

Minutes of the Slip End & District Community Projects Group meeting held at The Rising Sun on Tuesday 9th November 2010

Present: Sarah Minnighan – Vice Chairman (Core), Andy Prothero (Core), Peter Smith, Derek Worsley, Brian Church, Steve Fuell, Gordon Burton, Ken Crossett (CORE), Veronica Williams

Apologies: Paul Cooper – Chairman (Core), Carol Brennan – Treasurer (Core), Carolyn Martin (BADRA), Sue Turner

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the October meeting were agreed.

Declarations of Interest

None

Finance

Carol advised Sarah prior to the meeting that there wasn't anything to report but left three cheques for signature.

Sarah reported that The Frog & Rhubarb very kindly donated £130 to CPG from funds raised on their Race Night, which she has banked

Youth Club

Attendance:

Wed 06 October – 7 children

Wed 13 October – 7 children

Wed 20 October – 3 children

Wed 27 October – 4 children

Banked: £55.47

Sarah advised the meeting that the employees had been advised that the club is to close, and have been given of their redundancy allowances. The last night that the club will be open is Wednesday 24th November 2010.

Sarah has checked with our Insurance company and we are covered for our equipment providing it is kept in a locked room within a locked building and checked once every 30 days, which Sarah will do. (SM)

Sarah will collect the keys from Shirley on 24th. (SM)

Peter Smith suggested that we might be able to organise one off trips for the Youth Club children to at least try and keep the club going in one respect.

Other Groups Within the Parish

Sarah advised that Centrebus are offering a travel club discount and she will send information regarding this to all the relevant groups within the parish.

Grants Available to CPG

Sarah confirmed that there are three possible grants available to some groups within the parish but we will have more idea if they are eligible after we have received the grant application forms back which will be ready for discussion at the December meeting.

Grant Application for Not-For-Profit Groups

Paul advised Sarah prior to the meeting that he had received 9 applications so far and will be chasing them leading up to the December meeting, when this will be priority.

Parish Plan

Sarah advised that Paul, Ken, Rosemary and Helena and herself had a recent meeting to discuss the Parish Plan, and whilst they are still heavily involved with the inputting of the statistics and information gleaned from the plan, they hope to have a very rough outline for us in January 2011.

Ken advised that the Parish Plan has Brian Church, an independent professional statistician, to help them with the plan statistics.

Steve advised that he has already been quoting some of the % results when in correspondence with Central Beds Council regarding different issues.

Website

Sarah confirmed that work will resume shortly.

Slip End Task Force

Paul advised prior to the meeting that any task force should be run in conjunction with any Good Neighbour Scheme that we might set up and that it should be overseen by the Community Projects Group Manager.

Ken advised that he and Philip Penman had a chat about setting up some sort of task force in the parish to counteract the financial cutbacks we are soon to be victims of under Central Beds and the Government, i.e., verge cutting, litter picking, cleaning etc. We may look to set up a group under the CPG to carry out various projects around the parish that we will lose otherwise and Steve is currently looking into the Health & Safety and Insurance aspects of doing this. (SF)

Ken said that the mobile library is one of the first cutbacks we have been advised of and that it may be beneficial to the parish to set up our own library. We could look to run a book donation service and decide on a venue to run the library but in the meantime the Parish Council will write to the portfolio holder for libraries, Cllr Ken Matthews, asking him to consider reducing our service from fortnightly to monthly from January to April 2011 to give us time to get something in place. Richard Stay has advised that we should be able to obtain some financial backing from Central Beds if we look to branch out on our own. Peter Smith asked about the current mobile library vehicles – were they being sold off? Would we be able to get one and utilise it in the same manner but keep it in one central place permanently?

Sarah advised that there appears to be a petition on the library already and Veronica confirmed this. Veronica will try and find out where it stems from. (VW)

Steve proposed that CPG join the BTCV which is a charity set up in 1959 that has a successful history of environmental conservation volunteering throughout the UK and around the world. Steve will get hold of the application form. (SF)

Andy asked if gritting will be cut and Steve advised that he is still waiting for a response from the council regarding that.

Christmas Presents

Paul advised prior to the meeting that he has purchased 193 boxes of biscuits at a cost of £795.90 and that they are currently stored in his dining room. Paul will print the labels for them. They can be collected after 01 December 2010 for delivery before Christmas.

Sarah asked for volunteers for delivery and it was agreed as follows:

Veronica Williams and Carolyn Martin - Pepperstock
Gordon Burton - Front Street
Brian Church - Summer St, The Oaks, New St, Church Road
Steve Fuell - Crawley Close
Sarah Minnighan - Claydown Way, Markyate Road, St Andrews Close, Rossway
Andy Prothero - Woodside
Paul Cooper – Woodside Nursing Home

The Grove & Little Meadow park homes at Woodside - between Sarah, Ken and Andy but Sarah still has to get the list up to date for these residents. (SM)

Any Other Business

Sarah reminded everyone that the fund raising Slip End Christmas Fair is on Saturday 11th December between 3pm and 5pm at the school and everyone is welcome.

Digital Switch Over – Steve advised that he has been on a course to deliver information to our vulnerable residents about the digital switchover taking place in April 2011. This is an important issue as many elderly residents rely on their TV for information and it's their life and if they haven't got a new box fitted or a new TV then in April their TV won't work. Steve proposed, with Beds Rural Community Charity's help and approval, to draw up a leaflet to include with the Christmas biscuit delivery to let folks know that help is at hand and if they need any help to contact Steve. Sarah said this was great idea and would help Steve to get these leaflets/letters done by 01 December. (SF/SM)

Sarah confirmed the dates for the next 12 meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 11th Jan 2011 – The Frog & Rhubarb
Tuesday 8th Feb 2011 – The Ruchi
Tuesday 8th March 2011 – Slip End Social Club
Tuesday 12th April 2011 – The Rising Sun
Tuesday 10th May 2011 – The Plough
Tuesday 14th June 2011 – The Frog & Rhubarb
Tuesday 12th July 2011 – The Ruchi
No meeting in August
Tuesday 13th September 2011 – Slip End Social Club
Tuesday 11th October 2011 – The Rising Sun
Tuesday 8th November 2011 – The Plough
Tuesday 13th December 2011 – The Frog & Rhubarb

Aims for the Next Meeting

Not-For-Profit Group Grant applications

There being no other business the Chairman confirmed that the **next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th December 2010 at The Plough, Woodside** and the meeting closed at 8.35pm.