

## FRIENDS OF MARTELLO 24

Minutes of the meeting 10am 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 at DPC office

PRESENT: Peter Faulkner, Richard Blackwell, Andrew Ashton, Barry Tate, Maureen Vogt

APOLOGIES: Denise Mayers, Adrian Goodsell

Minutes of the last meeting 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 read and agreed.

NEXT STEPS - general discussion.

After considerable debate it was agreed that until core issues are discussed urgently with Brian Smith, we are at a standstill with regard to a) asserting the Friends' reluctance to perform janitorial duties for the continued upkeep of the Tower. b) It was agreed that Brian Smith be asked to engage the Property Board of EH in order to rectify the water ingress and make safe the Tower for public "footfall" expected from future tourism. c) It was proposed that Richard Blackwell and Barry Tate set up a meeting with Brian Smith as early as possible. d) Barry offered a solution to stop the water ingress - namely putting in some kind of seal below the top ceiling of the Tower, but allowing access and all round viewing from the roof. e) It was suggested that Brian Smith be asked to research the engineering brief given to previous contractors when certain work was undertaken to renovate the existing flooring etc. approximately 6 years ago.

FINANCE - It was noted that there is a change from Trust to Friends on Bank details. There was agreement that sufficient funds were in place from grants. And everything lined up waiting for assurance of a date to open up the Tower once all safety measures were taken. Insurance with Balens will be delayed until all safety measures are procured.

REGISTRATION – following the submission of our application for registration, the Charity Commission had asked a series of questions which had been answered. We are waiting to hear back from the Commission.

STAFFING – SJ and all volunteers are in possession of a letter forwarded from this committee. It is inevitable that the Tower will not be open to the general public in time for Easter this year. Peter and Richard agreed to have a meeting with SJ in order to get her views on how she sees her future association with this historical property. What are EH long term plans for SJ?

Peter and Andrew have found 2 more volunteers.

Maureen said she would ask Ivor Sowdon to consider compiling, or at least, giving an ad hoc resume of the history of the Napoleonic Wars and the need for strategic

defences along the English shoreline.. Perhaps if this approach failed Col. Kimber might be asked to outline the historical details.

MARKETING – We have funds. Do nothing yet.

AOB – It was suggested that a team of volunteers, even local scouts, be asked to clear and tidy up the appalling state of rubbish scattered between the Tower and sea wall. And at the back of Flischers yard.

NEXT MEETING – It was agreed the next meeting beheld on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, at 10am pending further confirmation.

The meeting closed at 11am