

# Langford Village Community Association - Minutes

5<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Attendees:** Rich Ponsford, Matt Phillips, Andrew Smith, Richard Kingshott, John Broad, Jean Coker, Carole Hetherington, Bob Rudge

Apologies: Cllr Dan Sames.

# 1. Approval and Actions Arising from November Minutes

The minutes from November were agreed, and signed by Rich.

#### 2. Treasurer's Update

Bank Balances at end of December 2017:

Account	Langford Life	Hall	Hall Improvement	Reserve	Total
December 17	1,530.85	6,981.06	1,775.05	9,896.06	20,183.02

The balance is roughly £470 short due to late payments by Cubs & Beavers and Slimming World.

Following recent enquiries, Jayne has asked whether the 8pm limit on weekend bookings should be reconsidered. The committee discussed this and concluded that the current limit was set after previous problems with disruptive parties, and that this limit should remain.

There has been an ongoing dialogue since October between Jean and a potential new user interested in establishing fitness classes. However, he has repeatedly failed to come forward with a suitable time to view the hall and has not produced any necessary paperwork. In the absence of a commitment from him, Jean asked the committee for permission to offer the last remaining evening slot (Thursday after Brownies) to a lady interested in starting yoga classes. The committee agreed.

Jean has had continued dialogue with Castle Water, with little success. In addition to problems relating to the lack of meter readings, they are now asking for payments in advance, and are also seemingly struggling to deal with the hall as it is neither a business or a domestic property. Given these ongoing issues, Jean was asked whether it is possible to shop around for an alternative supplier.

#### 3. Langford Life

Rich asked for all committee members to consider what articles they'd like to write and bring ideas to the next meeting. The target is to publish in July and distribute ahead of the AGM. Based on previous experience, the number of copies can be reduced to 2,500. Rich has obtained a quote from a printing company in Banbury that is more competitive than the previous printers.

## 4. Fundraising

The Tesco Bags of Help voting has commenced, with some stiff competition from other schemes in Bicester. The end date is 28<sup>th</sup> February. Carole, Rich and Matt to coordinate reminders to put on social media, as well as a fundraising thermometer to show progress.

Bicester Parkrun have kindly offered to donate £500 to the floor fund, saying they have always been well supported by the Langford community. There are positive indications from Bicester Village following Carole's meeting with them at the end of 2017. There is an opportunity to apply for a grant from Bicester Town Council in February. The Nightingale have offered a fundraising quiz night on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

Richard suggested investigating opportunities with Bunnings. Matt mentioned that Barton Fleming supports Langford School, and suggested approaching other local estate agents.



#### 5. Tables

Bob and Carole shared the results of their research in to replacement tables. The preferred product is the Gopak Contour range. The proposal was to purchase 8 large and 4 small tables, plus 2 trolleys. The committee considered a range of colours and selected Maple. By purchasing through the Church Buying Group, they were able to bring the price down to £1,795.72. Bob and Carole were authorised to proceed with the purchase.

# 6. Oxford-Cambridge Expressway

Andrew and John described the current status of the government's plans for the expressway. There are a few broad options for the route, some of which pass close to Bicester. Significant housing developments are proposed along the route, including entirely new towns or cities. Andrew believes the LVCA should have a voice in any public consultations about the expressway. Andrew and John to coordinate on gathering the latest information and seeking opportunities to respond.

#### 7. Local Street Maintenance

Following the recent snow and ice causing treacherous conditions, Andrew queried whether Langford should have grit boxes. Rich agreed to ask Dan for a recommendation on who to approach about this.

## 8. AOB

- Following discussion about the Langford Life magazine, it was agreed to push the AGM date back to the end of September or beginning of October.
- Regarding the continued lack of action in relation to the London Road Level Crossing, Carole
  and Andrew proposed to write a letter to Victoria Prentis on behalf of the LVCA, expressing
  the committee's concerns.
- Rich to ask Dan for an update on the bus shelters.
- John has received an email from John Slack at CDC, acknowledging that he is yet to address
  the ownership of the path outside the hall, and associated improvements. Rich is to write to
  Mr Slack reminding him that almost a year has passed since the incident that led to this
  enquiry.
- Bob is chasing Mike Pearse to undertake the various maintenance jobs required on the hall.
- Regarding the Gavray Drive development, John advised that Gallaghers have submitted an appeal against the rejection of their planning application.
- John noted that there has been recent flooding at the Mallards Way/London Road roundabout. John to log this on FixMyStreet.
- John advised that there is apparently a burst pipe beneath Gavray Drive that is currently being repaired.
- Rich encouraged as many committee members as possible to attend the Bicester Vision event on 1<sup>st</sup> February.
- Rich shared a document that Bob has prepared that lists all the functions he currently
  performs for the LVCA. Rich asked committee members to consider which functions they'd
  be able to take on.

Date of next Meeting – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – 8:15pm



Initiative	Lead	Supports	Status			
Hall Improvements						
Cycle racks	Rich Ponsford	John Broad	John to discuss with John Slack the possibility of CDC providing the cycle racks			
Refresh safety and fire risk assessment	Matt Phillips		Advice received from fire safety inspector. Initial draft of risk assessment reviewed with committee. Documents to be amended			
Replacement flooring	Carole Hetherington		Fundraising ongoing			
Replacement tables	Carole Hetherington		Fundraising ongoing			
LVCA outside communications						
Langford Life magazine	Rich Ponsford		New format agreed. Work to commence in January 2018			
Enhanced Langford Life website	Andrew Smith	Bob Rudge Rich Ponsford	Content to be refreshed.  Booking information to be made more prominent			
LVCA Branding	Rich Ponsford	Matt Phillips	Updating hall notices. Template for headed letters			
Langford and Surrounding Environment						
Litter picking	Rich Ponsford		Annual event			
Cleaning/repairing street name signs	Rich Ponsford		Encourage community involvement? Check with town council whether they'd have any objection			
Promoting Community						
Welcome packs for new residents	Rich Ponsford					