

MINUTES OF DELPH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY MARCH 3rd 2015 IN MILLGATE ARTS CENTRE

Present: Phillida Shipp, Gillian Clark, Keith Begley, Mike Clegg, Sue Lund, Tony Stell, Jo Green, Joan Lally.

Apologies: Geoff Bayley, Maurice and Janet Reid.

Apologies for non attendance at the last meeting had not been recorded: these were from David Hanson, Peter Whiffen, Maurice and Janet Reid. There was also a spelling mistake for *Hindel* Terrace. **Apart from these two amendments the Minutes of the Meeting held on December 2nd 2014 were agreed a correct record.**

MATTERS ARISING

Defibrillator: Alan Roughley will arrange a site visit with Tracey Jenkinson, Practice Manager of the Uppermill Practice at the new clinic in Delph and assess the suitability of this location for the defibrillator.

Footpath 13: A Holding Letter has been sent by DCA regarding this issue. Gill has talked to the residents of Hindel Terrace and Steve Palk has also written to them suggesting a meeting. The residents were pleased to have received this letter from Steve. Tony Stell will try to find out to whom the land belongs, the Council do not own it. The Land Registry require a fee of £17 to access any information: the DCA is reluctant to pay this fee but it would give us a definitive answer if no other way can be found.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mike submitted the following figures:

Account	March 2015
Nat West Current Account	525.73
Cash	
Reserve Account	12,440.46
Total	12,966.19

Mike thought that the charge of £20.16 per month for emptying the paper bin the the Library was excessive. Sue thought that because the Library was classed as a charity and exempt from Council Tax we might not have to pay for this service. Phillida will look into this.

VILLAGE IN BLOOM

Jo was disappointed that she was the only person to turn up for the weeding work in February. However, a larger turnout is expected on 21st March, which is also the date of the Borough wide tidy up. Volunteers are requested to meet at 10 am outside the Library.

Jo reported that DCA has been given half an allotment to grow plants: these will then be planted round the village. Councillor Nikky Kirkham has donated £200 for Village in Bloom. Jo would like to get some high visibility jackets printed (Blooming Delph), she will cost this and report back. Any spare money can be used for hanging baskets, perhaps for Whit Friday.

FLAG DAY

Ken Bennett (freelance reporter) has suggested that residents of Saddleworth might wish to fly flags from their houses for seven days. Any flag of their choice! Gill will reply to Ken saying DCA have had a meeting and are quite interested in the idea. We need to know possible dates etc.

SANTA'S GROTTTO

Keith outlined his thoughts on possible venues. The date of the lights switch on (possibly 28 Nov or 5 Dec) would be a major factor. A grotto could be built on the theatre stage - this would be much safer than a grotto outside the library or a tent in the Chapel Gardens. If the theatre isn't available perhaps the upstairs room of the Liberal Club, or a room in the Methodists could be considered. Phillida thanked Keith for his work and the grotto will be discussed again at the next executive meeting.

FUND RAISING

Theatre Evening: Phillida is anxious about the number of tickets we've sold so far, we all need to try and sell some more! Sue discussed the supper arrangements and the food which is to be supplied by the volunteers. The supper tickets are £4 and if people already have a theatre subscription they could just buy a supper ticket.

Scarecrow Trail: Sue has eight offers from people willing to make and display scarecrows. The theme is TV programmes.

CHAPEL GARDENS

Keith reported that last year's bulbs are coming up splendidly. He has planted approximately two thousand new bulbs: hyacinths, tulips, daffodils etc and he detailed the areas in which they have been planted. Keith would like to clean the moss from the gravestones lying flat, it was suggested that a substance called 'allgone' could be used. Keith would like help with this task.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS' MEETING

Tony said the next meeting will be held on Wednesday (11th March). It seems that the environmental sub-committee have off-loaded quite a lot of work eg seats, signs, overhanging bushes. Tony said it was frustrating how difficult it was to speak to anyone in person at the Town Hall in Uppermill. It seems that every issue has to be directed to Highways Department in Oldham.

VILLAGE CONSERVATION SIGNS

Geoff Bayley will send Cllr Nikki Kirkham plans showing where it is wished to put the signs. He has had a meeting with Debbie Abrahams about heavy lorries going through the village when they shouldn't be doing so. She said she would try to help stop this.

VILLAGE INFORMATION BOARD

Keith showed the meeting a mock up of the board and asked for suggestions. A good discussion followed and we all appreciated the amount of work Keith has put into the project.

LIBRARY

Phillida reported that the library has been changed round and made more spacious. There will be a slight change in opening hours to fit in with Oldham libraries. The library needs to increase its 'footfall' and it is hoped that it will become a ticket agency for the theatre. This could be up and running for next season. The library will also reinstate the Readers Group. Sue raised the question of accessibility to the library. It is problematic for people with mobility problems. Various suggestions were looted - chicanes road priority etc. Phillida suggested that people with mobility problems could get in touch with the Home Library Service (0161 770 8000).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Garth Harkness has decided to spend some of his allocation on repairing local footpaths. After some discussion it was decided that the path behind the White Lion

leading to the Eagle Mill Dam was the most important one. If there were funds for more work a section of the path between Barley Bridge and Pingle Glade also needs attention. Keith will speak to Garth about this.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be decided at a later date.