

Wellow Recreation Trustees Meeting Minutes 20th March 2024

Wellow Pavilion

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Wellow recreation as a committee is still rebuilding, but we are on a great trajectory and there are some exciting things happening. The Wellow 10 K is a good example of an event which had a sport and leisure focus but also embraced the wider community making it an inclusive and wide ranging comprehensive event. All of this assists with raising our profile. We are in a good place compared to where we were two years ago, to some extent down to Emma Rose and her generous donation which is still sitting in our account and needs to be used for a demonstrably good cause for the immediate community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 1ST NOVEMBER

Approved.

The cinema projector idea has been overtaken by the outdoor theatre production. It has been pushed back to next year.

PG worked towards the football grant via Pitch Power (financed by FA/Premier League) but it was a very bureaucratic process e.g. turf samples etc. Based on Pitch Power advice on criteria for a successful bid, he took the decision to defer our application. The exercise certainly confirmed that there is significant funding available for those who persist. Ironically, the Wellow pitch surface has shown signs of improvement as a consequence of very limited use during the last year or two.

PG observes that as a community we are good at fundraising, but not so good at spending money on organised activities which we could subsidise if necessary.

The decision has been taken to devolve financial responsibility for Community Chest events, rather than operating through Wellow Recreation as a central financial function. While recognising some past benefits to Community Chest entities, the burden on the Wellow Recreation's treasury function has become excessive. PG feels that a greater focus and efficiency is required from Community Chest members in running their events such that an end year reconciliation becomes a simple matter. PG acknowledged that Wellow Recreation will need to help the transition to devolved finances and the development of the reconciliation process.

The Miracle theatre wants a link on the Wellow recreation website for promotion purposes and TG can amend something fairly easily. However, it is noted that there are various things requiring updating on the website. Discussion of constitution and our mission objectives and responsibilities, **SH to talk to TG. Minutes need to be added to the website. SH to send to TG minutes plus interim reports. TH going to look over existing website. SH going to check constitution as to what we need to be doing.**

TREASURER REPORT

See attached.

ACTIONS FROM 1ST NOVEMBER MEETING

Bootcamp - contributions have now been paid.

Pavilion Hire – In essence good progress has been made but there are further steps to be taken.

Parish Council Representative – At one point the Parish Council only had three counsellors and did not have the manpower to attend our meetings. Now they have six counsellors they may wish to think about assigning someone to attend the Wellow recreation meetings. PG gives a quarterly report to them via Mike Clarkson so we are ticking the box in that respect, however, constitutionally we are not quite fulfilling our objectives. Mike is eligible in just under a year to be a representative but for now we continue to do what PG is doing with Mike until he can come back. It will probably take a number of months for things to get sorted anyway.

St Julian's School - PTA efforts are great and relationship has improved in terms of the school and Wellow Rec working together.

Rugby Tots - Little progress, **SH will keep trying.**

Village show - Miranda Wells has been in touch, payment has been made for the Marquee. Main concern for Wellow Recreation is financial probity. **Fiona Schubert (who is acting as co-ordinator for the Show Team) and TG will speak.**

We are missing a 'champion' such as Keith was for the cricket.

The goalposts need some investment in the form of embedded metal goal post sleeves which will facilitate regular movement of posts to avoid excessive pitch wear in goal post areas. The Parish Council has agreed to underpin the investment with a contribution of £800. The running track has been completely eroded, members of the village have put some of it back in place, but we need to find a way of avoiding it happening again. The drain at the bottom becomes regularly clogged with leaves. Stewart should do it really, but that does not appear to have happened. The other place that is causing issue is at the top by the tennis courts. A work team has been mobilised to excavate a second drain in April/May.

COMMUNITY CHEST 10K EVENT:

RESULTS IN BRIEF

SUCSESSES/CHALLENGES

LESSONS LEARNED/CAPTURED

See Treasurer report for financial aspects. The event was a huge success but not without its challenges, primarily due to BANES taking it upon themselves to be somewhat obstructive at the last minute in insisting on formal road closures and a traffic management scheme with a matter of weeks to go. We had a discussion regarding potential expansion of the 10k event. There is a meeting scheduled with BANES to discuss road closures etc next year and this will, to some extent, be determinative of whether or not the event can go ahead. TG is reluctant to go bigger than 400 participants for various reasons. There is a large increase in licensing costs, for example if the licenses continued through England Athletic there would be a jump from £150-£200 next year. The date was also subject to some scrutiny as if the event had been 24 hours earlier or later then it would have had to be cancelled due to weather. That said, any date could run the risk of clashing with other events. We are unique in our offering in that it isn't just a runners event but a community event and this works in our favour. One thing is for sure, a bigger core team would be needed to run the event next year. We found ourselves in a somewhat flawed situation with the road closure notices as there were still 2 or 3 tractors who

knew nothing about it and required access. The team have considered other routes and how we can avoid the event being a 'road' event. It is hard to compare the event year-on-year for the past two years in terms of uptake given that there was a diversification in the offering such as the colour run etc. The meeting with BANES will hopefully pave the way forwards and enable a positive debrief.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

VILLAGE SHOW KEY ROLES, TIMING

In so far as the Wellow show is concerned, we have a limited role but it's important we liaise well. As above, the main concern for Wellow Recreation is financial probity. Fiona Schubert (who is acting as co-ordinator) and TG will speak. The Show team are in the process of agreeing the next meeting date and **SH will liaise with PG about that.**

MIRACLE OUTDOOR THEATRE

PG estimates that we need to find about 200 people for the outdoor theatre to pay for itself. There is a huge amount of work to be done, especially with regard to promotion and ticketing, the latter to be handled by the Bath Box Office and the Parlour Shop. A large number of volunteers will be required – principally for the day of the performance. AF wondering whether school groups might be an option?

KIDS ALL STAR CRICKET

An ECB issue with ball contamination has resulted in lowering of coaching fees down to £290. The ECB discovered that a limited number of articles in the kit provided contained slightly higher than normal levels of phthalates. This has pushed back registration. To start mid-May (15th). **SH to speak with Charlotte Webb about promotion through Shoscombe school.**

The cricket nets are shredded at the back. Estimated replacement cost is £2300 (excluding VAT) which cannot be justified until/unless we attract greater interest in their future use.

WELLOW REC QUESTIONNAIRE

PG and TH are working on the feedback questionnaire and consider that now is a good time to make contact with everybody who is a resident of Wellow to enquire as to what they may want as opposed to what we think they want. There are 225 residents on the parish email newsletter, so the parish post will be used to get the word out but there has also been consideration of a monkey mail.

PICKLEBALL TRIAL/DEMO

With reference to pickle ball, a trial is due to take place at Lansdowne and subject to the response there is the possibility to bring it to Wellow.

COMMUNITY BUS/COMMUNITY CHEST

The Wellow Community Bus have asked to join the community chest. They are £13,000 in debt due to repairs. Really the bus needs replacing. The village bus was first made available under the Conservative government to increase accessibility in rural areas. Discussion of our view on their joining as a fourth member provided they contribute in some way, consideration also as to whether entry would be permanent and if not until when. Some principles at play as ultimately an additional member would reduce the amount in the pot. One option mooted was that there would be a retrospective approach to membership which would enable them to share in the Wellow 10 K proceeds. TG saying that they were not advised of this prospect until midway through their planning and they had already advertised who the money would be going to, and that was the three charities, not including the bus. Discussion

about other ways that the Bus committee could contribute given an already full calendar of events and certainly a limited appetite for retrospective distribution of funds at least in the absence of a thorough plan as to what they bring to the committee and how long they wish to be “in “.

Discussion about consolidated events for community chest needed in a wider way and as to how many events we actually wish to run an annual basis, for example, general consensus is that the miracle theatre could be a biannual event.

PAVILION PROMOTION PROGRAMME

RECAP/PROGRESS

Limited discussion about this. PG and TH working in conjunction on this action. The pavilion costs around £1000 per year to run and the cleaning cost accounts for about 70% of that per year. We need to host enough bookings for it to pay for itself. If we could get 2 to 3 business bookings, this would help. Ideally, a local business group. **TH saying we need to update the flyers because they currently contain the old pricing and then distribute.**

NEXT STEPS

AOB

N/A

Parlour shop/community hub

Limited discussion on this point, to be revisited in due course.