



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 21 JULY 2010

Present;

Rachel Skinner (Vice Chair); John Pettet (Treasurer); Ian Millar (Exec. Committee & Dance Group); Elizabeth Barrett (Exec. Committee & Winchester Tae Kwon-Do); Anne Sole (Exec. Committee & Pre-School Group); Loraine Martin (Exec. Committee & Hampshire Wildlife Trust); Liz Lindsay (Exec. Committee & Parents & Toddlers); Liz Wald (Exec. Committee & Brownies); Will Hawthorne (Exec. Committee & Badger Farm Parish Council); Jan Dawkins (Bookings Secretary); Denise Tosdevine (Pre-School Group); Sarah Levinge (Badminton); Ken Webster (Whiteshute Bridge Group); Douglas Richardson (St Luke's Church); Chris Barrett (Winchester Tae Kwon-Do); Michael Hedges (Resident); Katy Horn (Resident).

1. Apologies;

Apologies for absence were received from Joan Millar (Dance Group).

2. Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 15 July 2009

Acceptance of the 2009 AGM Minutes were proposed by Elizabeth Barrett (Exec. Committee & Winchester Tae Kwon-Do) and seconded by Anne Sole (Exec. Committee & Pre-School Group).

3. Matters Arising;

The Vice-Chairman reported that unfortunately, due to lack of interest, the New Year Party for Retired Residents had had to be cancelled.

4. Chairman's Report;

Although I stood down as Chairman of the Association at the end of March this year, it is fitting that again I write the Annual Report having been in post for most of the period under review.

The year 2009/2010 has once more been a very busy and productive time for the Association and its staff. We have seen our regular hirers continue with success and have indeed welcomed new regulars to our Community Centre. One-off bookings have increased during the period with satisfied hirers celebrating children's birthday parties, special occasions and even wedding receptions. All have been most appreciative of the facilities available and the friendliness and helpfulness of the staff.

Improvements to the Centre

As always, the Centre requires constant repairs and refurbishment in line with legislation and necessity. A new floor covering has already been laid in the entrance hall and replacement floor coverings are planned for the kitchen, corridor and Whiteshute. In addition, the woodwork and radiators in the Battery are to be repainted and the kitchen is to be completely redecorated. This work is planned to be completed during August this year. The hot water boiler in the kitchen has already been replaced ahead of this work.

The ladies and gentlemen's toilets are to have new basins and vanity units installed and the ancient hot water boilers will be replaced at the same time. Ongoing maintenance and updating of the security and fire systems has taken place also during the year.

The outside of the Centre has not been neglected either with the fencing being repainted and the shrubs in the Battery Courtyard being replaced and generally tidied up. The Badger Farm Pre-School Group has taken over one of the flower beds as a project for its children with help from a grant from Winchester City Council. Indeed, the children recently enjoyed eating the results of their labours by making chips from potatoes grown in the garden. In addition to his efforts in the Courtyard, the caretaker has continued to maintain the front garden and has introduced hanging baskets and flower urns.

Events and Activities

We held a very successful 'Silver Surfers' day in May as part of the national event, which is held annually to help encourage the over 50s, who may not be familiar with today's technology, to use the internet. We were supported by Hampshire County Council, whose staff provided practical assistance and the loan of some lap-top computers. James Harrap and his staff provided the technical input by bringing along additional computers and ably instructing residents in the mysteries of email, on-line shopping, photography and general searching on the internet. As well as giving residents the confidence and knowledge to continue with using computers, it was a successful social occasion as well with free coffee and biscuits being provided by the Centre. The whole event was funded by the Association and provided without charge.

Regrettably, the New Year's Party for retired residents did not take place due to the poor response. This could have been as a result of the unusually extreme weather experienced at the beginning of January, which continued for several weeks.

The Association took part in the Older Persons Consultation project in conjunction with Hampshire County Council earlier this year. There are a number of groups across the county offering a variety of services for older people and together with other Community Centres and voluntary bodies, we sent out questionnaires recently to all of our residents and selected user groups to find out what particular services are used and needed. The completed questionnaires will be analysed centrally and the results disseminated to interested parties.

Community News continues to be delivered free of charge each quarter to every household in our two parishes of Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery. It contains advertisements from local businesses and, more importantly, interesting contributions from our user groups and local political representatives. The magazine is popular in its enlarged size and comments and suggestion are always welcome. Our thanks go to our loyal band of volunteer deliverers and, of course, to Jan our editor, who consistently produces an attractive and interesting publication. Our printer, Sarsens Press, continues to provide an excellent service.

One area causing concern to the Trustees is the future viability of the Badger Farm Social Club. In common with other public houses, restaurants and clubs, the Social Club is suffering severely from the recession with a considerable drop in its revenue as a result of lack of support from members. Membership is open to residents of the two parishes and all are encouraged to join to help keep this facility open. It is to be hoped that a new active and interested Social Club committee will manage to rescue the situation in the coming months.

The Association continues to support the community work of the many activities taking place within the Centre. Our groups cover a variety of subjects and needs, such as art, bridge, country market, dancing, exercise, martial arts, pilates, pre-school education, special needs, toddlers, weight control, wildlife conservation and yoga. All of these activities continue to thrive within our Community Centre and our thanks go to all those involved.

Staff and Training

Our paid staff is the 'public face' of the Association at the Community Centre and the dedication of each member is greatly appreciated by the Trustees and users. Jan, our Bookings Secretary, and Mervyn, our caretaker, provide the day-to-day service, whilst John, our Treasurer, and Sarah, our Website administrator, are working in the background, but equally importantly in their own areas. We are conscience of the value of our members of staff and endeavour to ensure that that they receive the encouragement and training necessary for their work and personal development.

Thanks

Following my resignation as Chairman, the other Trustees have each taken over responsibility for different aspects for the running of the Association and the Community Centre, namely: maintenance, legislation, health and safety, staffing, risk assessment, website review, minutes of committee meetings and attendance at other meetings on behalf of the Association. Members will wish me to extend their appreciation for the Committee's efforts and commitment. We also welcomed two new volunteers during the year, who were co-opted onto the Committee. Our special thanks is also given to Loraine Martin, who is standing down at the AGM and who has been a loyal and hard-working member of the Committee for many years.

And Finally

In closing, I would just like to say that I have enjoyed my time as Chairman of the Association and working through the many challenges and opportunities that arose. I wish staff and Trustees well for the future and hope that the Centre continues to thrive.

Additional Note: Ian reported that the Older Persons Consultation Questionnaire, circulated via Community News recently, had generated a good response of 64 replies (3.2% of local residents). A winning questionnaire had been drawn at random and would receive a bottle of champagne.

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

INCOME

Our total income for the year has increased by just under £6000 to £80952. This reflects a very satisfactory increase in our Hall Bookings total of £60435.

CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

Our costs for operating the premises reflect a small rise from £62618 to £64011 with most of this increase stemming from an increase in repairs and maintenance to £10009.

Direct wages have increased from £26312 to £26796.

GOVERNANCE COSTS

These show an increase from £7817 to £9122. The main reason for this are the higher telephone charges reflecting the reconnection charges following the break in. These will be lower this year.

There has been a slight increase in Administration wages of £156.

LOAN – BADGER FARM SOCIAL CLUB £3041 WRITTEN OFF

The loan was originally for the purchase of new carpets for the club, which the Community Association agreed to pay for at the outset. Initially, this was shown as a loan in both our accounts and those of the club by our respective Accountants. It was never the intention that the loan would be repaid and this has now been formally recognised in both sets of accounts

NET INCOMING RESOURCES

On this basis there was a surplus of £4778 for the year.

BALANCE SHEET

Our cash resources have increased by £6884 to £58554 and our total assets stand at £74406.

There were no questions and John's report was accepted by all those present.

6. To Elect the Officers of The Association.

Ian Millar and Loraine Martin were not standing for re-election. Rachel had agreed to stand as Vice- Chair for a further year. The other members of the Committee; Elizabeth Barrett, Anne Sole, Liz Lindsay, Liz Wald and Will Hawthorne were all willing to stand. Denise Tosdevine proposed and Sara Levinge seconded the election of the Officers and Committee Members.

The Officers and Committee for 2010/2011

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

Committee

Elizabeth Barrett
Anne Sole
Liz Lindsay
Liz Wald
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 Katy Horn and seconded by Loraine Martin.

8. Any Other Business

A suggestion was made that an event similar to the very successful Silver Surfers Day held recently could be organised for younger people. The Vice-Chair agreed this was an excellent suggestion and the possibilities would be explored.

Finally, on behalf of the Executive Committee, the Vice-Chair presented Ian and Loraine with thank you gifts in recognition of their support and dedication over the recent years.

There was no further business and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

The date of the next AGM is Wednesday 20 July 2011 at 8pm.