

BEXHILL HERITAGE MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES
Thursday 4th April 2024 19.00
At ST BARNABAS CHURCH, SEA ROAD, BEXHILL

PART ONE - BEXHILL HERITAGE MEMBERS AND GUESTS

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME SJ welcomed members and guests to the 2024 Civic Pride Awards. Nominations for awards were received from members. We will hear about why tonight's winners have been awarded and the stories behind their properties. There is no overall winner as the nominations are all very different and there are several winners in several categories. Mayor Lynn Brailsford and her consort Paul will be giving out the awards to the worthy winners.

2. MAIN ITEM

CIVIC PRIDE AWARDS - Presentation of the Bexhill Heritage Civic Pride Awards

Awards were presented in the following categories.

Category 1 - Heritage Homes winners	
Marina Court Avenue 4-22a	Constructed by four different architects from 1903-1907. The whole terrace has been listed by Heritage England. Has Oriental and Moghul design features.
The Knole Court Flat Owners Association	Modelled on Knole House in Sevenoaks. Impressive Victorian crescent both front and back. Maintained to a very high standard.
Great Staughton - Dorset Road South	Private home built by the Reverend Thomas Gibson in 1898. The design is ecclesiastical Gothic. Was converted into flats in the 1980s but has been lovingly restored to one house by Reverend Gibson's great granddaughter.
Category 2 - Modern Homes	
15 Richmond Avenue	This is a fine example of a British modernist home. It is built on the land of the owner's daughters house. It fits its plot and is not overwhelming. It is open plan, reflecting the light throughout the day.
Category 3 - Public open spaces	
The Covid Memorial Garden	Conceived and designed by the former Mayor Lynn Langlands and her husband Jim. The tree with 100 copper leaves was constructed by local people from copper from a local scrap merchant. It was designed and supervised by Jim. It is a fitting tribute.
Category 4 - Traditional shop fronts	
Holly Blakeley Hair Ltd -19 Sea Road	The shop was in poor condition when leased but has been sympathetically restored. The traditional shop front features have been kept and highlighted with simple decoration. The shop sign is in keeping and the Victorian tiles have been restored.
Maltbys Property Management - 57 St Leonard's Road	A sympathetic restoration keeping the traditional

	shop front features. The windows are a particular feature.
Category 5 - Public buildings	
St Barnabas Church - Sea Road	A Grade 2 listed building made of flint with a wooden belfry. It hosts many community groups and has beautifully maintained gardens.
United Reformed Church - Cantelupe Road	A very well maintained building with interesting decoration including sandstone. It has large relaxing gardens surrounding the church.

The Mayor gave her thanks to all the winners and said that pride in local buildings gives joy to all residents of Bexhill.

Refreshments and raffle - During the break members will have the opportunity to book the visit to Winchelsea on Wednesday 19th June 2024. A guided tour to the Winchelsea cellars is included. Payment may be made by cash, cheque or card. The cost is £12 per person.

PART TWO - BEXHILL HERITAGE MEMBERS

Committee attending:

Steve Johnson	(SJ)	Chair/Treasurer
Simon Allen	(SA)	Projects Coordinator
Yolanda Laybourne	(YL)	East Parade
Alexis Markwick	(AM)	IT Support Officer/Historian
Natasha Hamblin	(NH)	Health & Safety Coordinator
Yvonne Menzies	(YM)	Media & Marketing Coordinator
Lorraine Parkes	(LP)	Minutes Secretary

- 1. APOLOGIES** - Keith & Hilary Rhodes, Philip Howard-Knight, Jane Minter, Lyn Markwick, Steve Hall, Jean Morris, Joyce Hammett, Diana Hughes, Julie Willard
- 2. MATTERS ARISING FROM OUR FEBRUARY MEMBERS' MEETING:** No matters arising.
- 3. URGENT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATES** - None
- 4. PROJECTS UPDATE - Shelter 4** restoration work is continuing. It will need sanding, filling, repair and four coats of paint. There are over 300 separate panels to be glazed which will require 1200 pieces of beading and 4800 brass pins. More volunteers would be welcomed to support the work. Work takes place on Monday and Friday mornings from 9-12. Members are welcome to come along for a brief look to see how the work is progressing. **Shelter 2** needs lots of work and sponsorship may be sought. **Sainsbury's mural**. BH sought approval from Sainsbury's in June 2019 to restore the concrete mural on the side of their building. Finally, almost five years later permission has been given. Thanks are due to SA and NH for their tenacity. LP will lead the project. Orbis Conservation will be asked to give advice and guidance on the project. A **K6 phone box** is situated in Norman's Bay. It was designed by Giles Gilbert Scott who lived in Bexhill. It will be converted by local residents into a book exchange. A grant has been received from Rother District Council. Thanks to SJ and SA for persevering with this. The **War Memorial** on the seafront needs restoring. BH will also seek guidance from Orbis Conservation on the work required.
- 5. MEMBERS' VISIT TO WINCHELSEA. 10AM WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE 2024** - Thanks to those that have booked on this visit. Some places are still available for those who wish to book. Please see YM after the meeting who will advise on how to book.
- 6. Q & A SESSION** - No questions were asked.
- 7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - AGM THURSDAY 13TH JUNE - 7PM - ST BARNABAS CHURCH**

SJ thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 9pm