

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSOCIATION OF CIVIC SOCIETIES

MEETING AT CLEETHORPES 13TH JULY 2024

1. Introduction – Margaret Hicks Clarke, YHACS Chair

Margaret welcomed members to Cleethorpes and thanked members of Grimsby and Cleethorpes CS for organising the meal and the walks on Friday and Saturday morning.

2. Welcome from the chair of Grimsby and Cleethorpes Civic Society, Alan Nicholson

Alan welcomed everyone to Cleethorpes and was pleased that those who had joined the walks had found them enjoyable. He explained that the walks had attempted to show visitors show the docks had developed, the significance of the Kasbah and the society's blue plaques recalling the town's history.

3. Welcome from the Melanie Onn MP, since 4th July 2024, the elected Member of Parliament for Great Grimsby and Cleethorpes.

Melanie Onn explained that the last few days had been a bit of a whirlwind. There had been intensive training sessions for new MPs to ensure that they were able to participate in debates and other activities at an early stage. The number of new MPs was unprecedented and there was a lot to learn about trust and behaviour. But it was a fresh start, with lots of excitement and energy following the election.

She appreciated how the Grimsby and Cleethorpes Civic Society connected places and activities in the two towns to their history, including raising funds for redevelopment.

4. Apologies for Absence

Paul Cartwright, Pontefract; Ben Cowell, Wakefield; John Culpan and Robert Thraves, Brighouse; Theresa Bassett, Grimsby and Cleethorpes; Carole Hillyard, Richmond.

5. Minutes of the YHACS meeting held 7th October in Richmond

These were proposed by Kevin Trickett, seconded by Alan Nicholson and agreed as a true record.

6. Matters arising

None

7. Chairman's Report

Margaret paid tribute to Peter Cooper, the former chair of Scarborough Civic Society, the former chair and later president of YHCS and a former trustee of

the Civic Trust, who has died. She said that Peter had been a knowledgeable, wise and popular member of YHACS who will be sorely missed by members.

Since the YHACS AGM, a number of events had taken place, including the Civic Voice Convention at Wakefield, which had covered a wide range of issues including Heritage Action Zones and funding especially National Lottery Heritage Fund. The Yorkshire Heritage Summit had been held at Hull attracting large numbers of visitors. Several societies' representatives had attended.

Wakefield, Scarborough and Hull societies are celebrating their golden anniversaries.

YHACS, which is not so long established, will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a lunch on 19th October 2024 at the Met in Leeds. The guest speaker will be Abigail Scott Hall of the Humanise Campaign, which covers sustainable architecture.

8. Treasurer's report

Position at 9th Jul 2024

MEMBERSHIP

Current paid-up Societies = 30

Individuals =5

Societies still to pay = 10

MONEY

Balance at Bank =£10,918.23

(Minus £2000 R Ward and Market Weighton £385.40)

Funds available £8,532.83

ACTIVITY

Receipts since last report, Wakefield (subs and a £50 donation
(A cheque from Barnsley CT is waiting for me on my doormat at home).

That leaves 9 Societies to chase up and £50 to bank.

9. Guest Speakers

Emma Lingard: Cleethorpes Streets and the development of three villages into a resort.

Paul Fenwick : Butterfly Bombs dropped on Grimsby

Ian Harvey : Civic Voice

Ian reported that Civic Voice had at last got its funds back which enables CV to increase its activities. Ian highlighted the outline planning reforms proposed by the new government and where they may be at variance with the views of the civic movement.

The role of metropolitan mayors is likely to increase issues such as on-shore wind, green belt, grey belt, empty properties.

There is a CV press release dated 7th July of interest to societies.

CV are considering re instituting the design awards, and hope to re-start the APPG. It is noted that the former chair, Craig Mackinlay MP, is going to the Lords so a new chair has to be identified.

Ian hoped that civic societies will be seen as part of the solution - not NIMBY..

10. Just a Minute

Goole CS reported that they were chairing the community group organising events for Goole's 200th Anniversary in 2026.

Grimsby and Cleethorpes CS are working on bringing an ornate drinking fountain back into working order.

Doncaster CT had arranged a long day of visits including to Park Hill Flats in Sheffield, Kelham Island and the Diamond which are being redeveloped and The Wave which is being built as a carbon-negative building. They were accompanied on these visits by local students who may be considered for bursaries for their studies.

Addingham CS recommended attendance at the Heritage Summit - the next one is in Bradford as part of the 2025 year-long festival.

Wakefield CS next event is on 18th July 2024. The guest speaker is Kevin Trickett whose specialist subject is Art Deco. All welcome, but see Wakefield's website for details.

11. AOB

None

12. Date of Next Meeting

19th October 2024, YHACS 25th Anniversary Lunch at the Met in Leeds.