

MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
February 5th 2014 6pm Fire Station Community Room, Totnes

PRESENT: David Mitchell (Chair) Jeannette Willington, David Martin, Susan Taylor, Liz Warnes, Jim Carfrae , Lu Overy, Shirley Prendergast, Marsha Cummings

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES: Ed Vidler, Keith Rennells, Susie Boyd, Catherine Munro, Robert Vint

2. MINUTES: The minutes of the LGA Committee Meeting held on 8th January 2014 were agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

Dave noted that the Bay Horse Quiz had raised £213 (thanks in part to the large number of raffle tickets bought by LGA committee members!). Jim agreed to talk to Cathy to book the next one. **Action: Jim**

4. SHDC Update including License Issue

Keith sent a note before the meeting making the following points:

1. New garden access from Heathway West - this from SHDC's solicitor this week: "A Memorandum of Understanding and a revised draft Land Transfer have been issued to and agreed, in principle, by the Management Company representing the residents at Heath Way West who have passed the matter to their solicitors for final approval and progress." Obviously when fully resolved we can open up the new path as planned.
2. Path maintenance - moss spraying followed by resurfacing works; unfortunately we are currently held up by the weather. The grounds maintenance team have had little opportunity by way of dry days to apply the chemical. Once done, the property services team will come in and resurface the paths. But as you might imagine, this team are spending all their time at present either filling sand bags or repairing flood or storm damage. The job remains high on the priority list, but other jobs are necessarily higher!
3. Benches - still awaiting from Woodmanship. Is somebody from LGA in regular contact with him to monitor? **See 5 below.**

He also asked to be advised of any progress on the License issue. There followed a lengthy discussion of the issue and the current draft (which is at least 3 years old). It was finally agreed that given things have progressed smoothly without a license the committee would prefer:

- (a) not to take over negotiations over the license
- (b) TDT to cease negotiating with SHDC on the license
- (c) to continue with the current informal arrangement as far as tasks, responsibilities and costs are concerned, with the LGA negotiating with SHDC over matters (such as work in the Pool area or installation of new seating). The LGA currently has no plans to ask SHDC for funds or to charge for events held in the garden (both of which would require the more formal arrangement a license would establish). It was agreed that Dave would pass these preferences on to Ed (representing TDT) and Keith (representing SHDC) for comment and approval.

5. Benches/Seating Update

Shirley has been in touch with Mike at Woodmanship and he hopes to have them ready by mid-March. He will contact us before then so we can arrange a visit before then.

6. Pool Area – English Heritage and Scheduled Monument Consent

Shirley had received a comprehensive response from Keith Miller of English Heritage that was entirely positive. He has suggested we pursue a multi-step process with the first step (possible now) being to obtain outline consent for what we hope to do, with the full details established at a later stage after an investigation led by an archaeologist (and with community involvement) once the knotweed has been cleared. It was agreed that Shirley, Dave, Jim and David Martin would fix up a meeting to progress the first step. **Action: SP, DM, JC, DM**

7. LGA Bank Account and Finances

Jeannette confirmed that she now had a cheque book with the correct account name and gave a cheque to Dave for the £20.16 he had spent on the annual website fee to our ISP, one.com. The LGA account currently has slightly over £200 in it.

Shirley mentioned the Paige-Adams Fund that Robert had told us about. It was agreed that the LGA should submit an application for £300 to be spent on the S-shaped children's bench and new planting. Shirley agreed to make a start on the application (which has to be in by 31st March 2014). **Action: Shirley**

8. Donations/Money Box.

Ed had provided a lockable mailbox that was deemed highly suitable (as long as it can be made proof against theft by very young children. David agreed to take it home and see where it might be fitted. Many thanks to Ed!

9. AOB

Liz mentioned the apple trees that Keith had offered to pay for. It was agreed that Liz would notify Keith which three trees we would like to plant. **Action: Liz**

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 5th March 6pm at the Fire Station as usual