refer to Civic Voice.)

Erica Amende (Spennings Valley) explained that at their local plan hearings, it was apparent that civic society members had a better grasp and local knowledge than had some of the planners.

Chris Hughes (Ripon) invited everyone to 'Friday at the Workhouse' on the evening of 27th July before the next YHACS meeting in Ripon. The theme of the Ripon meeting will be market towns and the guest speaker will be Chris Winter, a Civic Voice Trustee and member of Wells CS (Somerset)

AOB

None

Date of next meeting: 28th July at Ripon

List of Attendees

	Society/Organisation	Surname	First Name
1	Aireborough Civic Society	Woods	Clive
2	Barnsley Civic Trust	Barnes	Geoff
3	Barnsley Civic Trust/YHACS Committee	Barnes	Phyllis
4	Brighouse Civic Trust	Culpan	John
5	Brighouse Civic Trust	Traves	Robert
6	Castleford Heritage Trust	Wallis	Tony
7	Huddersfield Civic Society/Scalby Village Trust/Scarborough & District Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Ward	Richard
8	Hull Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Sharman	Malcolm
9	Ilkley Civic Society	Blackburn	David
10	Ilkley Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Kidman	Helen
11	Leeds Civic Trust/YHACS Committee	Hamilton	Martin
12	Leeds Civic Trust	Rawinsky	Garance
13	Leeds Civic Trust	Taylor	Jane
14	Leeds Civic Trust	Wilford	Meryll
15	Ossett Civic Trust	Amos	Ruth
16	Ossett Civic Trust	Mitchell	David
17	Pontefract Civic Society	Cartwright	Christine
18	Pontefract Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Cartwright	Paul
19	Ripon Civic Society	Hughes	Christopher
20	Ripon Civic Society	Taylor	Richard
21	Scarborough & District Civic Society	Bridgewood	Glen
22	Scarborough & District Civic Society	Bridgewood	Pete
23	Scarborough & District Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Cooper	Peter
24	Selby Civic Society	Moss	David
25	Skipton in Craven Civic Society	Clark	Sheila
26	Spennings Valley Civic Society	Amende	Erica
27	Wakefield Civic Society	Embleton	Nicki
28	Wakefield Civic Society	Farman	Sue
29	Wakefield Civic Society	Martin	Colin
30	Wakefield Civic Society	Spawforth	Peter
31	Wakefield Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton	Trickett	Kevin

	Civic Society		
32	Wakefield Civic Society/Barnsley Civic Trust	Ward	Brian
32	Wakefield Civic Society	Wood	Geoff
	Guest Speakers:		
	Bill Phelps, Chapeltown Community Housing		
	Aisling Ramshaw, Kirstall Forge		
	Howard Metcalf, Kirstall Forge/Pierre Anglaire		
	Andrew Jackson, 20th Century Society		
	Apologies Received		
1	Addingham Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Robinson	Jim
2	Beverley Civic Society	English	Barbara
3	Beverley Civic Society	Payne	Jane
4	Bradford Civic Society	Hall	Alan
5	Castleford Heritage Trust/YHACS Committee	Drake	Alison
6	Doncaster Civic Trust	Coote	Peter
7	Goole Civic Society	Clarke	John
8	Goole Civic Society	Hicks-Clarke	Margaret
9	Goole Civic Society	Walker	Stephen
10	Grimsby & Cleethorpes Civic Society	Bassett	Graeme
11	Grimsby & Cleethorpes Civic Society	Nicholson	Alan
12	Halifax Civic Trust	Paxton-White	June
13	Harrogate Civic Society	Pankhurst	Henry
14	Howden Civic Society	Mepham	Philip
15	Leeds Civic Trust	Kitching	Lynda
16	Market Weighton Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Leonard	Tony
17	North West ACTS	Fishwick	Kathy
18	Richmond Civic Society	Hillyard	Carol
19	Saddleworth Civic Trust	Baumann	Charles
20	Scarborough & District Civic Society	Perry	Adrian
21	Scarborough & District Civic Society	Perry	Christine
22	Selby Civic Society	Wildash	James