

KENILWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the

ENGLISH HERITAGE LIAISON GROUP

Held in the Council Chamber at Jubilee House, on 28 October 2021, at 2.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor M F Coker (Chair from EH.48)

Councillors: A G Chalmers, G D Hyde, P J Jones.

M Bulford and D Chandler (English Heritage).

Town Clerk: Miss M S Field.

Deputy Town Clerk: N Eaton.

EH.46 **INTRODUCTIONS**

Those present made introductions.

EH.47 **SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

Councillor G D Hyde (for Councillor K S Dickson).

EH.48 **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

It was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED that Councillor M F Coker be Chair for the Council year.

EH.49 **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

It was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED that Councillor A G Chalmers be Vice Chair for the Council year.

EH.50 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

EH.51 **APOLOGIES**

Councillors: A M Dearing, K S Dickson, A J Kennedy.

EH.52 MINUTES

The minutes of the English Heritage (EH) Liaison Working Party Meeting held on 22 April 2021, which were approved by the Town Council on 17 June 2021 were NOTED.

MATTERS ARISING

EH.53 GENERAL EH UPDATES INCLUDING CHANGES TO STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

Dean Chandler reported that the year started in Covid lockdown, with small scale events and low visitor numbers. Some measures remained until 19 July and even now staff isolating presented difficulties.

However, recent events have been very well attended, attracting the “staycation” market. The Jousting Tournament in August attracted 2200 visitors each day.

Matt Bulford further reported that Ghost Tours for Halloween Events were fully booked.

These updates were NOTED.

EH.54 ESTATE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

No issues were raised.

EH.55 REVIEW OF CASTLE PASS SCHEME

The Town Clerk reported on draft proposals to develop a new online Castle Pass processing scheme. Full consultation will take place with English Heritage.

Dean Chandler had no concerns, provided all existing protections and checks are maintained.

This update was NOTED.

EH.56 KENILWORTH CASTLE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

This will remain a standing Agenda item and should be kept within this Committee at this stage.

Matt Bulford seeks initial comments by the end of February. Feedback can then be given at the next meeting. Apart from urgent work to eroded pathways, English Heritage were already looking at potential capital investment and were tendering for a consultant. As a key stakeholder, the Town Council will be invited to any appropriate workshops.

This update was NOTED.

EH.57 IMPROVING ACCESS TO AND FROM THE TOWN

Matt Bulford reported that a number of options were under active consideration, with a consultant having been appointed.

This update was NOTED

EH.58 TOURISM IN KENILWORTH

Dean Chandler reported that trail leaflets and the Visit Kenilworth leaflet had been very popular and he was awaiting a restock.

This update was NOTED.

NEW MATTERS

EH.59 GEOFFREY DE CLINTON COFFIN

The Meeting discussed the potential restoration of the coffin of Geoffrey De Clinton which is held by Abbey Advisory Group. Matt Bulford has received a letter from the Group and is currently liaising. Whilst unable to commit, English Heritage are interested in exploring options.

This update was NOTED.

EH.60 BOXING DAY 2021

The Meeting discussed arrangements regarding ticketing and entertainment for this event.

Without the need for formal restrictions, this event will be planned very much the same as last year but no booking required. Refreshments will be on sale by English Heritage. Parking at Brayes will be restricted to disabled and performers. Entrance to the Mayors event will be free until midday. The Castle then opens for the general public with charging as normal.

Any arrangements will be subject to future Covid restrictions and advice.

This update was NOTED.

EH.61 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed. Provisionally 24 March 2022.

The meeting concluded at 3.55pm.

Signed

Dated

