

HARROGATE CIVIC SOCIETY

e-NEWSLETTER

19 June 2020

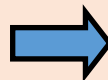


A new vision and strategy for Harrogate Civic Society

At a special meeting of the Civic Society Committee held on 8th June a new plan was unveiled to take the Society forward and ensure its role will develop and expand to better serve our membership and the future of our town.

We were joined by several members who are keen to assist in this new venture, and we are enormously grateful for their time and expertise.

Our new mission statement ...



Celebrate our past

Enhance our present

Shape our future

.... and how we got here

A strategy has been compiled after extensive discussions between the Civic Society committee and representatives of the membership during Lockdown 2020

Returned questionnaires have given many ideas for the future, along with open criticism of what is currently negative about the Society and praise for those areas deemed to be very positive.

The most frequently voiced concerns surround:

- ◆ a clear statement of what the Society is,
- ◆ what it stands for, and
- ◆ how that is communicated to the people of Harrogate

The strategy has looked at priorities for the Society and identified four main areas for development whilst involving more members in implementing them.

Going forward, four 'sub-groups' will work under the following headings and remits. The groups will be made up of committee and other Society members.

Development and Planning

- Monitoring / commenting on planning applications
- Being an influencer of good design
- Encouraging good modern architecture
- Promoting Design Awards
- Monitoring activity within Conservation Areas
- Encouraging /establishing pre-application discussions for key sites

Events

Organising a varied programme of events, e.g.

- Talks
- Social events
- Joint / open meetings
- Visits
- Guided Walks

Considering occasional competitions, e.g.

- Photographic
- Design



Heritage

- Recording, researching and disseminating history of the town.
- Establishing links with museums
- Setting up Society archive
- Supporting and promoting guided walks.
- Plaques development
- Promoting printed guides/ literature/trails
- Promoting Heritage Open Days



Communication

- Issuing Newsletters
- Promoting and revising Website
- Establishing Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts
- Issuing Press Releases
- Promoting plaques website
- Membership leaflet
- Plaque Trails
- Marketing strategies



As well as overseeing and supporting the new sub-groups, the committee will continue to deal with membership and financial matters. It will also:

- ◆ Promote our vision and brand
- ◆ Forge active links with other organisations in the town

As these groups develop, we will be encouraging members to participate in them, bringing fresh ideas.

We hope you are all keeping safe during these difficult times

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