

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23rd APRIL 2019

Present:

Irene Watson (Chair)
Tina Hartley (Treasurer)
Celia Young (Secretary)
George Binyon (Editor, Goldsworth News)
Gerry Smeesters (Project Manager, NGP)
Cathy Salmon (Fund-Raising & Social Media)
Steve Willson (Webmaster)
Christina Candey (GN Advertising)
Cllr Ian Eastwood
Cllr Ann-Marie Barker
Cllr Colin Kemp (SCC)
Geoff McManus (Woking BC)
Gary Rimay-Muranyi (Dianthus Trading)
Roger Westcott (GP Angling Club)
Rev Kate Wyles (St Andrew's Church)
Royer Slater (GN Writer)

Residents:

Wanda Binyon
Ron Butler
Jonny Cope
Pauline Eastwood
Gill Edwards
Anne Ehlers
Jenny Ehlers
Hilary Harris
Aenne Hayman
Roger Hayman
Sharon Kearney
Valerie Marsen
Ian Rickard
James Sanderson
Liz Wilkinson
Chris Wright
Sheila Wright

Apologies

Chris Martin (Vice Chair), Hannah Rees (WBC), Arran Henderson (WBC), Katie Sherlock (NGP), Rob & Barbara Challoner (Residents), Hilary Addison (Resident), Holger Marsen (Resident), Peter Kirby (Radio Sailing).

1. OPENING:

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS:

The Chair explained that, at this stage, the meeting would normally approve the minutes of the last meeting but the last ordinary meeting was a year ago almost to the day. Since then, there has been an EGM in June and the AGM in November. The meeting which would normally have been held in January did not take place. Minutes are circulated to those who attend meetings and are on the website for anyone who wishes to read them and no comments had been received.

3. MATTERS ARISING/OUTSTANDING

The Chair introduced the new GPCA Trustees: Chris Martin – Vice Chair; Tina Hartley – Treasurer; and Celia Young – Secretary. She explained that George Binyon – Editor of Goldsworth News, Gerry Smeesters – Project Manager of Natural Goldsworth Park, and Cathy Salmon – Fund - raising and Social Media, will come on board as Trustees when the GPCA achieves Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status.

She went on to explain that it was felt that the GPCA had been misadvised about the type of Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that was appropriate and, on further reflection, believed that an Association CIO, where the residents who become members can elect the Committee and vote on the Constitution etc., was right for the GPCA. The application has been sent to the Charities Commission, but it will be some time before it is considered as they have a significant backlog.

4. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to report.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – Tina Hartley

The Treasurer reported on the period from June 2018 to 31 March 2019 which included time when the GPCA managed the Community Hall. There was a loss of £6,972.00 during the accounting period, much of which was attributable to the costs of redecorating the premises prior to surrendering the lease. Small losses from the production of Goldsworth News are being made up now that new arrangements for advertising are in place.

6. Communications Team

George Binyon, Editor, explained that Goldsworth News is now to be published on a quarterly basis. He thanked Royer Slater, Rev Kate Wyles, Gerry Smeesters and Roger Westcott for their regular contributions.

Steve Willson, webmaster, said that our website is “ticking over”, and in reply to a comment that it is very “convoluted” to get around, said that he could explore other systems.

Cathy Salmon reported that we have 230 members of our Facebook group.

7. Natural Goldsworth Park

Gerry Smeesters gave notice that there would be bat trapping in Tracious Copse on 15 May by the Surrey Bat Group.

Natural Goldsworth Park and North Meadow will be part of the Horsell Garden Safari this year and Gerry will be leading guided walks on 23rd June. Tickets for the Garden Safari can be purchased from shops in Horsell.

Roger Westcott says there is a possibility of linking NGP activities such as guided walks with similar activities around the lake.

Gerry has been liaising with Sythwood School with an aim of encouraging groups from the school to be taken out onto North Meadow. He is also hoping for some engagement from Beaufort School. He would appreciate some ideas from the public for projects/activities in the woods – being mindful of the need for recognition of the presence of badgers, bats and other wildlife in the area. There is a possibility of some funding for developments in the woods from Thames Water, which could potentially be used to create a boardwalk for wheelchair users.

Gerry and others expressed dismay at seeing SERCO, on behalf of Woking Borough Council, taking down mature trees in the area around the lake, and in other parts of Goldsworth Park in relation to planning applications. A particular concern was that this was being done during the breeding season for birds. Geoff McManus (WBC) responded by advising that there had been correspondence with experts and that the willow trees, in particular, are now of an age that they are becoming diseased and dangerous, and there was a responsibility for public safety. Over 100 new trees have been planted around Goldsworth Park.

A comment was made from the floor that even more rats are present on the Park. Geoff McManus responded that WBC is aware of the problem, and bait has been deployed, resulting in a reduction in their number. The problem is being monitored by WBC.

Roger Westcott explained that the unusual colour of the water of the lake is caused by algae, which occurs naturally at this time of the year, is harmless to animals, and will disappear later in the year. We have Great Crested Grebes, Coots and Moorhens nesting, and a visiting pair of Egyptian geese.

The dates for the Lake working parties are displayed on the Fishing Club website. CS said she would put the dates on the GPCA Facebook Page.

8. Community Matters

The GPCA organised the Christmas Tree and Carol Singing in the Courtyard for the third year and it looked better than ever.

The GPCA has made donations to the Salvation Army, the York Road Project and the Lighthouse to help with their Christmas activities and later, to Andy's Café.

There was the issue with fly tipping round the charity collection skips in the shopping centre car park after Christmas. It is still happening though not to the same extent, but if it carries on, the managing agents may remove the skips.

The GPCA responded to a planning application to build a house in the residents' car park in Trenance and I am pleased to say that the application was refused.

There was the litter pick in March organised by Pauline Eastwood. It is possible that the Council will provide the GPCA with its own litter picking equipment if the external funding comes through.

The GPCA has raised the issue of dangerous parking in Clifton Way at the junction with Armadale Road with Surrey CC and it has been added to the Parking Review list.

9. Any Other Business

The issue of dogs not on leads or not under control was raised: Geoff McManus advised that the problem should be reported to WBC Environmental Health, but that the controls are cumbersome and hard to implement, unless regular offenders can be identified. The Council can send out an official if peak times for offending can be identified.

In response to a comment about the steep slope into the shopping centre carpark making access for wheelchair users and others with mobility problems difficult or impossible. IW said that GPCA would ask the managing agents to investigate with a view to a non-slip surface being laid.

Gary Rimay-Muranyi reported that the Sea Cadets are doing well with significantly more cadets than a couple of years ago. They will be doing some work to improve safety on the slipway soon. He said he is in discussion with WBC about the idea of extending the ramp to the disabled platform to the Sea Cadets platform so that it would be accessible to wheelchair users.

GR-M is also investigating the possibility of opening the Snug Bar as a café on some mornings during the week. This would fit in with the guided walks, especially for charitable groups.

In response to questions about swimming in the Lake, GR_M explained that, because the lake is filled by run-off from the surrounding area, the water quality is not appropriate for public swimming.

He asked if GPCA meetings could be scheduled for Wednesdays rather than Tuesdays, so that the Sea Cadets could use the building on Tuesdays. There were no objections to this.

IW said that volunteers are needed to make some cakes and to serve tea and cakes at the Dragon Boat Day on 19th May 2019 to raise money for the Hospice

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, 24th July 2019 at 7.30pm.

Goldsworth Park Community Association
Interim Statement of Profit or Loss
1 July 2018 – 31 March 2019

INCOME		£
Bar takings		3,339
Hall bookings		5,740
Magazine advertising		3,621
Christmas tree donations		168
Grant towards legal costs		500
Bank interest		35
TOTAL INCOME		<u>13,403</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Bar expenses		
Stock	2,305	
Staff costs	1,220	
Machine rental	56	
Machine repair	<u>159</u>	
		3,740
Hall expenses		
Hall manager	1,087	
Rent & rates	95	
Gas, electricity, waste	1,326	
Cleaning	-178	
Hall repairs	612	
Hall & snug redecoration	4,695	
Legal fees for lease	<u>531</u>	
		8,168
Magazine expenses		
Printing costs	4,800	
Distribution costs	<u>357</u>	
		5,157
Donations to other charities		910
Christmas tree expenses		218
Overheads		
Insurance	1,101	
Stationery, postage, printing	186	
Website & email	206	
Parking & mileage	7	
Legal & professional	50	
Accountancy	480	
Sundry	<u>152</u>	
		2,182
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>20,375</u>
LOSS FOR THE PERIOD		<u>6,972</u>

Goldsworth Park Community Association
Interim Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2019

ASSETS	£
Bank current account	5,018
Bank savings account	23,555
Cash	292
Lake restoration fund	409
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>29,274</u>
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	409
Equity	28,865
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>29,274</u>