

Burley in Wharfedale Community Trust

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 9th January 2019

Present: Duncan Ault (DA, Chair); Mark Elsworth (ME); Ian Rigarlsford (IR); Andrew Wriglesworth (AW), Andy Plaxton (AP), Jan Edwards (JE); Lorraine Hughes (LH); Simon Hills (SH)

Observers: Steve Carruthers; Malcolm Fisher; David Cooper; David Asher; Brian Collins; Graham Brown and 7 other members.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Robert Saville (RS); Sylvia Tilford (ST); Harvey Bosomworth (HB); Niccola Swann (NS); Tom Sumner (TS); Nick Turnbull (NT)

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 16th October 2018.**

These were approved

3. **Matters arising**

All matters arising were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4. **Correspondence**

Correspondence had been received requesting grants, which were dealt with at 10 below. It was noted that elections to the BPC were to take place in May and there would therefore be likely changes to the relationship with BWCT particularly as there was to be a new Parish Clerk.

5. **Trustee Matters**

LH mentioned that in taking on her role as a Trustees she had noted from the Constitution that all Trustees should sign a Declaration of Willingness to act as a Trustee. It was also agreed that BWCT should compile a Risk Register for the organisation as a whole.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

ME had circulated a schedule showing the financial position of the trust to date prior to the meeting. He noted that the value of assets for the Trust stood at £78,552.79 as at 9 January 2019, having been £71,788.89 at the date of the October meeting.

Of this 2018 figure, £11,279 was held in the Playground Fund and £5,307 was reserved for the Corn Mill pond. A further £18,000 was held in respect of the M. Cocks bequest and another £5,000 for spending in connection with the Library. This left £37,647 in the General Purposes Fund, to which the M. Cocks legacy (unrestricted) could be added.

Significant receipts had included very kind donations by the Co-op totalling £7,278 and income from Greenbelt in respect of Scalebor of £6,042. The most significant outgoing was to HGM of £4,170 again in connection with grounds maintenance etc at Scalebor.

ME expected that the income and expenditure in relation to the Christmas lights and market more or less balanced each other.

7. Scalebor Park

Grounds: A new service agreement needs to be put in place between BWCT and Greenbelt to run for the next 5 years. DA to pursue. ME mentioned that Greenbelt were one invoice behind in terms of payment. DA will mention this at intended meeting.

There is a concern about the proximity of the football pitches to the new Cricket playing areas and it was queried whether the cricket playing surfaces could be covered or otherwise protected.

Pavilion: The car parking area has been extended at a cost of £700 and is more user friendly.

8. Youth provision proposals

LH updated the initiative previously discussed as follows;

There was a proposal to look to provide for two age groups; 11-14 year olds where a meeting room at Salem Church was under discussion with a meeting of Church elders due to take place on 27th January; and 15-18 year olds where the Parish Rooms might be a possible venue. Some modest financial support in terms of decoration and provision of furniture might be needed at Salem.

LH had met with ward councilors and Cerys at Bradford Youth Services and all had been supportive of the initiative and had visited the village. Bradford youth services will also provide 2 people to assist in taking the project forward.

LH had also looked at how youth services was currently provided in the wider locality with Ilkley having such a group already called the Warehouse and by contrast Otley's youth services having been closed a year previously.

Several volunteers from the village to help manage the groups would be needed.

LH to update on progress at next meeting.

9. Playground update phase 2

Roundabout: DA mentioned that he understood that a quote (which he had not yet seen) for £5,000 had been for produced to move this equipment to make space for the zip wire. Remedial work was also needed in relation to the adult exercise equipment.

Zip wire: DA reported that quotes had been received (which he had also yet to see) for between £12,000 and £18,000 for the zip wire. This was more than the funds held by BWCT for this purpose though there was no expectation that BWCT would fund any shortfall.

DA was attending a meeting on Thursday of this week when he would find out more.

10. Grant applications

Sylvia Robinson had made a request in person for a £200 donation toward the Burley Handbell ringers for new equipment. This would benefit the group of around 10 young bell ringers. The group performs in the community on a regular basis. At the end of the meeting the requested donation was approved by the trustees.

Dave Cooper, who is now director of cricket at the cricket club, explained a need for new nets in the practice area. The current nets are 20 years old and having been patched up previously are coming to the end of their natural life. The success of the cricket club was noted which included producing a current young cricketer with a growing professional profile. The total cost is around £4,500 and the cricket club were looking for a donation of half the cost, which if the cost of the VAT can be covered, would reduce the financial request to around £1,900. The new nets would come with a 5 year guarantee. The cricket club has over 200 participating members covering all ages and both genders. Once again at the end of the meeting the trustees decided to meet the request in full. (This was reduced to £1,600 subsequent to the meeting).

David Asher spoke first on behalf of 'Walkers are welcome' and summarised recent activities and completed projects many of which BWCT had contribute towards and or had then been met on a matched funding basis by Bradford District Council. The next project is to put in some stone steps in the woodland near Coldstone Beck in March though no request for financial support was to be made at this stage.

David Asher also updated those present regarding the Burley Bridge project. All legal permissions were now in place and the group were now engaged in various fundraising efforts to meet the remaining construction costs. The longer term suggestion, assuming the bridge is built and a sufficient maintenance fund established, is that BWCT might at that stage take over the responsibility for maintaining the bridge.

Brian Collins, who is Chairman for the Scouts/ Guide groups in Burley, then spoke in relation to the new HQ building project. He explained that the new HQ would serve and accommodate 14 scouts and guide 'units' which benefitted around 350 young people in the village. There are another 100 young people on a waiting list. £420,000 has been raised so far. There is a shortfall of around £50,000 needed to complete ground and road works, the aim being to complete the project by Easter. He indicated that any further funds BWCT could give would be appreciated. The scouts and guide groups were open to the use of room in the new HQ for community purposes including occasional use by BWCT. A strong preference was indicated by Brian Collins for grant assistance rather than a loan. At the end of the meeting the trustees discussed the request in some detail and were mindful of the significant financial requirement which would limit other projects BWCT might in the near future be asked to support. The conclusion was that a sum of £3,000 would be offered as an outright grant, but that BWCT would also consider loaning a further sum to be determined if requested and if appropriate supporting arrangements could be put in place.

11. Membership

Membership for 2018-19

DA reported that there were 850 members so far this year, including 430 households. Noted that there are 2,800 households in the village, so there is plenty of scope to grow the membership.

Thanks were offered to Malcolm Fisher for his hard work on the membership system and the various technical challenges with PayPal.

Membership Secretary.

NT is to take on the post.

12. Marketing: general publicity, especially for events.

Quarterly communications were now being sent or made available to members. Other communications accompanied Parish newsletters or were issued in press notices. NS was addressing the use of social media.

It was acknowledged that work still needs to be done in distinguishing the purposes of BWCT as compared to other village organisations such as the Parish Council or indeed Burley a Community Council.

JE (who it was agreed should join the marketing committee) suggested having quarterly tables at the Co-op.

13 Burley Website

Malcolm Fisher (MF) reported a 9.25% increase in website 'hits' . The website was still in need of update and MF noted the proliferation of information on the website. It was perhaps not clear to users that the website was funded by BWCT and that other groups were also in effect supported by BWCT.

14. Christmas Lights and Christmas Market:

All had gone well. Thanks were due to a Jan Lepley in particular for the way she had managed the market.

15. Duck Race

This is to take place on Sunday 23rd of June.

16. Burley Painting

The artist, Ian Middleton, had reported at the AGM which had immediately preceded this meeting. The painting itself was a legacy to the village and had been contributed to by villagers and in particular school children of the village. A number of prints were to be produced with BWCT also to be given a proportion of takings.

17. The Roundhouse: update

BPC had received a £10k grant and had allocated another £12k toward refurbishment costs. Once this work is done the garden will be attended to with each of BWCT, the Parish Council and Burley Gardeners contributing £500 toward associated costs.

17 Pudding Tree garden/ Jubilee Garden: updates

Nothing to report.

18. Fountain of Life area

This is to be re-varnished this year and also needed cleaning

19. Hanging baskets and tubs

TS would need to source a new provider of these.

20. Corn Mill Pond

Steve Carruthers (SC) had been in contact with the Environment Agency who were not interested in investigating further at this stage. However, he had had a useful discussion with an environmental expert who thought the pond was undergoing a gradual but classic transition to a wetland. This is evidenced by the drying out process in the Summer when 70 to 80 % of the area forms into islands. Even then there should always be a channel of water flow and there should be no 'back up' and flood. So, from a health and safety perspective the situation is stable.

On this basis a new plan for the future is needed to manage the process described. For example, reeds could be planted on the islands to encourage appropriate flora and fauna.

SC kindly agreed to provide a note which might be placed on the village website and otherwise communicated to villagers explaining the new outlook for the 'pond'.

22. AOB and meetings for 2019

Tuesdays March 26th, May 14th, July 16th and October 15th. 2020 AGM will be on 7th January.