

Langford Village Community Association - Minutes

20th March 2017

Attendees: Mike Oke, Matt Phillips, Bob Rudge, Andrew Smith, Jean Coker, Rich Ponsford, John Broad, Rob Swan. Joined later by Richard Kingshott, Carole Hetherington and Cllr Dan Sames

Apologies: Ted Kingston, Steve Clack.

1. Approval of February Minutes

The minutes from February were agreed, and signed by Mike. Thanks to Andrew for taking the minutes in Matt's absence.

2. Treasurer's Update

Bank Balances at end of February 2017:

Account	No. 1	No. 2	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	Total
February 17	1,785.50	6,490.14	0.00	23,664.84	0.00	31,940.48

The only activity in February was on the No. 2 account, resulting in an increase of £862 compared to January. This was simply due to invoices, some for the quarter being paid. Nobody was overdue at the end of the month. The balance at the date of this meeting is significantly lower at £4,323, as we've paid for the chairs & given the donation to the coffee shop.

Invoices for magazine advertising were issued as soon as the magazine was printed, but to date only 5 people have paid.

The Thames Water bill received at the end of February showed a credit balance of just over £310. As we expected to be moved to Castle Water in April, Jean requested a refund of £250. However, instead Thames Water refunded the entire amount and closed the account. It took 2 more days to get the account re-opened but as a gesture of goodwill they have credited our new account with £50. We have also since received a letter from Thames Water stating that we will be remaining as one of their customers as we are actually on a domestic tariff.

The projected end of year balance for all accounts is in the region of £30,500, which would be about £5,600 lower than last year. However, we are also still awaiting an invoice for the CDC buildings insurance, which is expected to be about £500. The continued absence of the invoice raised concerns over whether the insurance is actually in place. It was recommended that Jean send a communication (and possibly payment) to demonstrate the committee had made every effort to ensure the hall was covered, and request evidence of the insurance policy.

Income from regular users has increased this year by about 16% but conversely weekend use has fallen by 14%. While the current use continues, basic income exceeds basic outgoings by roughly £1000. With utility prices rising there is little chance of further economies so any future large expenditure will have to come out of reserves. Jean doesn't recommend a price increase this year but cautions that any significant drop in usage would see us running at a loss.

An enquiry has been received for hire of the hall on Sunday April 30th for an event raising money for Alzheimer's Research. The enquirer asked a reduced hire charge will be allowed. A one-off rate of £7/hr was agreed.

The lady running the Friday Yoga class has again said that she often has to clean up before she starts her class. The hall is used on Thursday evenings until 9.30 by firstly the Brownies & then the Church Group so there's no opportunity for it to be cleaned before Friday's class at 9.30am. Jean to ask her to be more specific about the mess she is finding (including taking photos), to help the committee investigate whether there is being some unauthorised hall use on Thursday nights.



3. New Chairs

80 chairs and 2 trolleys have been delivered. The trolleys were assembled by Mike and Bob. Additional temporary chairs will be needed for AGMs. Matt to investigate this with the school.

Jean to investigate options to sell the old large chairs, but keep the small chairs.

4. Hall Storage

Bob presented sketches of options for knocking through from the main hall cupboards to the office, and an alternative to extend the building. The preferred option of the committee was to knock through from the cupboards to make better use of the current space, rather than extend. It was preferred to keep the right-hand cupboard and only knock through the left-hand cupboard. **Action**: Bob, Carole and Matt to take this forward in terms of finalising the proposal, agreeing the detail with CDC and obtaining quotes for the work. Ideally the work could be done in August when hall use is reduced.

It was agreed that the regular hall users would need to be kept informed about proposals and any impact on current storage arrangements.

5. Mallards Way Parking

Carole, Richard and Dan joined the meeting after having attended a Town Council meeting at which the issue of Mallards Way Parking had been discussed. The Council intends to gather quotes for options to compare to the quote already obtained for birds beak fencing, these options being: boulders; a ditch; and railway sleepers.

Carole also updated the committee on her recent actions on this matter, which involved recording registration numbers and sharing these with the businesses from Talisman park. These businesses supported efforts to reduce the issue by ensuring their employees used alternative designated parking. At Carole's first count there were 59 cars parked there, and the most recent count was 23. Carole offered to seek Chiltern Railways' assistance in discouraging rail users from parking on Mallards Way.

6. Langford Life Magazine

The new edition has been published and distributed. The whole committee expressed how impressive the publication is and thanked Steve and Rich for their huge effort.

7. Highways and Development

It was noted that works for the Skimmingdish Lane warehouse development have commenced.

Richard informed the committee about Oxfordshire County Council's plans for Highway maintenance to be managed locally. Richard proposed that the LVCA meets regularly with the new 'County Council Area Steward'. This proposal was agreed.

8. Review of Initiatives

See table at the end of these minutes for a summary.

9. AOB

Mike advised that Vickie Zielinski will shortly be retiring from Cherwell District Council.

The FLTR Coffee crowd-funding has been a success. The LVCA contributed £1,000 to this, and Richard put forward a proposal that a further £1,000 should be donated. There were mixed viewpoints on this, and eventually it was agreed not to donate any more, but to review again in six months.



John is still trying to address the issue of the overly aggressive tree clearance with CDC. Rich advised that he'd observed excessive vegetation clearance at the entrance to Pipits Croft and, as a result, made contact with James Fairweather, an Environment Officer at CDC. The workers had apparently been told by David Wilson Homes to cut the vegetation down to 1 foot above ground level. James agreed that this was excessive and, upon further investigation, established that they were working in the wrong location. As a result, James ensured that the area was re-turfed. Rich agreed to point James towards other areas of recent damage.

Bob was asked to chase for a quote for a new alarm key pad.

Dan to assist chasing John Slack for progress on several issues:

- · Improvements to external path.
- Defibrillator.
- Building work for hall storage.

Dan to organise litter pick after local election.

Date of next Meeting – Monday 15th May 2017 at 8.15pm at the hall