

**TRUSTEES MEETING**

**11.30 a.m. on Wednesday 23rd September 2020**

**via ZOOM**

**M I N U T E S**

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

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

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

**4. Minutes of previous meeting held on 12th August 2020**:

* Unfortunately, we missed the deadline for the application for a specific piece of lottery funding.
* The seat at Bradley Fell Road is being relocated this week. It was agreed we need to put a post on social media giving the reasons why it is being moved. Barbara to send information to Helen who, in turn, will post the information. **BW/HH to action.**

**5. Finance report:** The Treasurer, Caroline James, gave an up-date.

* The total amount in the bank account stands at £14,861.78.
* £3,104.17 Co-op fund (which we match funded).
* £4,000 ring fenced for Land of Oak and Iron.
* £974 from Millennium Green.
* c£500 for Crawcrook Christmas lights
* Unrestricted funds stand at £514.00

Ways of trying to raise funds towards the Christmas lights were discussed, the following actions were agreed:

* Barbara will email Gary Carr to ask if we can have a donation from the Councillor’s fund. **BW to action.**
* Barbara to contact Nigel Barton to ask if he is happy that we put his donation towards the Christmas lights. **BW to action.**
* It is noted, Liz Twist is definitely donating.
* Julie Gavin has already emailed the three councillors to ask for a donation, we await a response.
* Julie is making face masks which she is selling and kindly donating the proceeds.
* Julie has set up a Go Funding page, hopefully this will attract donations.

**6. Resignation of Trustee Ruth Barker:** It is to be noted Ruth has resigned as a Trustee. Barbara confirmed she received Ruth’s letter of registration.

* **Contacting Claire Marchetti re Greenside Bowling Green:** It was agreed no further action would be taken at this time.
* **Organisation of Greenside’s litter picks**: Caroline has discussed this with Diane and whilst she said she would be willing to help out more, she did not want to have sole responsibility for this. She suggested getting more people on board to help and thus spread the load.
* **Potential Trustee**. Helen informed the group that Helen Parker, who lives in Greenside, has said she would be interested in becoming a trustee. She is also willing to help out with the litter picks, and she would organise the tins. Helen agreed to pass on Helen’s details to Barbara so they could discuss this further. **HH to action.**

**7. Up-date on Crawcrook Park:** Helen completed a draft paper and circulated this prior to today’s meeting. This draft sets out our vision for the park, a suggested structure for proposed implementation and identifies a number of requirements. Following a discussion, it was agreed that we could go ahead with stage one quite easily. However, stages two and three contain much bigger issues and we need to decide if we want to go down these lines or not. The following were raised as points to note/action:

* **We have support**:
  + Rachael Park is willing to help with completing both our business plan and any grant applications.
  + Jen is advising on accessible play equipment.
* **Actions**:
  + Helen will get back to Bev, she will email her, copying in Gary, and link up with Rachael Park. **HH to action.**
  + It was suggested a “library of ideas” is set up which could be used as a visual aid for any future presentations. **MF to action.**
  + Helen to get back to G McDarby at NE40 to advise him of our current position. **HH to action.**
  + Helen will ask the council if they will produce the masterplan. **HH to action.**
  + Barbara will get back in touch with Adam Brown to advise him of our current situation and discuss his offer of funding.

**8. Land of Oak and Iron:** Some excellent news. Permission has been given to put the seat on the piece of land next to the Rising Sun. Helen was asked to pick a seat; she has selected one which she thinks will be the most suitable and will circulate a photo of this. **HH to action.** The seat can incorporate text and also an interpretation board. Helen to speak with Judy in relation to the text. **HH to action.** The cost of this is £2,000.

**9. Volunteer/Trustee recruitment:** This was addressed at agenda item 6.

**10**. **Fundraising – Nigel Barton’s donation:** This was address at agenda item 5.

**11. Christmas Lights:** This was addressed at agenda item 5.

* **Go Funding Pages:** Now up and running.

**12. Enquiry from Chris Marr, Blaydon Community Centre:** It was agreed a response would be sent to Chris thanking him for contacting us and to suggest he contacts Kate Marshall at Gateshead council. **MF to action.**

**13. A.O.B.**

* **Climate alliance in Gateshead.** Caroline has agreed to be OVs representative and to join a Zoom meeting, organised by Transition West Gateshead, on Thursday 15th October at 7.00 p.m. She will need to register via the link which was included in the email. **CJ to action.**
* **Angel Award.** Our Villages received this award for work carried out during the pandemic, that work includes litter picks, socially distance activities, our very own angels, Sue and Judy’s, work in the park and with the flower boxes. This award will be presented by Liz Twist at a date and time to suit. **HH to action.**
* **Litter picks.** Stuart informed the meeting that he has now got most areas covered, his only worry is Woodside. He is going to put leaflets through doors to try and raise some interest. **SL to action.** Stuart did do a leaflet drop on the Taylor Wimpey Estate but has not had any reaction from anyone. Margaret is going to speak with her daughter, Claire, who lives on the estate and ask if she will raise this at the next neighbourhood meeting. **ML to action.** Stuart also said now that the children are back at school, the litter in the park has increased and it now requires a weekly litter pick. Helen said she will contact the council regarding this and the supply of another litter bin. **HH to action.**
* **Julie’s Christmas face masks.** Caroline is going to ask Julie if she can post a picture of these on our organisers page. **CJ to action.**

**14. Date and time of next meeting:** Wednesday 21st October at 11.30 a.m. via zoom.