

KEMPSTON RURAL PLAYSPACE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2003

CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE

PRESENT: Mick Ward, Tanya Collins, Chris Lowe, Julie Pritchett, Bev Rinvenuto (Secretary), Debbie James (Chairperson), Hilary Turwicz (Treasurer) Martin Fuller, Jon Shilling, Petra Longhorn, Philippa Stanbridge.

APOLOGIES: Maria Robinson.

VISITOR: Mark West - Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation.

Meeting Started at: 8.10pm

Minutes of Meeting 02.10.2003

Agreed, no issues raised.

Introduction of Mark West, Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation

Following a personal meeting with Mark West from the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation an application was submitted for funding. We were successful in our application and Mark very kindly made the time to attend our meeting to present us with a cheque for £500.00.

He explained that he sources local companies for donations to the Foundation and then the Foundation considers what applications they can support.

Mark was thanked for his time and interest in our project and informed that their support and confidence in us was very much appreciated. He was also thanked for handing over the cheque!

Mark will be added to our e-mail list in order that the minutes of our meetings can be sent to him in order he is informed with the latest on the project.

Treasury Report / Bank Account Name

The Bank balance still stood at £10559.85, to which should be added the confirmed grants of £1000.00, Bedfordshire Police Partnership Trust and £8000.00 from the Bedford Charity (The Harpur Trust)

Hilary stated that she still had run out of time in which to attend the bank and change our name, but would endeavour to have done this by the time of the next meeting. As such cash and cheques were waiting to be paid in.

ACTION: Hilary

Fundraising and Company Applications

Julie, Maria, Tanya, Phillippa, Maria and Hilary to get together to decide who is going to contact who, with the list of potential companies that may support us, and put together the letter agreed to be sent with the Portfolio.

Debbie to deliver packs already made up to Tanya. Jon to update the 'Financial section'. Hilary and Richard to provide the printing of the updated financial pages and letter.

Bev had heard of a scheme being run by Barclays Bank that may support our funding. Jon to look for details.

The application for 'Living Spaces', part of the National Lottery, where we hope to be able to apply to for the balance of our project is unable to be completed until the question of ownership of the Playspace is confirmed as they require a definitive answer to that question. (See Parish Council meeting)

ACTION: Julie, Maria, Tanya, Phillippa, Maria, Hilary and Richard, Debbie and Jon.

Constitution

Debbie still has not looked at this. Volunteers are needed to assist in going through our current constitution in order to 'upgrade' it so that it is of the same standard as Charitable Status. If we then decide to apply for charitable status our Constitution will be acceptable.

ACTION: Debbie and any Volunteer (please!)

Local Concerns and Issues

Another Big Thank You to all that helped on the day with both marking out the area and for the Winter Maintenance.

Using a long tape measure, a very complicated ruler and yellow spray paint, Darren, Jon and Chris marked the surface area of all equipment to scale! This proved to be interesting with two points being raised from the original plan. The position of the 'covered seating' was too close to the entrance gate and needed to be moved by approximately 2 – 3 feet into The Playspace and there was a small piece of grass left in between the junior swings and the Multi purpose equipment where, maybe the surfacing should be joined to assist with the grass cutting. Other than that I must say the area looked brilliant with the children present already running around the 'yellow paint equipment' and thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Leaflets were delivered by Phillippa saying the marking out would be done, but no members of the Public attended to say anything at all, let alone raise any concerns or issues, or have contacted either Susan Bottoms, Clerk to The Parish Council or myself since. The only thing that I have heard since is that someone went down a few days later to have a look and thought that it was really good too!!!

A suggestion was made that we now put out leaflets to all houses to state that this has now been done and no concerns or issues were raised, in order to conclude the matter.

ACTION: Debbie to prepare leaflets, Phillippa to deliver them.

Winter Maintenance and The Playspace

As already mentioned a Big Thank You to all that attended and helped. It is lovely when I walk down the footpath to hear volunteers already hard at work! The area was cleaned up and now made to look as good as possible for the winter, with Frances and Roger gladly accepting all of the cuttings and rubbish for their bonfire!!!

Angela had contacted Debbie about the money for grass cutting as she stated that she was owed 3 months money. (£66.00). The situation was confusing as to what we had decided to pay, and should we pay if the grass was cut or not.

It was decided that she would be paid £22.00 for April to October, regardless on how many times per month it was cut, as some months it may need it cut more than once and other months not at all. It was agreed that the grass due to it being cut with professional equipment was the best that it had ever been since the inception of this committee.

ACTION: Hilary to raise cheque, Debbie to deliver.

Parish Council Meeting

This was held on Tuesday 4th November 2003, Debbie attended and the question of ownership was raised. It was hoped that an answer would have been found as to the ownership of the area but were denied access for various reasons on various occasions to the secure box held at their bank. Members of the Council will continue to make efforts to access this box. If once the box is opened there is no record of the land being brought or being given to The Parish Council for The Playspace then a plan would be put in place to ensure that the land belongs to The Parish Council.

Debbie had contacted the Land Registry at Peterborough and had confirmed that no one had registered the land.

The Parish Council were informed that we had delivered copies of our Portfolio to inform residents in Wood End of the project followed by leaflets informing them of the Marking Out date. The area had been marked out as promised but no one had come forward with and concerns, issues or for that matter any comments at all! Susan Bottoms confirmed that she had no contact with any member of the Community raising any issue since the 'anonymous letter' had been delivered. It was stated that a leaflet would be delivered to all houses in Wood End to inform them of this conclusion.

Debbie raised the issue of the gate from the footpath to The Playspace. She stated that it was unclear if they had agreed to provide this and if they had agreed who they had given the contract to. A copy of the quote from Matt Lawson was provided.

Chris Lowe said that a discussion was held later during the meeting where it was decided that for 2003 The Parish Council had given The Playspace over a £1000 and this application cannot now be considered until the next financial year. Of course if The Playspace wished to purchase a gate out of our funds raised then we could.

Crimebeat Grant

The High Sheriff would like to present a 'Large Cheque' to the young adults who were instrumental in applying for the grant of £500.00. Lionel Stewart would like to know available dates in which the High Sheriff can attend.

ACTION: Zoë to notify Debbie as to available dates for Laura and her. Debbie to contact Lionel Stewart to advise.

Newsletter

It was agreed that a 'Winter Newsletter' should be written to inform all of Kempston Rural of our achievements and activities throughout 2003. A target date of 31st January 2004 was agreed for the letter to be written and printed delivery early February 2004. Richard very kindly agreed to print all that is required.

Volunteers to date are Bev, Hilary and Debbie, but please have a think if you have anything interesting articles to offer, also there will be a 'For Sale and Wanted' Section so if you still have quality items left over from the Driveway Sale!

For a small fee Advertisements from local companies to be included.

ACTION: All.

Bonfire and Fireworks Night

Due to these minutes being so late this month - pressure of work!!! - Sorry the Bonfire and Fireworks night has been held so a BIG THANK YOU to all that took part and making another brilliant success for Kempston Rural Playspace.

More will be discussed at the next meeting, Thursday 4th December 2004.

Thank You Letters

Thank you letters need to be written to:

Jo Epps, Wootton Youth Group for donation of £500.00
Crimebeat, Lionel Stewart for donation of £500.00
Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation for donation of £500.00
The Bedford Charity (The Harpur Trust) for donation of £8000.00
Sams Homecare for donation of Fireworks
One for the Cross Keys to thank all that donated cash and fireworks

ACTION: Debbie and Bev

Any Other Business

To be added to the Agenda for the next meeting – Adult social event in January 2004.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY 4TH
DECEMBER 2003 – 8.00PM - CROSS KEYS**