

# HADLOW DOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> February at Chestnut Cottage, Wilderness Lane, Hadlow Down 7.30 pm

**PRESENT:** Bob Lake (BL), Sarah Prall (SP), Fiona Shafer (FS), John Thompson (JThom), Janet Tourell (JT), Rachel Lewis (RL) – Parish Council Representative,

1. **APOLOGIES:** Nigel Harrison and Sara Braker

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING ON 28. 1. 22**

These were agreed as a true record and duly signed.

3. **MATTERS ARISING:**

BL reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting.

The Committee considered an alteration to **[6] Current Village Hall** - this now reads 'ML was observing this committee meeting on behalf of the PC and, when invited, will do the same at a future meeting of the Village Hall Committee. RL will be attending the next meeting of the HDVH Committee on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> Jan in her usual role as the PC observer'.

**SP proposed the alteration and FS seconded it.**

BL observed to RL that she was considered more than 'an observer' on this Committee and her views were valued.

BL confirmed with RL that information from this Committee to the PC should go via Samantha Weatherill, the Parish Clerk.

Item 6 of the previous minutes was discussed in relation to the PC meeting held since they were written. BL reported that there was nothing 'contentious' discussed at the PC meeting.

SP asked RL what was happening about Section 106 and RL confirmed that it was being discussed at the next PC meeting. Bob Standley (ESCC) had now taken interest and she had not ruled out him liaising. SP queried whether it would be sensible to mention the Section 106 ruling on the HDCC web site because it might affect our planning application. BL confirmed that it is one of the conditions of the current planning application.

**ACTION:** BL to deal with this and SP to upload it on to the web site.

[You will have to sort this last bit out Bob as you know how to put it more succinctly]

Web site: It was pointed out that one or two alterations needed to be corrected on the web site – times of Spring Market, price of Race Night tickets and menu.

**ACTION:** SP to do.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

JThom reported on the Committee's finances. Currently there is £10,205.96 in the account with an additional £134 cash in hand – a total of £10,339.96. Income: Lottery sales £276 and Race Night £60. Total: £336.00 Expenditure: Lottery prizes £190, Bank charges £17 Total: £207.00

6. **HDCA AGMs:**

The HDCC AGM on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> February was discussed.

JThom said that he would get there early to set up the projector. It was agreed that the HDCC's contribution to refreshments would be wine. The presentation to Graham was also discussed.

## 7. RACE NIGHT:

BL observed that 'curry' should be on the poster not 'chilli' - SP to change.

JThom confirmed that he had already received £505.

JT said that she would like a list of people who had already booked.

**ACTION:** BL to send list to JThom and JT

BL reviewed the pledges for the Race Night - i.e. tables booked, races sponsored, horses bought, he said that this amounted to almost £2,000

Re the Auction: Jane Hissey had offered a bespoke drawing

FS was organising a Tour and Tasting session at Ridgeview Vineyard

Rob Hunter had offered wine

BL said that Dom Hartley wanted details of the Just Giving page [I didn't catch this so is probably irrelevant?]

Acquisition of a card reader for the bar was necessary

**ACTION:** JThom to arrange

The Tote: It was decided to ask Tracy Boorman

Bar: There was discussion about purchase of the drinks. SP said that Sara Braker's son/daughter? Had offered to run the bar.

**ACTION:** SP to check

Parking: JT and BL had already organised with Nigel Helliwell to use his field on the night. However, JThom would need to organise lighting in Hall Lane. There would also need to be stewards and signage.

Races: JThom to produce race cards for each table and name the people 'owning' each race.

Serving food: It was decided that one table at a time would be served. JThom said that the dessert should be 'Cornettos'.

BL asked JThom to organise floats for the Tote and bar. JThom suggested that there should be a notice with 'cards preferred' on it.

Raffle: It was agreed that there should be 3 prizes. RL suggested getting bottles of wine.

The winning 'owner' of each horse should get a bottle of Prosecco

**ACTION:** FS to contact Amy Murphy at Tesco re. drink etc

BL said that he would need help when getting 2 barrels from Harveys and the bottled lager. A 'Tariff' would be required.

**ACTION:** JThom to do tariff

Glasses: BL said that the Variety Club glasses could be used to supplement the VH glasses.

BL said that it was essential that there should be publicity about the Community Centre project on the tables on Race Night. Leaflets?

FS agreed and queried whether volunteer leaflets should be out as well? SP felt that all the Committee should be talking to the audience, thanking them for supporting us and encouraging them to be a friend/sponsor/benefactor of the project

FS said that the Newspaper should be used and distributed on the night.

JT suggested showing slides about the project throughout the night.

It was agreed that a Race Night meeting should be arranged at the end of the Committee Meeting to confirm arrangements -see end of meeting!

Using Gift Aid was discussed and the possibility of asking punters to register on the night.

**ACTION:** JThom to investigate forms. BL to contact people already booked.

FS suggested putting the forms on each table.

**ACTION:** SP to put text together for a table form. BL to check previous donors. [ Not sure if I got all this down OK?]

## 8. PARISH VOLUNTEERING PLAN:

RL reported that the Parish Council was applying for a £7,500 to £10,000 grant to try and encourage volunteering in the village. It was proposed that in addition to 'Welcome to the Village' booklets being produced an 'Event' should be held in the Village Hall during the summer highlighting village organisations; this is for the benefit of newcomers to the village and to kick-start events since the last two years of Covid and lockdowns. Each village organisations would be allocated £350 to use, if wished, in promoting their organisation's stand. Each organisation would pay for what they need, and this could then be claimed back from the PC.

A DVD about the village and each organisation could be produced.

SP and JThom said they thought that rather than a DVD it would be better to put a presentation online.

There will be a meeting of representatives and the PC in the Village Hall on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> February to discuss and analyse the proposal.

The reaction from the committee was that we don't necessarily need items for a 'stand. BL said that, as far as he was concerned over recruiting volunteers, it was difficult trying to engage with youngsters. The recent HDCC Newspaper hadn't brought in volunteers.

It was agreed that there were relatively few children and young people in the village. Wealden District Council has designated Hadlow Down a 'non-sustainable village' with a population of mainly older people. New people have moved into the village recently, but little was being done to contact them and tell them what is going on.

BL raised that question with RL of why the Variety Club and the Horticultural Society had not been invited to the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> Feb. RL said that it was because members of these groups pay membership fees.

It was noted that the school's 'Wings to Fly' charity needs parent volunteers as well. [Not quite sure how this is relevant to our discussion??]

RL said that anything that happens in the village should go into the film. She also said that the volunteer list, formed during the first lockdown, would be consulted to see if they would be willing to volunteer more widely.

SP suggested that we find out how many young people were doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme; volunteering is part of this programme. BL said that we need to find out who runs it.

**ACTION:** BL to contact Ollie Fake to see if he can contact his peers about this and find out what they would need.

RL said that the Uckfield Volunteer Centre and the schools should be engaged. FS queried whether transport would be an issue. BL and JT said that if adults were transporting children and young people, we should be aware that there might be a safeguarding problem.

SP said that she was happy to publicize anything about volunteering in relation the D of E scheme

RL confirmed that after the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> we should re-group. [Don't really think we need this!]

## 9. LOTTERY UPDATE:

JT reported that the previous count of 200 numbers taken by the Spring Market was optimistic, however over 180 would be going into the Spring draw.

JT said that Lottery forms would also be on the tables for the Race Night and would be in evidence at the Spring Market.

## 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

JThom suggested putting a permanent notice about the Lottery on the Smyth's fence?

Need an online address [What was this about?]

**ACTION:** JThom to talk to Gwyn Carwardine

HDCC web site

**ACTION:** JT to update minutes and send to web site.

BL said the sub-groups should now be contacted, especially fund-raising. BL also mentioned the likelihood of a Boot Fair soon.

**ACTION:** SP to organise the fund-raising sub-group.

**ACTION:** BL to design and formulate a Gift Aid form

BL said that Wilderness Wood needs publicity materials for the HDCC, the Lottery and the Playing field - FS pointed out that Wilderness Wood were very keen on their branding!

**ACTION:** BL to speak to Dan and Emily

**DATE OF RACE MEETING: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Ailsa, 7.30 pm**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Gill Hope Farm, 7.30 pm**

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm