



LONGBARN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

"Working together for our Community"

Registered Charity No. 1170309



Minutes of Management Committee Annual General Meeting held 17 February 2022 at 7.30 pm at Padgate Village Club

Present: Wendy Orange, Nicola Taylor, Rosa Dale, Geoff Orange, Howard Klein, Paul Adams, Dave Pearson, Katie Melia, Bob McLaughlin, Richard Robinson

Geoff welcomed everybody to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Lynn Colter-Howard, Carol Clynes

2. Minutes of last meeting

We did not convene an AGM in 2021 on account of COVID restrictions. Minutes of our AGM held 6 February 2020 were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Financial Report

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.

Proposed: Bob

Seconded: Paul

5. Payment for meetings held in PVC

A grant previously awarded by Cheshire Community Foundation Payment (CCF) covers the charge for use of the club for our meetings & associated activities. Payment was suspended during Lockdown, but with COVID restrictions now lifted, payment has been reinstated.

Incidentally, Paul observed that our existing CCF award expires at the end of March 2022. Once evaluation of our existing award (a CCF prerequisite) has been completed at the end of March he & Dave will get together to generate a new bid.

6. Nominations for Principal MC members

Consistent with the process contained in our Constitution the following posts were agreed for subsequent ratification by our Board of Trustees at their AGM scheduled for 25 February 2022 ~

Chairman

Geoff Orange

Vice Chairman

Bob McLaughlin

Treasurer

Nicola Taylor

Secretary

Paul Adams

Proposed:

Rosa

Seconded:

Katy

Lynn Colter-Howard was confirmed as our Safeguarding Officer.

We went on to discuss chairpersons for our 8 sub-committees. However on balance we decided to annul our sub-committees ~

- we'll deal with issues as & when they arise, discharged by whoever we consider to be the best person at the time to deal with a matter
- we'll invite residents to put their name forward for help with any of the 8 subject areas at our next residents' meeting, where
- Dave suggested we distribute a copy of our List of Achievements as a means of celebrating our success & encouraging take-up

7. Overall tree management in Longbarn

Ownership of land (& a map outlining who is responsible for what, between WBC, Land Trust, Muir & Warrington Housing Association) remain outstanding issues. We agreed to defer the agenda item to a future meeting.

8. Stocktake ~ Preferred day of future MC meetings

Thursday as the preferred day for our MC meetings is rooted in the early days of LRA set-up, & we took the opportunity to review whether or not it continues to be the most convenient day for the majority, acknowledging especially the demands on those of us who are employed. After a healthy conversation we voted unanimously on maintaining the status quo.

9. Community Clean-Up Day & bulb planting on Harper's Road ~ review & Lessons Learned

Introducing the item, Dave reflected that the decision to change the clean-up day to the last Sunday of each month (& the bulb planting which took place on the same day, 30 January) attracted a great response with 20/25 people (including parents with their kiddies) turning out to help. In terms of lessons learned, we'll emphasise the opportunity for folk to take photos for us to use in our comms. And Katy suggested that Greencore sponsor more hi-viz jackets & provide help on these days.

10. Afternoon Tea, Seated Exercise Class & Footloose in Longbarn: To charge or not to charge?

Historically we've charged £3 per person for Afternoon Tea & Seated Exercise Class; our dance class has been free until a £3 charge was introduced by our volunteer organiser on 18 January. We concluded that we will officially charge £3 for all 3 events (Proposed: Paul, Seconded: Katy) on the basis that ~

- It delivers parity across all 3 activities
- Afternoon Tea delivers bingo & raffle prizes
- Seated Exercise Class delivers the services of a semi-professional trainer
- With the aid of a professional tutor Footloose in Longbarn teaches participants a new skill
- There's a broader perspective here: folk attending all 3 activities are getting the hidden benefits of mental &/or physical & mental wellbeing, & camaraderie, & you just can't put a price on that
- It generates income for the general kitty which we may use in the event that subsequent CCF funding dries up

All in all a healthy debate, with emotions running high at one point &, we concluded, a sensible outcome.

11. LRA activities & relationship with Harper's Green & Kassia Academy

Dave introduced the item, exploring ways in which we may engage more closely with both establishments. A meeting has been arranged with Kassia Academy Head Teacher (10 March) where we'll explore closer working & involvement of the Academy in our community. Harper's Green (a 'gift' of new residents to our community, as Dave observed 😊) has invited LRA to run bingo & quiz nights on their premises ~ which is great, but we would hope to see a spin-off with residents taking greater advantage of our activities held at PVC in the future.

12. Quiz Night 25 February

Bob has prepared a poster, which Paul will use to advertise the event on social media.

13. Invite our MP to a future LRA meeting?

Richard introduced the item, suggesting we may hold a Q&A session, for example. There were various points of view (eg, our MP will already hold surgeries with Warrington residents). On balance there was broad agreement, & Geoff will investigate what may be gained by both parties, acknowledging that ~

- We are a non-political organisation
- Any involvement will be contained to our residents' meetings

14. 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 wish Richard a happy birthday (it was today 🎂), & we applauded his success in organising a donation page on Facebook & raising over £200 for St. Rocco's. And herald Katy's birthday between now & our next MC meeting, on 11 March 🎉

15. Proposed coach trip to Port Sunlight & New Brighton

We agreed with Geoff's proposal to run the coach trip on 27 March. Paul will advertise the event on social media.

16. Speed indication Device on Harper's Road ~ Update

The device (a joint effort between our Parish Council & PCSO) will be erected on Harper's Road near to the Police layby, & should be in place by 18 February. Unfortunately our PCSO has been absent on account of illness, hence the delay.

17. Review of Meeting

Lots of interesting & successful debate, Paul reflected, & was taken with how agenda items work out. One was fraught with danger but passed without harm. Another, simple at face value, led to emotions running high. And we love passion! But raised voices are best avoided, Paul thought, else we risk putting off colleagues from airing a point of view in the future.

18. AOB

Our new bus stop on Harper's Road should be erected by the end of March.

Richard suggested a combined celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee & LRA's 10-year anniversary, marked eg, with a street party or bench or new planter.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

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