



Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association

Registered Charity No.279592

Minutes of User Group Meeting held on Wednesday 26 July 2017

Present:

Brian Laming (Joint Chair); Rachel Skinner (Joint Chair); Anne Sole (Joint Chair & Pre-School Group); Stanley Judd (Exec. Committee & Royal British Legion); Barbara Angel (Treasurer); Jan Dawkins (Bookings Secretary); Denise Tosdevine (Pre-School Group); Loraine Martin (Hampshire Wildlife Trust); Graham Rolfe (Whiteshute Bridge); Richard Butler (Badger Farm Social Club).

1. Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Lesley Nguyen (Exec. Committee); Debbie Deeney (Exec. Committee); Hampshire Calligraphers.

2: Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 27 July 2016:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 22 July 2015 were accepted by those present.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

3: Report from Executive Committee Chairman:

As you will all have seen the work has started on the toilet refurbishments. This is the first major improvement we have been able to make. This is entirely due to the fact that we have carefully managed our finances for the Centre for the last four years. The Centre has turned from loss making to running a small profit. This has allowed us to build up funds for the work and we plan to keep this rolling programme of refurbish into the future. This is very important as the Centre is now 30 years old and work needs to be done to bring it up to modern standards. This year the budget is expecting a loss partly due to the refurbishment and a couple of unexpected items in this current year but it is within a manageable level. Last year the boiler failed in a particularly cold spell and was a costly affair and we need to plan for this to be replaced in the near future. The expected cost would be in excess of £25,000 as we will take the opportunity to slightly redesign the boiler configuration so that there is some redundancy built into it. The kitchen will also need to be looked at in detail as this area and the toilets are places that affect our bookings. The bi annual floor maintenance in the Battery will start on 14 August and we have experienced problems with the floor this current year. During the year we have nearly completed the changeover to LED lighting which I hope you will not have noticed. This type of lighting does reduce the amount of electricity we use considerably thus reducing our running costs.

Sadly some groups have left us, namely Jo Jingles, Club Hampshire, the National Blood Service and Alzheimer's who have cut their bookings to once a month. However, the good news is the monthly gaps are being taken over for them by a private company. New hirers include Moo Music and a fitness/dance class on Friday mornings. We also welcome the 7th Winchester Scouts. The Centre continues to be used as a Polling Station on Election days. Also, the Badger Farm Pre-School were chosen by Sainsbury's as their Charity of the Year.

This meant Sainsbury's working with the Pre-School on various activities throughout the year and their first mission was to help tidy and supply new planters for the garden. This has provided publicity for the Pre-School and the Community Centre. The group were recently presented with a cheque for £1050 from Sainsbury's in connection with fundraising events.

Jan stepped down as Editor of Community News at the beginning of the year. We have now welcomed Bernice Kenny to the Community News.

The majority of invoices and correspondence are now being sent to hirers by email which has saved an immense sum in postage.

4: Report from Badger Farm Parish Council:

There was no report on this occasion.

5: Report from Oliver's Battery Parish Council:

There was no report on this occasion.

6: User Group Reports:

Pre-School Group: Denise Tosdevine said the Pre-School had had a very busy year and were happy. They had been chosen as Sainsbury's Charity of the Year and had worked closely with them on a number of beneficial projects. She said numbers were low for the coming September but was not unduly concerned.

Hampshire Wildlife Trust: Loraine reported that they were holding their usual meetings and thanked the Committee for the slightly improved lighting outside the Community Centre.

Badger Farm Social Club: Richard reported that the Social Club had had another good year with membership and profits rising. There was a brief discussion about lack of attendance at User Group Meetings and the AGM and various suggestions were put forward to try to improve this one of which was to move the meetings to earlier in the year.

Whiteshute Bridge Club: Graham reported that it was useful to receive invoices by email. He said their group were well treated and happy. However, sadly their numbers were very low and they were struggling financially to keep the group going.

Royal British Legion: Stanley reported that his group were very satisfied and there were no problems.

7. Any Other Business:

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

**The date of the next User Group meeting will be held on
Wednesday 25 July 2018 at 8.00pm or
Following the Annual General Meeting**