

Minutes of the Committee meeting held 14th June 2018 at 7:30pm Padgate Village Club

Present: (13)

Geoff Orange (GO), Paul Adams (PA), David Pearson, (DP) John Hill (JH), Bob McLaughlin (BMcL), Richard Robinson (RR), Jack Buonanducci (JB), Pauline Buonanducci (PB), Chris Merritt (CM), Wendy Orange (WO), Rosa Dale (RD), Raj Asani (RA), Lynn Colter-Howard (LC-H)

Apologies (2) Howard Klein, Peter Bower

1 Welcome – GO welcomed everyone and Lynn Colter Howard and Sharron Bower (accountant) to the meeting.

2. Financial Report – GO introduced Sharron to the Committee and explained that she has kindly offered to do our accounts free of charge. SB produced a balance sheet for 8 months to the 30th June. It has been difficult for SB to determine fully which funds are restricted (allocated) and which are not. From 30th November, (our new Financial Year End) the Accounts will be more accurately presented. At present SB has refused remuneration but the Committee are to re-assess this in the future. BMcL reported that the Artist (Padgate Station) has reduced the cost of the paintings due to the delay in completing and her attachment to Longbarn.

3. Lottery Application – GO reported that at the 3rd attempt we have been successful in receiving funding from the Lottery. GO and the Committee recognized that PA was instrumental in our acquisition of this Grant. To be transparent it was agreed that a copy of the Accounts, in particular the Balance Sheet will be displayed at the General Meeting on the 9th August.

It was agreed that the new Financial Year End shall be moved to 30th November from the 31st August. Also, that the AGM be moved from September to January. Elections for the Committee and Officers of LRA be created at this time along with the display of the Audited Accounts.

An Asset Register is also being collated by PA.

CM (for the record) insisted that there was no need to elect officers of the committee as authority lay with the Trustees. GO stated that the Trustees delegated the day to day running of LRA to a Committee and RR (Secretary to the Trustees) said that the Trustees have resolved at their previous meetings to follow the Constitution regarding the day to day operations of LRA by delegating this to the Committee. PA said that there was no point in continuing this point at present (see item 7)

4. Correspondence – A further email was sent to GO from Dermott Lappin and this was dealt with in item 7.

5. Minutes – of the previous Committee Meeting are on the website.

6. Matters arising – There has been no correspondence from Linda Lappin concerning her membership on the Committee. PA to write to Linda Lappin to enquire as to her position as she has missed at least 3 meetings and will assume that no reply from her will automatically exclude her from the Committee.

7. Report back on Trustees meeting held on 24th July 2018 – RR (Secretary to the Trustees) gave feedback regarding Dermott Lappin and his removal as a Trustee. Further correspondence (see item 4) received 2 hrs before the meeting from DL (which not all Trustees had seen) regarding DL's resignation was noted, however a 'Vote of No Confidence' was taken and it was unanimously agreed that Dermott Lappin be removed as a Trustee of LRA which was duly undertaken.

LRA's Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) elected to have 7 Trustees and therefore as Secretary of LRA it seemed appropriate that PA would be a perfect candidate. PA was invited and has accepted his position as a Trustee and RR (sec to Trustees) is to formalise this in the CIO.

GO proposed that PA undertake to take charge of a full review of the CIO (see item 3) to form a review committee of himself as Chair with help from CM, RD, RR, JB and is to ask HK on his return from Germany.

8. Meeting with Muir and WBC CM & PA voluntarily undertook to take a review of the estate regarding issues especially concerning areas owned by Muir and WBC by making notes and taking photos. There were 74 issues. On 22nd June they met with Muir and WBC to take ownership of these issues and resolve them. A spreadsheet was produced listing the issues with columns for ownership, priority, assessment and finished by. Also included was a map identifying these areas to determine what belongs to others e.g. The Land Trust. Some repairs have already been done including some footpath patch-ups.

9. North West in Bloom (RHS) – to be judged today, 27th July 2018. – After several weeks of hard work by volunteers, children and pensioners and especially Wendy Orange, nothing more can be done to improve our chances of a mention. GO disappointed in the response that residents are not taking an interest in their environment yet there are many reports that property is more desirable on Longbarn than anywhere else and many comments received on the work that some volunteers have been doing. There are also reports that our planters on Longbarn have been raided by

people who assume that WBC have provided these and as they are 'rate payers' have helped themselves. This is theft. Also whilst replanting the boxes at Padgate Station, many plants that had been removed were found destroyed and hidden behind the planters. This is Vandalism. Notices have now been fixed to the planters informing everyone about who provided the plants. Many Thanks was expressed to Wendy Orange for all her time and hard work.

10. Afternoon Tea – Volunteers required to help with Fortnightly Afternoon tea at PVC. Next one is today 27th July. GO to ask for volunteers at General Meeting.

PA asked for suggestions for guidelines to encourage youngsters to volunteer help in the Community. JB suggested badges as an example be given for youth involvement in the Community. (This would also improve their chances later for example on their c.v's)

11. Update on Harpers Green – Progress as expected. The site Manager, Martin Taylor said he would help promote our Britain in Bloom competition application by stenciling the fence around the site with tulips and trailing plants, which has been done. The road is to be swept and the judge is to visit progress on the site. It was noted that Martin Taylor (site Manager) has a deep sense of social responsibility to Longbarn which is greatly appreciated. He has refurbished an old Bayleaf Bench which will be donated to LRA.

12. Update on Padgate Station – BMcL reported that 2 shelters have been erected on the South side of the Station along with ticket machines (both sides) which are in operation. CCTV to be in place next week along with new LED lighting. The paintings have now been erected and given 3 coats of vandal proof paint. The Artist is to attend the unveiling at 2p.m. on Wednesday 1st August and after at Padgate Village Club.

BMcL informs us that Neil MacAndrew (Irlam Station and the Black Swan) has taken over The Stocks and is to open a family restaurant. He also informs us that WBC are to re-surface the Community Club Car park with a view to charging for parking. First 3 hours are free.

13. Strategy for Fallowfield Grove Play Area – BMcL has asked various committee members to approach local businesses, surgeries and shops with a view to write letters of support with to help us to gain funding for the Fallowfield Play Area. An application will be made by September 12th. There may still be an opportunity to approach Christ Church School for their support.

14. Scarecrow Competition – Disney theme, only 8 entries up to now.

15. Sunflower Competition – Plants seem to be responding to the recent good weather and are springing up around the estate.

16. News Round-up – PA has introduced this item to give us the opportunity to share news, gossip and recognize achievement and it is intended to appear at every meeting. On this occasion and thanks to RR we wished GO a Happy 75th Birthday. BMcL sent an elderly couple, recently involved in an accident, a get-well card. Raj was thanked for the drinks and ice cream he so kindly donated on several occasions whilst volunteers were working on Longbarn. Lynn Colter-Howard is welcomed back as a team member and PB is to start a course of Chemotherapy after being recently diagnosed with Cancer, our well wishes and prayers go out to her.

17. Sub-Committee reports – GO requested reports by 30th July 2018, so that he may arrange the collection into a single document ready for our next LRA residents' meeting scheduled for 9th August.

19. A.O.B. – None reported.

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.