

Minutes of a Meeting of the Trustees of Wellow Recreation

Thursday 28th July at Manor Stables, Wellow

Present: Hugh Prentice, Rob Greig, Mike Clarkson, Debbie Clarkson (PC Rep), Heather Andrews (PC Rep).

Apologies: Sian Johnson, Rupert Dewey and Marcelle Speller

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

These were agreed as a true record subject to some minor typing changes.

2. Matters Arising

The great success of the outdoor theatre production was noted and Ron and Sheilagh and all the helpers thanked for the hard work.

There were no other matters arising that were not already covered on the main agenda.

3. New Trustees

It was noted that Stefan Cheveau had stepped down as a Parish Council representative Trustee and has been replaced by Debbie Clarkson. It was noted that Sian Johnson and Rupert Dewey wished to stand down as Trustees in the near future because of other commitments. Following a wide ranging discussion about potential new Trustees, with an emphasis on maximising inclusion from all parts of the village, a number of people's names were suggested who are to be approached to potentially put themselves forward

Action : All

4. Appointment of Officers

Noting that Rupert Dewey wished to stand down as Secretary, it was agreed that Rob Greig would stand down as Vice-Chair and take on the Secretary role. RD to take on a role for the time being as legal advisor. Marcelle Speller had agreed to take on the Communications brief from RG. Agreed this should take place once MS's health improves and RG to continue with this for the interim.

Action. RD to hand over to RG the official documentation with and as required by the Charity Commission.

5. Progress with lease.

The Parish Council has received the lease back from the solicitors and, following discussion at the PC meeting where further minor changes were made, a meeting is taking place between Hugh Prentice and Pat Caudle to finalise it. After that, the

LTA needs to be communicated with - to confirm the transfer of the tennis elements of the lease from Wellow Valley Tennis to WR.

A number of Trustees expressed their concern that the lease must clearly exclude WR from any liability for historical non-funding of repairs to (for example) the play area, fencing and drainage. Whilst it was noted that the Parish Council had discussed and accepted its historic liability at the last meeting, there is a concern that a minute of a Parish Council meeting may not suffice should there be disagreements about liability in future years. It was agreed that PC reps on WR will ensure the minute of this discussion at the PC is clear, and also that the Trustees have to take a look at the final lease and satisfy themselves that historic liability is appropriately excluded prior to it being signed.

Action. HP to progress and report back with lease. DC to progress clarity of minute of last PC discussion.

6. Building works.

6.1 It was noted that the tennis court resurfacing, necessary because of faults in the construction and fully covered by warranty, is likely to take place in October half term in order to minimise disruption to Magic Box. Chris Wordsworth is dealing with this on behalf of the Parish Council.

It was noted that the Village Hall Committee had written to WR advising us that the car park will be out of action for three weeks whilst the disabled toilet is being installed. Arrangements have been made for access for the cleaning of the toilet and grass cutting. It was noted that the leases actually require consent from the PC (WR in future) should the car parking be withdrawn – rather than the PC/WR just being informed of it. However, in the interests of the village working together, and noting the need for reciprocal agreements around the tennis court resurfacing, the PC representatives were informed that WR would be happy to accept this taking place.

Action. DC and HA to take to PC

6.2 A draft report on drainage was submitted to the PC by IMA at the PC's July meeting. Chris Wordsworth and Hugh are working with IMA to establish better identification of costs for the various options. There are three aspects to this: (i) drainage around the children's play area and village hall (which will require funding) (ii) the football pitch area (which is covered by the sport England grant), (iii) and the long standing problems of water running onto the field from farmland above which in turn affects houses below the field (which will require funding). Discussions about various ways forward took place and these will be taken back to the PC.

Action. DC and HA to take to PC

6.3 Children's Play Area. Regular safety checks have been instigated by the PC. Once the lease is signed, these will become the responsibility of WR – and the

Play Area representatives on the SMG need to be asked to take responsibility for this.

Action. MC to take to SMG.

7. Finance Report

MC reported that funding is starting to come in from different sporting activities, in particular football. Payment from the outdoor fitness classes is outstanding. DC reported that following very positive discussions with St Julian's School about their use of the tennis courts and sports field, agreement has been reached for them to make a contribution towards running costs of several hundred pounds a year (exact amount to be finalised). The school were thanked for this, for their positive approach to these discussions and the Trustees look forward to the pupils using the facilities to enjoy and develop their sporting activities.

The financial position as at the end of July was reported as being:

- Cash in bank of £1,511
- Income pending £2,837
- Outstanding liabilities of £1,425

Budgetary projections for the rest of the year showed that, with anticipated fund-raising, the year will end with a surplus of around £2,000. This is acceptable, but tight – particularly as it will mean that sinking funds (other than tennis) will not have been built up. However, the strategy for the first year is to maximize participation and seek to develop sinking funds from that point onwards.

8. Fund Raising Group.

DC reported progress on discussions about a joint, village-wide fund-raising initiative with the Parlour Shop and Friends of St Julians. The proposal is to have four, major fund-raising events each year, jointly organised with profits equally shared. This was strongly welcomed by the Trustees. It was noted that, if successful, then after year one there should be open discussions about the relative financial needs and positions of the three groups to agree how funding should be allocated in the future. DC agreed to be the WR link/rep to this group. It was noted that, from the new Trustee recruitment, we still need someone to take on other aspects of fund raising.

It is anticipated the first event will be a major safari supper –probably in November.

It was agreed that, in the absence of it being done elsewhere, WR should explore the possibility of a Village Calendar being established on our website.

Action: HP to put IT expert in touch with RG to do this.

9. AGM Plans

There was discussion of Clover Holland's suggestion of a collective AGM for all village groups where the membership is the entire village i.e. Wellow Recreation, Village Hall, Parlour Shop, Community Bus. This was positively viewed as it will enable all villagers to have their democratic say in local groups in one evening and also promote a common vision between the groups where appropriate. The idea is to be put to the other groups with a suggestion of a collective AGM in the late Autumn. Each could have a fixed time (30-45 minutes) for reporting, questions and elections – which could encourage brevity and clarity.

Action. RG to write to other groups proposing joint AGM.

10. Site Management Group Update

The SMG has not met since the last Trustees meeting – in part because people are busy playing sport in the summer rather than meeting! It was agreed to hold the next meeting in early September.

Action. MC to arrange September SMG meeting.

There was discussion about whether the different sports groups were aware of the implications of the flower show plans in September. It was understood some were (e.g. tennis) but others were not. MC to write to the Flower Show Committee asking for clarity and also making suggestions of other ways the sports facilities could be integrated into the flower show.

Action. MC to write to Duncan Hamerton re flower show arrangements.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25th August at Heather Andrews' house.