

**TRUSTEES MEETING**

**10.30 a.m. on Wednesday 20th January 2021**

**via ZOOM**

**M I N U T E S**

**1. Present:** Barbara Williams (Chair),Helen Haran, Caroline James, Stuart Lowerson, Helen Parker, Mo Forster (minutes).

 **A very warm welcome was extended to Helen Parker who joins Our Villages as a Trustee.**

**2. Apologies:** Nick Worboys, Sue Welch,

**3. Minutes of previous meeting held on 25th November 2020:** Agreed as an accurate account.

**4. Reason for holding the meeting digitally:** The decision was taken to hold the meeting digitally due to the current coronavirus pandemic and the social distancing regulations.

**5. Matters arising (which are not on the main agenda):**

**1) Barrier Boxes. BW to update.** The council have put these in place and supplied the compost. Judy and Sue have put plants into them. It was agreed photographs would be taken so they can be posted onto our website and on Facebook. **(SL to action).**

**2) Gardening Army: BW to update.** Barbara did speak with Judy, however, there were no issues raised.

**3) Munki Computer Help. CJ to update.** Caroline did speak with Julie, however, there are no suggestions to take forward. Mo to send the details to Helen P to follow up. **(MF/HP to action).**

**4) John Holmes’ Requirements: BW to update.** It was agreed we would give John £50.00 for plants etc.; Barbara is to contact him to discuss. **(BW to action).**

**5) E-newsletter sent to all members: BW/MF to update.** This was sent out to all members on 2nd December 2020. It was agreed we would do a further update in March 2021 as a way of keeping members engaged.

**6. Finance Report: (CJ).** Caroline circulated details prior to the meeting. Details below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Restricted Funds** | **Received** | **Spent** | **Balance** |
| Co-op | £5,709.00 | £2,604.83 | £3,104.17 |
| Work to Crawcrook Park – Match Fund | £6,000.00 |  | £6,000.00 |
| Lights | £1,412.70 |  | £1,412.70 |
| Land of Oak & Iron (£2k grant +£2k match) | £4,000.00 |  | £4,000.00 |
| Eventbrite |  £464.30 | £464.30 | - |
|  |  |  | **£14,516.87** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Unrestricted Funds** |  |  | **£360.34** |

Caroline informed the meeting that these figures were as of 1st December 2020.

Since that date we have spent:

£450.00 to our accountant

£250.00 on Pink Poo spray

£55.00 on Weebly

We have received:

£100.00 from Karen Horner

£30.00 from Givey

(these donations will go towards the cost of the Christmas Lights)

It was suggested we should spend the Co-op money on buying seats for Crawcrook park from the council, which they would fit. Helen H is awaiting contact from Philip Baxter, once she receives this, she will cc Barbara into her reply and the matter of the seats can be taken forward. Helen H is also going to ask the council about replacing the old bins in the park with the new style **(HH to action).**

**7. Calendar of Events – Items listed for January:**

**1) Jumble Sale.** Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, we are not in a position to prepare for this. Hopefully, we might be able to look at holding this, at Barmoor Hub, in October 2021.

**2) Schedule litter pick dates for the year.** It was agreed to remove the scheduled dates for 2021/2022 from the calendar of events. **(MF to action)**. It was suggested we submit a grant application to the Leaf Fund, if successful the money would be used to buy litter picking equipment and perhaps hi vis jackets. **(BW/CJ to action).**

**3) Tyne Valley Express.** We are still awaiting dates for this year’s publications. We will continue with our entries.

**4) AGM.** We cannot go ahead with this until the accounts are finalised. Caroline has this in hand.

**5) Easter Egg Hunt.** Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus pandemic this will not go ahead this year.

**6) February/March litter picks.** Already discussed. Litter pick dates to be removed from the calendar of events. **(MF to action)**.

**7) Crawcrook Fair.** Again, due to the Coronavirus pandemic the fair will not go ahead this year. We will see how the situation progresses; we may be able to do something on a smaller scale.

**8. Crawcrook Park:**

**1) Up-date on masterplan**: **(HH).** Helen gave an update:

* The council offered to pay to have the masterplan produced, however, it has been passed to someone else, but that person has not got back to Helen as yet. Helen will chase this. **(HH to action).**
* We need to continue to work on the business plan to get it completed. **HH to action).**
* Money needs to be raised to match fund the council funding for 2021/2022.
* Helen is still waiting for Kyle to get back to her regarding the designs.

**2) Hedge Planting**: **(BW)**. A few of the hedges have been planted but not all. It was suggested it would be better waiting until March, which is the best time to plant.

**3) The Gate: (HH).** The gate has been repaired.

**4) Letter re Anti-social behaviour: (BW)**. This has not been completed as yet. **(BW to action).**

**5) Broken windows at the bus stop: Any action taken by Nexus: (SL)**. Stuart spoke with Nexus who informed him they do not have the time or money to go after anyone, they take the view of “fix it and carry on”.

**9. Land of Oak and Iron:** The order has been placed for the seating and it should be in place in three months. The information board is being produced by the council free of charge. The project total will be c£3,000. The invoice will be sent to Caroline.

**10. Gateshead Climate Alliance: (CJ)**

**1) Gateshead Community Climate Alliance Meeting 21.12.20. (Please see the minutes which are attached to this agenda email).**

**2) Update on Gateshead Council’s Response to the Climate Emergency 2021. (Please refer to the document which is attached to this agenda email).**

Caroline is taking a bit of a step back, although she will continue to feedback to our meetings. Gill Briggs is happy to run with this along with Rachel Bourne. No date has yet been set for the next meeting.

**11. Local history, possible project: (CJ).** It was suggested we have an information board(s) produced and installed on Hill 60. This would give information on the significant history of the area. Everyone agreed this would be a good project. Further discussions are required to take this forward.

**12. Christmas Window Competition: (CJ).** This year smaller prizes were given to more people as everyone made the effort. The Fox and Hounds and the Dance Studio remain closed; therefore, they have not received their prizes yet. It was stated this event needs to be better organised this year.

**13. Greenside Volunteers Meeting: (HH).** Diana Cadman is taking this forward. A Zoom meeting needs to be set up with Diane, Helen P, and volunteers attending. Caroline will contact Diane. **(CJ to action).**

**14. Pink Poo: (HH).** Helen H wants to do a post on this, particularly for Greenside. Caroline confirmed we have received delivery of further stock.

**15. A.O.B.**

* **Proceeds of Crime Fund:** It was suggested we apply for money from this fund for such things as the broken gate, Barmoor Christmas lights which were cut and shredded. Stuart volunteered to look into this. **(SL to action).**
* **Zoom meeting with PCC Kim McGuinness.** Stuart volunteered to attend.

**16. Date and time of next meeting:**

Wednesday 24th February 2021 at 10.30 a.m. via Zoom