



newhaven strategic network

TOURISM AND CULTURE ACTION GROUP

Wednesday 28th November 2007
at 1.00pm at the Town Council Offices, 18 Fort Road, Newhaven

Present:

Ian Everest (Chair) – Newhaven Town Council (IE)
Claire Onslow – Lewes District Council (CO)
Karen Sexton – Paradise Park (KS)
Michael Reese – Turning the Tide (MR)
Nicky Still – Newhaven Chamber of Commerce (NS)
Robbie Robertson – Newhaven Town Council (RR)

1. Apologies

Graham Amy – Newhaven Town Council
Sally Foote – NCDA
Vera Gajic – East Sussex County Council
Tracey Evans – Newhaven Strategic Network
Tony Helyar – Newhaven Historical Society
Joanne Fowler – Sussex Downs College

Item	Action
2. Matters arising from the previous minutes	
There were none.	
3. Newhaven Events 2008	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CO and KS to email preliminary listings of events for 2008 to IE.• Noted that there are a number of events still in the process of being developed.	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the absence of Sally Foote, the matter of next year's Fish Festival was not discussed. (Note: Please email/speak to Sally Foote if you have any ideas for the event). 	
4. Tourism Signage Update	
<p>Noted that VG had informed the group that the installation of the new signs will be completed very soon.</p>	
5. Promotional Material Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The launch of the Sussex DVD will be taking place on the Newhaven Dieppe ferry on 14th December 12 noon-2.30pm. All members of the group are invited to attend. Please let VG know if you plan to attend. IE confirmed that work on the re-designed town guide will start in the new year. CO informed the group that the 2008 edition of Enjoy Sussex is currently being printed. The guide is a partnership project between Lewes District Council, Horsham District Council, Wealden District Council and Mid-Sussex District Council. 	
6. Tourism Matters relating to the Newhaven Masterplan	
<p>The Chair informed the group that he would provide an update on this matter via the normal reporting method of the NSN Matrix.</p>	
7. Information Exchange	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO reported that there was a very low response to the B & B workshop for potential providers that was held earlier in the year. Despite this, another workshop is planned for 2008 (date to be confirmed). CO reported that the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) at Seaford will be closed between 14th December and 2nd January, while it re-locates from its temporary home in the West Street Car Park and into the Multi-Agency building in Church Street. During the closure all telephone calls will be transferred to the Lewes TIC. CO asked the group to forward any ideas that could be used to promote the District during British Tourism Week which runs from 10th-18th March 2008. KS informed the group that late night shopping at Paradise Park will take place on 5th December 6-9pm. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IE informed the group that late night shopping in Newhaven Town Centre will be on Friday 14th December. • MR reported that ownership of the Chapel Arts Centre had now been transferred to the Hillcrest Community Centre. • NS asked that the group note that the Newhaven Chamber of Commerce supports the Sinkone4seaford project, subject to any environmental implications that may arise. RR confirmed that funding had now been obtained for the scoping exercise for the project. • In answer to a question from NS, IE said that there was little chance of the Newhaven Breakwater being re-opening to the public until the ownership of the port was resolved. • In response to a query from KS, CO informed the group that although Transmanche Ferries were offered paid-for post advertising sites at the terminal, they were still offering to display leaflets at no cost. 	
<p>8. Any other business</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO reported that visitor numbers at the Fort were slightly down on last year, but secondary spend had increased. KS confirmed that this has been the trend at a number of other attractions. • CO informed the group that the National Oceanographic Centre had set up a monitoring station at Newhaven Fort. This will relay information about tides/waves from sensors at sea to a central data collection point. It is hoped that the station can be incorporated into a new exhibition. • In response to a question from KS, CO said that any enquiries regarding the setting up of a farmers market should be directed to Hilary Knight of A Taste of Sussex. • KS informed the group that Paradise Park are offering the occasional use of part of their car park for use by local charities for car boot sales. The Lifeboat will be the next charity to organise such an event. • KS asked about the legitimacy of recently fitted highways signs advertising the sale of Christmas trees in the area. CO agreed to take this up with the appropriate department at Lewes District Council. • MR pointed out that it is the 10th Birthday Anniversary of NCDA on Friday 30th November. 	
<p>9. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 27th February at 2pm (provisionally at Newhaven Fort – to be confirmed by CO)</p>	