



Trustees' Meeting
7.00pm Tuesday April 4th
Held at Crawcrook Social Club
Minutes

1. Present:

Laura Clark (chair), Caroline James, Sue Welch, Stuart Lowerson, Derrick Marrs, Matt Broderick, Barbara Williams

2. Apologies in advance:

Chris Beer, Helen Harran, Norma Blackith

3. Did not attend: no-one.

4. Acceptance of Minutes of meeting held on 7th March:

Accepted as a true record of the meeting.

5. Financial matters

a) Finance Report

LC spoke to the report which had been circulated with the agenda. This was accepted.

b) Go Fund Me/Crowd Funding update

CB has set up a page to raise funds towards the pavilion refurbishment and new fence in the park. So far £50 has been donated.

6. Crawcrook Pavilion and Green

- a) Update on lease agreement for pavilion and green.
This is ready to sign once issues raised by the electrical safety and water hygiene reports have been clarified with Gateshead Council. It was noted that the inner door needs a new lock.
- b) Pavilion Refurbishment
A grant of £10,000 has been agreed from the Community Foundation for general improvements including provision for a community cafe. Alterations to the toilets are planned to create an additional cubicle.
- c) Volunteer Painting morning. This will be on April 28th. Volunteers welcome!
- d) Bowling Green Gullies – volunteering dates.
SL has undertaken further work and the gullies are now 50% filled with woodchip. SL to continue after which top soil will be added prior to seeding with grass seed. (The possibility of taking up the offer from Brighten Ryton to borrow their lawn mower was discussed and agreed to be a better option than buying a mower which would be problematic to store)
- e) Community Cafe Update- Kathryn Henderson has agreed to help and provide training for volunteers. Registration as a food business will be required (LC) The provision of outside seating was discussed and it was agreed that initially, tables and chairs which can be stored in the pavilion will be more suitable than fixed seating. This will be kept under review in the light of experience of running the cafe.
- f) Showcase Event 8th May 11.am – 3pm
This will coincide with the Coronation Big Help Out so will be an opportunity to involve volunteers e.g. in a litter pick and/or planting, and also promote the pavilion and green as a ‘for hire’ venue.
Refreshments to be provided.
- g) Planting bowling green border.
The possibility of clearing and planting the long border along the fence adjoining the park was discussed. Money remaining in the Co-op fund could be used to buy plants. (Following the meeting it was suggested that NE40 be approached to be partners in this task which links with their aim to improve habitats)

7. Review of regular activities

- a) Litter picking
SL reported that fly-tipping on Sled Lane was reported to Gateshead Council and items were removed. There is a problem of discarded dog poo bags by the entrance from the main road into the old land fill site. SL is to request that the bin is relocated to the entrance from a site further along the road.
- b) Gardening

SW reported on the plan to purchase plants in May. There is a need to replace some of the planters on Crawcrook Main St. This was agreed. It was noted that several the businesses which agreed to a planter being located outside their premises have neglected to water as agreed. It was agreed that good practice (e.g. by Storey's and 3 Wishes) will be highlighted on social media (subject to agreement) in the hope of encouraging others.

8. Community Garden Update

LC has secured involvement from 5 volunteers from Exservent who will build the raised beds prior to the garden launch and coffee morning on April 29th. This event will include activities – bug hotel building and seed planting.

9. Upcoming events.

- i) Crawcrook Fair – August 5th. Planning is underway led by CB who is to send a poster to Tyne Valley Express for the July/August edition.
- ii) Joint Event with TWiG – April 1st. Generally agreed to have been a success although attendance (around 80 excluding vols) was less than expected. It was agreed that the toys which are left will be offered at a 'toy swap' event in the pavilion in the near future.
- iii) Easter Egg Hunt - April 8th. Pavilion to be open from 8.00 for setting up.
- iv) Community Garden Coffee morning 29th April (See above)
- v) Open Meetings 2023. It was agreed that the next one will include the AGM in July. Speaker from the Hedgehog Hospital to be invited.
- vi) AGM date. TBC once speaker is arranged.

- vii) Coronation Big Help Out Volunteering Day – 8th May (See above)
- viii) Autumn Fair. Agreed that this will be held at Greenside Community Centre on a date in November as a 'Christmas Craft Fair'
- ix) Volunteer Week – June. Agreed not to participate this year due to high level of other activity.
- x) Prize Bingo Night – deferred.

10. AOB

- i) Newsletter BW apologised for delay and said the newsletter will be compiled in May. Some contributions still needed.
- ii) Kathryn Henderson to become a Trustee. Agreed.
- iii) Greenside Skatepark Graffiti. Matt to complete.

- iv) Our Villages Website. Agreed that this is in need of a refresh. LC to approach CB.
- v) Secretary Role – to be re-advertised as no volunteer has so far come forward.
- vi) Replacement of notice board outside Holy Spirit Church.
SW and SL to approach Cllr Kath McCartney who has previously raised it with Gateshead Council.

11. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 2nd May, 7.00m, Crawcrook Social Club.