



Our Villages Crawcrook and Greenside

Trustee Meeting – 5th June 2024

Minutes

1. Present:

Chris Beer (chair), Susan Welch, Caroline James, Barbara Williams

2. Apologies in advance:

Norma Blackith, Laura Clark, Derrick Marrs, Sharon, Kathryn Henderson, Julie Gavin, Matt.

3. Did Not attend:

No-one.

(Carl and Stella Hattersley attended the meeting to discuss plans for a water safety event to raise awareness of the dangers of water. Various possibilities were discussed and it was agreed that Our Villages would offer support by organising a fun day - possibly a pic-nic and bouncy castle – in the bowling green with speaker/demos from emergency services (fire service?, RNLI?) and Carl himself. CB is to contact the various services to ascertain their willingness to attend and availability. CH and SH left the meeting at this point.)

4. Acceptance of minutes of meeting held on 8th May.

Accepted.

5. Financial Matters

Report by LC (circulated with the agenda) was noted and accepted.

It was noted that the warm spaces grant from AkzoNobel has been fully spent. It was agreed that the Warm Spaces would not be continued due to low take up of the offer.

The Co-op grant for the Community Garden needs to be spent by end June. Community Garden group to be approached for a spending plan.

6. Crawcrook Pavilion and Green

- a) Joinery work in pavilion almost complete CB to contact joiner re completion.
- b) Cafe update – deferred
- c) Summer holiday lawn games on bowling green.
Agreed to hold games sessions using play equipment on Wednesdays in summer holidays from 2.00 till 4.00 when the cafe is open. Children to be accompanied by an adult but volunteers needed to set up and supervise.
- d) Fence update.
No communication from council. KH to be asked to chase up. Grant to be committed by end of June.
- e) Further projects
First aid course for young people organised. Good take up.
CB to follow up 'boot camp'
LC to approach Matt re a graffiti workshop.

7. Review of regular activities.

- a) Litter picking. CB to take over co-ordination of volunteers. Will follow up with Stuart re handing over list.
- b) Gardening
SW reported good progress. Barrier baskets and pinfold beds have been re-planted. Some work has been undertaken in the 'horseshoe bed' outside Holy Spirit Church. The appropriateness of this was discussed and it was agreed that OV volunteers should not do this given the other demands on their time in areas which should be given higher priority. SW to communicate this to other volunteers and BW to let Paddy Gascoigne know.

8. Community Garden Update

- a) General Progress. Good progress made at volunteer session in May and another one is planned for June 15th. All 4 raised beds now taken by schools/nursery/ charity. No resolution yet of access issue. Paddy Gascoigne is continuing to pursue with Gateshead Council.
- b) Graffiti workshop. LC has discussed with Matt the possibility of running a workshop with children to produce a painted screen to be erected in the corner of the garden by the bug hotel. Likely to go ahead on 2nd Sat of summer holiday.
- c) Mosaic – deferred.

9. Upcoming events

- i) Crawcrook Fair 14th September. CB to post on Facebook request for donations of prizes and bottles
- ii) AGM . No date fixed as no speaker yet identified. LC to be asked to follow up re possible speaker with Durham Wildlife Trust.

10. Greenside update. No information available.

11. A.O.B

- i) Sculpture Trail. Installation date needed from Gateshead Council. KH to follow up.
- ii) Advertising new positions. A possible volunteer for the position of secretary has been identified. CB has taken over co-ordination of litter picker volunteers.
There are opportunities for Trustees as we can have up to 12. It was agreed that anyone who has shown interest in OV activities should be approached rather than posting a general invitation.
- iii) Christmas lights for Crawcrook. It was agreed that we will not buy additional festoons but will look at the possibility of providing solar lights for some of the trees.

12. Date and Time of next meeting WED 3RD July 7.00pm.

13.