



Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association

Registered Charity No.279592

BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 JULY 2009.

Present;

Ian Millar (Chairman); Rachel Skinner (Vice Chair); John Pettet (Treasurer); Elizabeth Barrett (Exec. Committee & Winchester TKD); Anne Sole (Exec. Committee & Pre-School Group); Loraine Martin (Exec. Committee & Hampshire Wildlife Trust); Denise Tosdevine (Pre-School Group); Gillian Blackmore (HCC); Sarah Levinge (Badminton); Douglas Richardson (St Luke's Church); Katy Horn (Resident); Will Hawthorn (Resident); Mr & Mrs May (Residents); Drew Freeland (Resident); A. Sherman (Resident); I. Luck (Resident); Mr Wood (Resident but out of parish).

1. Apologies;

Apologies for absence were received from Jan Dawkins (Bookings Secretary); Joan Millar (Dance Group); David Spender (City Councillor).

2. Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 16 July 2008

Acceptance of the minutes of the 2008 AGM were proposed by Douglas Richardson (St Luke's Church) and seconded by Loraine Martin (Exec. Committee & HWT)

3. Matters Arising;

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report;

The year 2008/2009 has been busier than any previous year with bookings on the increase for a wide variety of activities. It had been a satisfactory time until May 2009, when we experienced our first, and I hope our only, break-in. The damage was considerable; the amount of money taken from the Association was little, but the Social Club lost a considerable amount. This has given us cause to re-examine our security arrangements at the Centre, but more of this below. The police authorities have warned us nationally that, as the recession takes hold, burglaries will be on the increase, so we must all be more vigilant with our homes in mind. However, we look forward to the future with optimism.

Improvements to the Centre

The Trustees have continued to maintain the Centre in line with necessity and legislation. The disabled toilet has been fitted with an emergency alarm system and the cistern has been replaced with one of a more suitable design. The central heating system main piping has been lagged in the Whiteshute room to avoid accidental burning, particularly with the Pre-School Group in mind. To improve security and safety, the gate in the front garden has been fitted with an automatic closing device and the locking system has been made more effective. New vertical blinds have been fitted in the Bushfield and Warren rooms and a robust trolley has been purchased in the kitchen to allow the hot water urns to be moved safely to other rooms. An electrical floor washer has also been purchased to improve efficiency and cleanliness in the cleaning of the toilets, kitchen and Battery. The external woodwork of the Centre has been repainted and the Battery Courtyard has had its usual pruning of shrubbery.

As a result of the break-in, the security system at the Centre has been reviewed and has been enhanced to include a dual reporting network, so that, should the telephone connection be severed again, there will always be a signal transmitted to our security provider. In addition, a contract has been arranged with Chubb security, so that its staff will respond to an alert instead of one of our trustees or our caretaker. The Police will attend any emergency as usual.

Events and Activities

In January we hosted an afternoon of entertainment and refreshments for our retired residents of Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery parishes in our New Year's party. It was a great success with over forty residents accepting our invitation with entertainment provided by Juliette Shergold on the keyboards, Mr John Le Riche and the choir of St Luke's Church singing songs from popular shows and Pierre the clown, who entertained us with jokes and who did some unusual things with balloons. We hope to make this an annual event.

Regretfully, we had to cancel the annual bonfire and fireworks night normally held in November due to a lack of volunteers to organise and run the event. We hope that it will be possible to hold it again this year, but this will depend on sufficient volunteers coming forward and our ability to fund a qualified risk assessment.

Community News continues to be delivered to every household in the two parishes, containing advertisements from local businesses and, more importantly, interesting contributions from our user groups and local political representatives. The magazine continues in popularity and has now been increased to a regular twenty pages; we welcome any comments and views. Also, new volunteers to help in delivering the publication every three months are always needed.

The Association continues to support the community work of the many varied activities within the Centre such as art, dancing, exercise, martial arts, pilates, sport, toddlers, pre-school, special needs, weight control and wildlife. These activities are still very popular within the Centre and continue to thrive.

The Social Club is an essential part of our activities and, despite difficulties in its management, is still a popular venue for families and those looking for a friendly environment. Membership is open to residents of our two parishes.

Staff and Training

Our paid staff has loyally contributed to the continuing success of the Association. Jan, our Bookings Secretary and editor of Community News, has completed her second year with us and Mervyn, our caretaker, has clocked up an impressive thirteen years. Our Treasurer, John, has been with us for seven years and continues to provide sensible and helpful advice to the Trustees and our website is ably managed by Sarah. We are conscience of the value of our members of staff and endeavour to ensure that they receive the encouragement and training necessary for their work and personal development.

Thanks

I should like to end by thanking the Trustees and staff for their support during the last year, especially Jan, who has been a great help especially during the recent break-in. I should also like to thank our regular users, without whom the Centre would not be the same and as successful as it is.

And Finally

I stated in my Annual Report 2008, that this would be my last year as Chairman, having completed three years in the role. I have decided now to carry on for another year to allow the Trustees time to review the Association's role for the future and consider how best to manage the Community Centre.

5. To receive the Accounts/Treasurer's Annual Report

INCOME

Our total income for the year has increased by over £6000 to £74987. This reflects a satisfactory increase in our Hall bookings total and is the highest figure we have ever achieved. Our advertising revenue has increased by £920 to £1155.

CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

Our costs for operating the premises reflect a reduction from £27979 to £24855. However, the accountants have capitalised certain items of expenditure and the total for repairs and maintenance has seen a slight reduction to £8267. Our utility and cleaning costs are much the same as last year.

Direct wages have increased from £24704 to £26312. Our open day expenditure totalled £1021, which was partly offset by a contribution of £500 from Wates the builders.

GOVERNANCE COSTS

These show an increase from £7454 to £7817. The main reason for this is higher stationery costs and increased computer costs. There has been a slight increase in Administration wages of £186.

NET INCOMING RESOURCES

On this basis there was a surplus of £4552 for the year.

BALANCE SHEET

Our cash resources have increased by £6325 to £51670 and our total assets stand at £69628.

John's report was accepted by the meeting on a proposal by Will Hawthorn (Resident) and seconded by Denise Tosdevine (Pre-School Group).

6. To Elect the Officers of The Association.

Ian said that he (Chairman) would stand for another year and Rachel (Vice- Chair) agreed to stand again. The other members of the Committee; Elizabeth Barrett, Anne Sole and Loraine Martin were all willing to stand again. There was one new member Will Hawthorn who was welcomed as a member of the Association. Douglas Richardson proposed and Drew Freeland seconded the election of the Officers and Committee Members.

The Officers and Committee for 2009/2010

Chairman – Ian Millar
Vice-Chair – Rachel Skinner
Treasurer – John Pettet (non-voting)

Committee

Elizabeth Barrett
Anne Sole
Loraine Martin
Will Hawthorn

7. To Appoint Auditors for 2009/2010

John Pettet proposed that the Association should continue to use the services of David Early & Co. This was proposed by Loraine Martin and seconded by Sarah Levinge.

8. Any Other Business

Some of the residents asked about the fireworks being postponed again. Ian explained that they needed a trained pyrotechnic engineer to release the fireworks and a large number of volunteers to help set up and run the event. After discussion, it was hoped the event could go ahead next year.

There was no further business. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and reminded people that the Association was there to help the residents of both parishes and not just about running the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

The date of the next AGM is Wednesday 21 July 2010 at 8pm.