



LONGBARN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

"Working together for our Community"

Registered Charity No. 1170309



Minutes of Management Committee Meeting held 12 January 2022 at 7.30pm in Padgate Library

Present: Wendy Orange, Nicola Taylor, Rosa Dale, Geoff Orange, Howard Klein, Paul Adams, Dave Pearson, Katy Melia

1. Apologies: Lynn Colter-Howard, Gareth Thomas, Bob McLaughlan, Carol Clynes

2. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of our meeting held 28 October 2021 were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Financial Report for year ended 30 November 2021

Colleagues approved the annual accounts for the full year ending 30 November 2021 as an accurate record of monies held in both our current & restricted accounts, & extended gratitude & appreciation to Nicola for a fantastic job well done. In terms of finer detail, Nicola explained that she will embellish the records in our Restricted Funds account in due course.

5. Mindfulness

Geoff was concerned about the COVID-inspired delay in developing our Mindfulness & Memory class, given that we have been allocated funds by Cheshire Community Foundation (CCF) & we will be called to account for spend by the end of March 2022. Paul explained that ~

- he will liaise with Katy & Carol about next steps
- he will canvass community support & volunteers in our forthcoming Newsletter & Residents' Meeting
- he (& Dave, as co-authors of the original funding bid) are confident that we'll have a story to tell by the end of March & that CCF will enable LRA to carry forward funding beyond the end of March

Dave suggested that our existing activities should feature in our Mindfulness plans. And Rosa suggested that we include stress at work, & the mental wellbeing needs of our young people, in our thinking.

6. News Round-Up

A standing agenda item, Paul introduced the topic to give us the opportunity to share news, gossip and especially, recognise achievement and the nice things we do for each other. Paul took the opportunity to ~

- herald birthdays between now & our next MC meeting (Nicola, earlier on Tuesday this week 🎂 & Bob on 16 January 🎂)
- commend Geoff on a famous outcome at his meeting with Greencore on 10 January (see AOB)

7. Bulb donation & planting

Courtesy of Friends of Longbarn Park who tipped them the wink, Rivendell Garden Centre has very kindly donated daffodil & tulip bulbs to LRA for planting around Longbarn. We thought that planting them on the embankment on Harper's Road would add a good splash of colour but, because the flowers must be allowed to wither finally (to perpetuate growth in future years), there would be an inevitable impact on our volunteers who mow the embankment. Geoff will discuss the proposal with our volunteers (Dave Melia & Dave Allen). With literally hundreds of bulbs at our disposal, we agreed that any leftovers be distributed to residents attending our Next Residents' Meeting. And once we have an embankment solution, Paul will advertise community bulb planting activity in our forthcoming Newsletter & on our social media.

8. Update on bus shelters in Longbarn

Having successfully negotiated with Warrington Borough Council to have 2 new bus shelters erected in Longbarn ~ one on Harper's Road (outside Guildford Close), the other on Station Road South (outside the medical centre) ~ the contract for the one on Harper's Road has been signed & will be erected in the near future. Unfortunately the one on Station Road South will not go ahead because of underlying mains services outside the Medical Centre.

9. COVID Test Check

As we ease ourselves out of hibernation following the lifting of COVID restrictions, & resume our LRA community activities, Dave had tabled a conversation to enable us to take stock. Take-up of activities is gathering momentum, albeit slowly for some of them. And whilst we will never be complacent, we reflected that ~

- we will continue to react positively to any change in Government guidelines
- we will continue to abide by whatever arrangements are maintained by PVC (where deep clean provision is in place)
- we will review the matter on our Residents' Meeting agenda from time to time

10. Litter Picks ~ Re-Vamp required?

We're really lucky to have residents who go out litter picking as & when. Wind in the Willows take kiddies out litter picking, too (fab!). And historically we've tried to supplement that with an organised litter pick on the 3rd Saturday of each month ~ but with little success. So we agreed to switch the organised litter pick to the last Sunday of each month (meeting outside Raj's shop on Pasture Lane at 10.30am) in the hope that that may be more convenient for residents & their families & encourage more to join in with a flush of community spirit. Paul will advertise community litter picking in our forthcoming Newsletter & on our social media, including Katy's suggestion to invite residents to provide photos of their endeavours as a follow-up on our social media.

11. Review of meeting

We concluded that we'd got everything done in a productive & pleasant meeting. And we segued into a conversation about the day the meeting was held ~ Wednesday on this occasion rather than our usual Thursday ~ because it enabled one of our colleagues, whose employment often means she's unable to make a Thursday (& who's not alone in that) join in the fun. Which led to a bit of introspection on whether we might formally change the day of our MC meetings in the future. With 6 of our number absent this evening, Paul suggested that we table the matter for a bit of a chat at our next MC meeting.

12. AOB.

Geoff Orange provided feedback following his meeting with Greencore on 10 January ~

- Following Jane Stanton's departure on promotion, Geoff met with the new site manager, Richard Martin
- Richard's keen to build upon the excellent working relationship we have with Greencore
- Greencore will henceforth pay for the print costs of our LRA Newsletter

The Meeting closed at 9pm