

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSOCIATION OF CIVIC SOCIETIES

MINUTES OF THE YHACS MEETING HELD ON 6TH OCTOBER 2018 AT THE CENTRE FOR CREATIVITY, WAKEFIELD

DELEGATES PRESENT AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

See Appendix 1

1. Welcome from Kevin Trickett

Kevin welcomed everyone to Wakefield. He explained that Wakefield Civic Society which was hosting the event had been formed in 1964. They have offices at the town hall and run a variety of activities, including social nights, blue plaques, heritage walks, and have produced a number of publications.

2. Minutes of last meeting held on 28th July 2018 at Ripon.

These were proposed by Steve Kimber, seconded by Alison Drake and approved by the meeting.

3. Matters arising

None

4. Chairman's Report

Kevin drew attention to the latest YHACS Newsletter. Members may send articles to the editor, David Moss, at any time.

Blue plaques had been much in the news lately with an article in *The Times* suggesting there were too many of them. Whether you agree with this or not, when putting up plaques it is essential to get the facts right and they need to be checked carefully – Kevin highlighted one instance of a person being commemorated on two different blue plaques but where different birth and death years had been given (the local civic society has since corrected theirs).

The YHACS Design Workshops provisionally organised for November have had to be deferred to February 2019 due to the one of the presenters' forthcoming hospitalization.

There had also been press coverage of the Charity Commission and their comments that 40% of small charities do not meet the requirements on annual reporting. Kevin drew attention to an article he had written for the YHACS newsletter on the subject and recommended that anyone responsible for writing annual reports have a look at it.

The Civic Voice conference in Birmingham on 19th and 20th October is coming up and tickets are still available. Kevin said that it would be good to see a larger turnout from YHACS members.

5. Treasurer's Report

In Richard Ward's absence Kevin reported that 38 societies were members with one sub still outstanding for 2018-19. The bank balance is £5,693.71.

6. Guest Speakers

Ben Dave of the Yorkshire Society gave an illustrated talk about his running career and his recent charity run along the border of Yorkshire, starting and finishing at Scarborough. The border does always not run along roads and tracks and some of the going was tough underfoot. He started running at the end of 2016 when he suffered from depression and has now raises funds for CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably), a charity leading the movement against male suicide, which is the single biggest killer of men under 45 in the UK.

Sarah Cobham spoke on the Forgotten Women of Wakefield and the role of Dream Time Creative in attempting to increase the number of blue plaques for women with the aim of reaching parity in Wakefield by 2028. A number of notable Wakefield women were in the process of being commemorated, including Edith Mackie, philanthropist, Florence Beaumont, suffrage leader, Louise Fennell, artist and Alice Bacon MP. [Dream Time Creative](#) raises funding through grants and at present the cost of each blue plaque averages around £4,200 if full the cost of volunteer and staff time is quantified and included. They acknowledge that many civic societies usually do much of the research work and publicity using volunteers but in Wakefield, they are working with the civic society by undertaking the work for the plaques nominated as part of the Dream Time Creative project. They are keen to involve schools and the wider community and recommend 'blue plaques for women' as a recruitment opportunity for civic societies willing to consider setting up their own projects.

Fran Smith and Kate Watson gave a presentation on [BEAM](#), a Wakefield-based charity concerned with commissioning public art and place-making across the region and nationally. They viewed public art as important in making great places, and supported the promotion of the role of artists and the arts. The manifesto for *The Arts in Place* is discussed in detail at <https://bit.ly/2OGyji1>

7. Update on Civic Voice Matters

Helen Kidman reminded members to vote for their favourite Conservation Area on the Civic Voice website. She advised that the Regional Forum was considering the issue of the loss of conservation staff and conservation areas at risk. Among key messages the forum sent to the CV board was the need to publicise Conservation Area Advisory Committees and Architects Panels.

A new regional association was being set up in the East of England and CV was providing support to the West Midlands regional association.

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

Beverley CS encouraged all societies to take part in Heritage Open Days.

Ilkley CS had been party to a group of objectors that had managed to obtain a secretary of state call-in to a LA-approved plan for 500 houses on green belt at Burley in Wharfedale. A public inquiry will now follow.

Scarborough CS reported that work is proceeding at Dean Road chapel and a bid is being prepared for £840k to turn it into a community hub.

Grimsby CS reported that regeneration funding for the Docks (the Kasbah) has been granted.

Selby CS alerted members to new 40ft high phone masts to facilitate smart metering. They were challenging both the siting and height of these masts. Peter Spawforth added that some of these masts are bound to get through the planning system, especially if local civic societies did not act

as the eyes and ears of the community by making representations when planning applications are put forward.

Spen Valley reported that a community wood to commemorate the late Jo Cox MP was going ahead with LA support.

9. AOB

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10. Date of next meeting:

The AGM on 26th January 2019 at The old Swan Harrogate.

List of people attending/submitting apologies

	Society/Organisation	Surname	First Name
1	Addingham Civic Society	Robinson	Jim
2	Barnsley Civic Society	Barnes	Geoff
3	Barnsley Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Barnes	Phyllis
4	Beverley Civic Society	English	Barbara
5	Brighouse Civic Trust	Culpan	John
6	Brighouse Civic Trust	Thraves	Robert
7	Castleford Heritage Trust/YHACS Committee	Drake	Alison
8	Castleford Heritage Trust	Wallis	Tony
9	Doncaster Civic Trust	Kimber	Steve
10	Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Civic Society	Nicholson	Alan
11	Harrogate Civic Society	Amaku	Susan
12	Horbury Civic Society	Nichols	Andy
13	Horbury Civic Society	Nichols	Deb
14	Ilkley Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Kidman	Helen
15	Leeds Civic Trust/YHACS Committee	Hamilton	Martin
16	Leeds Civic Trust	Taylor	Jane
17	Market Weighton Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Leonard	Tony
18	Pontefract Civic Society	Cook	Phil
19	Scarborough Civic Society	Bridgewood	Glen
20	Scarborough Civic Society	Bridgewood	Pete
21	Scarborough Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Cooper	Peter
22	Selby Civic Society/Market Weighton Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Moss	David
23	Selby Civic Society	Wildash	Jim
24	Spenn Valley Civic Society	Berry	Colin
25	Wakefield Civic Society	Broadbent	Jean
26	Wakefield Civic Society	Dickinson	Cynthia
27	Wakefield Civic Society	Holwell	Margaret
28	Wakefield Civic Society	Morgan	Margaret
29	Wakefield Civic Society	Smith	Val
30	Wakefield Civic Society	Spawforth	Peter
31	Wakefield Civic Society	Sykes	Alison
32	Wakefield Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Trickett	Kevin
33	Wakefield Civic Society	Ward	Brian
34	Wakefield Civic Society - Guest	Thomas	Helen
35	Wakefield Civic Society - Guest	Wade	Tony
	Guest Speakers:		
36	Yorkshire Society	Dave	Ben
37	Forgotten Women of Wakefield Project - Sarah Cobham	Cobham	Sarah
38	Beam	Smith	Fran
39	Beam	Watson	Kate

	Apologies Received		
1	Aireborough Civic Society	Woods	Clive
2	Beverley Civic Society	Payne	Jane
3	Bradford Civic Society	Cunningham	Si
4	Bradford Civic Society	Hall	Alan
5	Goole Civic Society	Clarke	John
6	Goole Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Hicks-Clarke	Margaret
7	Goole Civic Society	Walker	Stephen
8	Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust	Bassett	Graeme
9	Halifax Civic Trust	Paxton-White	June
10	Harrogate Civic Society	Fahy	Angela
11	Harrogate Civic Society	Pankhurst	Henry
12	Harrogate Civic Society	Siddans	David
13	Horbury Civic Society	Roberts	Graham
14	Hornsea Civic Society	Salvidge	Nicki
15	Howden Civic Society	Mepham	Philip
16	Huddersfield Civic Society	Wyles	David
17	Hull Civic Society	Fowler	Cynthia
18	Hull Civic Society	Sharman	Dot
19	Hull Civic Society/Market Weighton Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Sharman	Malcolm
20	NW ACTS	Spibey	Susan
21	Pontefract Civic Society	Cartwright	Christine
22	Pontefract Civic Society/YHACS Committee	Cartwright	Paul
23	Richmond Civic Society	Hillyard	Carol
24	Ripon Civic Society	Hughes	Christopher
25	Ripon Civic Society	Taylor	Richard
26	Ripon Civic Society	Winpenny	David
27	Saddleworth Civic Trust	Harrison	David
28	Scarborough Civic Society/Huddersfield Civic Society/YHACS Committee/Market Weighton Civic Society	Ward	Richard
29	Skipton Civic Society	Clark	Sheila
30	Spenn Valley Civic Society	Amende	Erica
31	Wakefield Civic Society	Wood	Geoff
32	Whitby Civic Society	James	David
33	Whitby Civic Society	Stango	Joyce