

KEMPSTON RURAL PLAYSPLACE

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 10TH JULY 2003

CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE

Present: Mick Ward, Jon Shilling, Tanya Collins, Julie and Darren Pritchett, Hilary and Zoë Turwicz, Petra Longhorn, Debbie James, Frances and Roger White, Maria Robinson, Phillippa Stanbridge.

Apologies: Ronnie and Millie Barclay, Steve Clark.

Meeting started at 8.10pm

Minutes of meeting on 2nd June 2003 agreed.

YEARLY TREASURY REPORT

A yearly financial report was prepared giving the full income and expenditure since July 2002.

The bank balance currently stands at £1842.20.

This balance does not include confirmed donations / grants:

£500.00 Wootton Youth Group
£1000.00 Bedfordshire Police Partnership Trust
£500.00 Crime Beat

CHAIR YEARLY REPORT

A very successful year for Kempston Rural Playspace. Thanks were given to all that had been involved for their time, expertise, commitment, support and financial help.

The Playspace started off in July 2003 as an overgrown area with limited funds. The area had now been cleared and is being regularly maintained. Locals are saying that it looks much better now than it has done for years.

Thanks go to Kempston Rural Parish Council for the fence and gate erected, giving us a definite border between the Playspace and the field.

Our financial situation has improved from just under £400 to just under £2000, with the donation of £500 prior to the start of the meeting from Jo Epps, Wootton Youth Group.

There has been a lot of work both in front of and behind the scenes. From the "bridge" under the new gate, the maintenance days to all of the events and the organisation that went with those.

The events that have been organised have been the Driveway Sale, with the second already being arranged, the Halloween and Fireworks evening, the Christmas Party, the Easter Bonnet Parade, and the Sponsored walk. All have been highly successful and not only created awareness about the Playspace and brought funds into the kitty, it has created a sense of Community Spirit in the area. More events have been planned, keep looking at the Parish Council Notice boards and our board at the **Cross Keys Public House**.

The final design of the Playspace has been decided. A full plan is on the wall at the Cross Keys, of course there could be slight variations but on the whole it is hoped that the area, once completed would appeal to all members of the Community.

Behind the scenes lots of work has been done to identify sources of income, meeting contacts that can assist the Playspace and making more of the outside world aware of us. Forms have been completed to apply for income and many more have been applied for.

Our **Thanks go to Petra and Eliot at The Cross Keys Public House** for their continued support and for us to take over the pub for our meetings.

A Grant for £7000.00 has just been submitted to the Local Network Fund, we will know at the end of July if we have been successful with this, all indications are very positive, if this is received then the first piece of equipment, the Football / Basket ball area will be put in as soon as possible.

All of the contacts that have been made have all been very impressed and enthusiastic about the project; it is virtually unique at this time in Bedfordshire, supporting not only the youth but also the whole community.

It is hoped that the commitment, enthusiasm and support shown in the last year continues into 2004. The project is achievable and well worthwhile.

Thank you all for everything that has been achieved to date and well done.

RESIGNATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The Committee for July 2002 / July 2003 then resigned.

Elected for July 2003 / July 2004:

Chairperson: Debbie James

Vice-Chair: Jon Shilling

Treasurer: Hilary Turewicz

Deputy: Frances White

Secretary: Bev Rinvenuto

Deputy: Julie Pritchett

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A draft constitution was then submitted. This is required for the majority of grant applications. The more money that we apply for the more “organised” we have to be. It was requested that members look at this and make any suggestions or amendments. A meeting with The North Bedfordshire Council for Voluntary Service (NBCVS) stated that we are legally obliged to look at charitable status for our group as we were raising in excess of £1000.00 per year. This is a legal requirement to look, not necessarily to become. If we were a Charity then this would open our project up to more sources of income. The NBCVS has looked at our suggestion and has made certain recommendations. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

The Annual General Meeting was then closed at 8.30pm

GENERAL MEETING

Jon Shilling then went through the “Portfolio” that he has prepared, copies have been printed by Richard Turewicz to be able to send out to **50** local companies that may wish to support us.

In this Portfolio it is detailed who we are, what our aims and objectives are, where we are and what we want! A copy is available at The Cross Keys Pub and has also been e-mailed.

He stated the worst-case scenario for all pieces of equipment, if all of the work was undertaken by the supplier and for equipment to be installed separately. With the potential sources of funding being explained and with the cost being itemised, it was clear that the whole project is achievable and could hopefully be funded mostly by local connections.

This is our Master Plan! The Plan is achievable!

Jon also highlighted from the meeting with the NBCVS other sources of possible income, all of which are very positive. **An appeal was made for members of the Committee to think about which local businesses may support the Playspace** and notify him as soon as possible. It was suggested that **whilst the Portfolio could be sent to companies “cold” a more personal approach may produce more effective results so if you or your family or friends work, please make an effort to find out who the correct person would be to approach and take a copy in!** Clearly money would be ideal but anything can be turned into funds.

PROJECT / TECHNICAL MANAGER

With the funding that is being applied for and with the grant from the Local Network fund looking very positive it was decided that a project / technical Manager was required. If funding were received then liaison between the manufacturer and The Playspace would be needed.

Darren Pritchett agreed to fill this post for the Football / Basketball project.

PARISH COUNCIL

In the absence of any news of the next Parish Council Meeting it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Clerk requesting the grass cutting money. It is unclear at this time how and when this is allocated.

THANK YOU LETTERS

Thank you letters to be prepared for both Wootton Youth Group and Crime Beat for their donations.

SPORTS / FUN DAY SUB- COMMITTEE

The Sports / Fun day is coming up fast! A sub-committee has been formed of Tanya Collins, Bev Rinvenuto, Phillippa Stanbridge, Hilary and Zoë Turewicz, and Debbie James. If you wish to help in any way please contact one of us.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 5TH AUGUST 2003

8.00PM

CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE

