

KIRBY FETE 2024
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ST MICHAELS CHURCH HALL, The Street, Kirby Le Soken
Saturday 9th November 2024, 4pm

The meeting commenced at 4.15pm to account for any late attendees

Committee Members Present

Lorraine Crowder, Chairperson
Suzanne Bond, Committee Member

Apologies

Maxine Nicholls, Vice Chairperson

Others present

Kevin Smith – Rotary Club
Harry Francis – Rotary Club
Roger Parker – Local Resident and Site Neighbour
John Folgate – Local Resident
Jill Folgate -Local Resident
Adam Stone – Fete Helper
Mark Platt - Councillor

1. CHAIRMAN' REPORT

The Chair thanked attendees and those who had been present at the earlier craft fayre.

It was noted that fete went ahead albeit somewhat last minute due to approval from the PCC to use the Glebe field not being given until July, it was explained that the formal request had gone to them later than usual due to personal difficulties in all of the committee members family so although it is a given that the fete is desired each year by the committee the PCC would not agree formally until the formal request had been applied for in May following a meeting with the Church Warden in respect of proposed donations to the church going forwards.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

The report was circulated noting a profit of £1446.21. It was explained that due to a limited number of volunteers there is not as much income as prior committees fete as provisions have to be outsourced and so it is not many home run stalls. As such the Rotary Club, Fire Service, and other local clubs have their own collections and fundraisers while assisting the fete. Although a donation had to be made of a minimum of £500 per annum for the use of the Glebe Field from the PCC. Where savings had been able to be made this year for no longer having to pay the £1500 for annual storage/south glebe grass cutting and hire of toilets as we had instead hired the church hall.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It was noted that Maxine Nicholls had remained on the committee following family illness but had taken a step back, now wished to retire from the committee as Vice Chair, but would remain on it for the purposes of the Annual Christmas Craft Fayre organisation only. As such there is now a vacancy for a Vice Chair which the Chair would like to be filled by Suzanne Bond who had stepped up in Maxine's recent absence despite only previously wishing to be a Committee Member, she had demonstrated keenness and the ability to fill this role.

It was noted that due to lack of willingness previously, from the local community despite a 1000 qty leaflet drop and advertisements on social media, online, and in the local publications and shop windows, no one else had been forthcoming to fill vital roles on the committee and there had been a need for the committee members to dual role, whilst ensuring an adequate split of duties at all times, therefore the constitution allows for the Chair to also fulfil duties at the Treasurer due to her previous banking and accounting experience and qualifications and of which Suzanne and Maxine are dual signatories, with access online to the bank account and accounting package but for everything requiring dual authorisation.

Discussion ensued on identifying new roles required following the new networking and more people interested in partnering with the fete committee going forwards. Offers of help had been received from Mark Platt Councillor and Kevin Smith representing the Rotary Club, who had both been instrumental in the success of the fete this year, providing transport and manpower facilities, for accounting, meeting premises and many other ways they can help. Lorraine and Suzanne agreed to produce a list of roles required for the forthcoming years fete on the committee and would present this before an EGM in the new year, with some promotional efforts prior to gain nominees.

4. FURTHER DISCUSSION TOPICS

Storage was currently being provided by David Eagle although this is not long term as the containers do need to be moved off of the existing land. The Committee are involved in discussions with David Eagle and Blythes regarding future storage and carpark use.

The Chair apologised for the equipment still residing on the field but noted the difficulties in getting the fridges collected by Veolia, these are now going on Wed 13th November, and the remaining items will be removed one Sunday imminently again with the assistance of Mark Platt and his son James with the Harwood lorry who had kindly helped all Summer and to whom the Committee were very grateful

Concerns had been raised with regards to the disabled carpark access this year from Roger Parker, as this is shared drive with Parkers Farm who were harvesting that day. The Chair explained that this carpark kindly by Mr Haig-Thoms had been limited to stall holders and the disabled only who would be staying all day, even with road closed and no parking signs to make it clear that it was not for general use. Kevin seconded that this had been advertised as such. Roger and Kevin asked about alternative arrangements for next year. The Chair advised that the Committee had discussed this and was considering using the Pavillion and Playing fields if available as these are cited ideally next to the currently loaned parking space and also next to the fetes original location of Hill House. Further enquiries would be made particularly as the land currently owned is not necessarily always going to be available from the PCC or Mr Haig-Thomas and the land needed mowing, filling and making safe before it could be used where as the playing fields are always maintained and do not charge separately for use of the Pavillion/Electric so costs may be similar to existing use but safer and less work for the committee and helpers.

5. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting tbc, but is proposed as an EGM possibly at the Rotary Club Frinton in January 2025 when committee members will be formally elected for the forthcoming years activities

LC 09.11.24

TREASURERS REPORT 9/11/2024

I am pleased to be able to report a small profit this year of £1446.21, of which £500 has been donated to St Michaels as kind thanks for allowing us to use the Glebe Field again this year.

However this did cause great issues in preparing it ready for use as it was in dangerous condition and un-maintained for a whole year.

This has resulted in us considering future viability, with the difficulties in parking and the Churches tenure being due again in 4 years. Not to mention the difficulties faced with the shared drive and future use of the adjacent fields. This is a matter for discussion with the incoming committee.

We found ourselves with no storage fee this year which has been a blessing due to our limited funds. However we do need to consider that we may be faced with charges post May next year when our new landlord is planning to move the container which is being provided currently free of charge, as we may have to consider alternative arrangements or a possible purchase/relocation fee/negotiations. Again something for the incoming committee to consider.

The current committee has considered a possible relocation which may be viable and save us the £308.51 per year electric (this has been higher in previous years) but may cost more in rental costs. To be discussed with incoming committee.

We have done our best to keep consumables to the lowest possible expense however this is an area we can discuss going forwards and monitor future requirements and costs throughout the coming year.

Our biggest priority this year was to obtain storage and retain a decent working capital for future events as well as retain a cash float as it is now not viable to access local banking for this purpose.