

Beverley Civic Society

Newsletter February 2020

Welcome to the first of your Society's monthly newsletters. At the January Executive meeting, we decided to issue the newsletter monthly rather than quarterly. Quarterly editions meant that some news could be 'stale', and newsletters too long. The idea is to experiment for a year, when we'll hold a review following your feedback. It is your newsletter, and the Executive welcomes your views. Dick Lidwell.

Great news for green fields and trees. This spring ERYC will publish a draft Local Plan. We learned last week at our biannual meeting with the Head of Planning that the current annual new housing target of 1400 for the whole East Riding will be brought down to around 1100 a year. As Beverley has many large housing sites that will take a long time to develop, it is hoped that very few new sites will be identified in the town.

Beverley Civic Society Sets Up Shop! The new display at 43 North Bar Within

The Society was very generously offered the use of the former Streamers shop windows at no charge. We have decided to use the windows and door to promote the Society, its achievements and future events until the end of June 2021.

As this is the 60th Anniversary Year of the Society we will be changing the displays each month and we hope that you will stop and have a look, as many members of the public have done already. We have also recruited new members into the Society as a result of the information we have displayed.



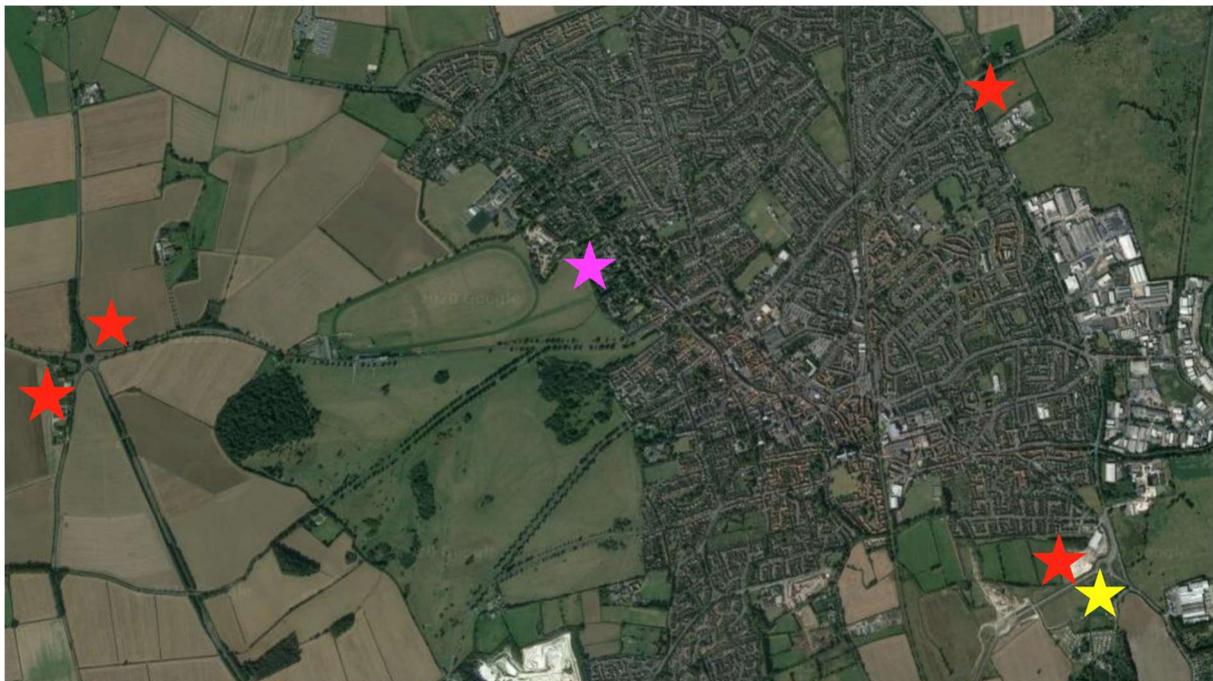
In addition to the backdrops which have been generously produced free of charge by our new corporate member 'Greens The Signmakers' our January display featured the Deserted Beverley Calendar and the History Boards.

In future months we intend to have displays of the newly extended Elwell Trail, the restored water pump, the 60th Anniversary of the Society, Heritage Open Days and many more subjects. If you have any material which you think could be shared with the people of Beverley please contact Chris Burrows on 01482 866252 or email: goodtymeshull@hotmail.com

Planning Matters

Members may be aware of the increasing number of planning applications for filling stations and associated services on the outskirts of Beverley. To date there are four at various stages in the pipeline: namely two at Killingwoldgraves, one adjacent to Lidl on the Southern Relief Road (all approved, or partially so), and one at the northern end of Swinemoor Lane (pending decision). By the time this newsletter appears the consultation period will have ended so this is just to keep you informed, and to say that the Society's Planning Group is concerned, and has lodged objections; including use of green field sites not designated for development in the Local Plan, negative visual impact and nuisance (light, noise, and litter pollution) on the rural entry roads to Beverley, and potential adverse impact on community village shops.

Other pending major applications include retirement apartments on the site of the former ERYC care home in Langholm Close, and a holiday caravan park extension to the north of the former Lakeminster homes.



This plan illustrates with stars the sites mentioned: Red for filling stations, Yellow for Caravan Park, and Pink for the retirement apartments.

The Deserted Beverley 2021 Calendar



We had a very successful time selling our first calendar on behalf of the Society. It was very well received by those who bought it and we know copies were sent to Panama, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Greece, Germany and many parts of the UK including the Orkney Isles. The calendar generated a lot of goodwill and publicity for the Society and of course we were supporting a worthwhile charity too. In total we sold 680 copies and raised some £1300 for the Society and have been able to donate £1600 to the **YORKSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE**. We are now investigating whether we should repeat the exercise for 2022 and would welcome the views of our members.

December 2020 summary of Zoom talk by Colin Bradshaw: Don't Panic - It's only Dad's Army. Life in Beverley during WW II



As German forces took control of the European coastline in May 1940, the Local Defence Volunteers were launched (renamed the Home Guard by Churchill). In Beverley some 200 men aged 17 to 65 enrolled, many being veterans of World War I. Initially all weapons were in short supply and there was much make-do-and mend.

Women were recruited into the Land Army, and acres of Westwood were ploughed up; allotments were created, and families encouraged to keep rabbits for meat. Children collected rose-hips and foxglove for medicines.

There were air raid wardens and air raid shelters; gas masks were issued; black-out enforced. Some 2000 evacuees arrived by train and were billeted in the Beverley area. Saturday Market was (as now) the centre of Beverley life. The cinema there (in 2021 Browns store) arranged concerts, teas for children of prisoners of war, hosted church services and provided free entry for those who donated books for bombed libraries.

January 2021 summary of Zoom talk by Peter Lowden The Rise and Fall of Hull's General Cemetery

Peter had internet problems, so this talk was successfully delivered by Eva la Pensée & Chris Burrows



In the first half of the 19th century, the rapid growth of Hull's population brought major social challenges, including the disposal of the dead, as the old graveyards filled up. In 1843, landscape gardener John Claudius Loudon advocated the planting of trees and shrubs in graveyards, so that when full they could become public parks. In 1845 the Hull General Cemetery Company was formed, and its offer of 1,000 £10 shares was rapidly oversubscribed as investors calculated that land bought by the acre and sold by the foot would make great profits.

The Company in 1846 bought and laid out 10 acres with drainage, trees and roses. There was a gothic style entrance lodge, chapel, dead house/mortuary, and stonemasons' yard. The cemetery catered for Anglicans and Dissenters. The first burial took place in April 1847. Prices ranged from burials under the chapel floor (£105), private vaults (14 guineas) and for the poor, public graves, where the layers were shared – 8s for an adult, 6s for under tens. Initially the Company flourished, but the 1850s Burial Acts forced local authorities to provide cemeteries. Crematoria provided an option, and the death toll of World War I weakened the fashion for

elaborate funerals. The Cemetery Company shareholders sold off land for building, demolished the original gatehouse and moved the gates. The last burial was in 1972 and when the Company was dissolved, Hull Corporation bought the site for £5. Plans for total redevelopment of the land were challenged by, amongst others, John Betjeman and Philip Larkin. As interest in the cemetery's preservation grew, in 2015, Hull Civic Society created a sub group - The Friends of Hull General Cemetery who with volunteers now work to realise Loudon's vision.

Note: as soon as it is possible after lockdowns, Peter Lowden and his colleagues would welcome people on guided tours of the Cemetery. Email our website to make contact with the Friends of the Cemetery, at www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk

Heritage Open Days 10-12 September 2021

By September we think social restrictions will be lighter, and so are planning our HOD programme. The national theme is Edible England, and we hope to involve local producers of traditional foods and drink, its provision and consumption. Please get in touch via the Civic Society website if you have anything (beer, wine, cheese, breads, chocolate) that you would like us to showcase. It's an exciting challenge.

Beverley and District Talking Newspaper

The *Beverley & District Talking Newspaper* is available (free) for people who are blind, partially sighted or with other problems that prevent them reading a newspaper or magazine. Recordings made weekly are received by the listener each Wednesday. We are not actively seeking cash donations for any part of our service (of course, we wouldn't refuse them!) but we need service users – listeners - and can only obtain these by advertising. The help of Beverley Civic Society members would be very welcome indeed, so if you or anyone you know might benefit from this free service, please telephone Caroleanne Lees 01482 657073 or Patricia Towers 01482 881801.

Our February meetings

Beverley has joined the Modern Hanseatic League - Hamish Stewart. The history between Beverley and the Hanseatic League goes back 700 years. This is a Zoom meeting for our members, on **Thu 11 Feb. 7:30pm - 9:00pm.**

Please join us and book your place by emailing to goodtymeshull@hotmail.com

The Mystery of the Window Ledge in the Wall - Jane Lancaster. In Lairgate a window ledge is almost the only surviving trace of a former 19th century theatre. Join to learn more at this Zoom meeting for our members, on **Thu 25 Feb. 7:30pm-9:30pm.**

Please join us and book your place by emailing to goodtymeshull@hotmail.com

New Member and Officer of the Executive

We are very pleased to announce that Michael Farrimond has joined the Executive and has agreed to take over from Angela Mulford as the Society's Treasurer. We are

most grateful to Angela, our Treasurer since 1999, who recently, with the Secretary, has been actively updating our membership record. Thank you, Angela.

Subscriptions

Almost all our members have renewed their subscriptions, for which we are most grateful. One or two we fear we may have failed to remind, as we don't have all their details and in a very few cases none at all, only a name. If you are wondering if you haven't heard from us, please email us via our website. Many members renew using BACS or by standing order, which is more convenient for us all, especially in lockdown. Please contact us if you would like banking details, at www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk

A Climate for Change



The Holderness Coast – creative commons

In November 2021 the UK hosts the United Nations Climate Change conference (COP26) in Glasgow. As we emerge from Covid-19 (surely by November) we face what many believe is an even greater threat to the planet. In future newsletters we will be reporting on local climate change actions, and what we can all do to help. We have fewer trees than any other county, and the fastest-eroding coastline in Europe.

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Please send material by email if possible: all contributions are welcome. The deadline for copy for the March 2021 Newsletter is Friday 25 February 2021

Affiliated to Civic Voice and Yorkshire and Humberside Association of Civic Societies

www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk