



Website: [www.leasowecommunitycentre.co.uk](http://www.leasowecommunitycentre.co.uk)

## Leasowe Play Youth & Community Association

Registered Charity Number 702959

Leasowe Community Centre, Twickenham Drive,  
Leasowe, Wirral. CH46 1PF

Tel: 0151-691-1595

## JMC MEETING

Held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July - 2014

### Members Present

Jane Davies, Paul Townley, Sheila Henry, Iris Coates, Ken Murphy, Ian Lewis, Emma Hopwood, Sandra Camello, Jenni Jones Councillor Anita Leech & Lesley May

### Apologies

Tina Amis, Pauline Murphy, Councillor Ron Abbey, Ken Williams, Michelle Gray, Councilor Treena Johnson

A welcome was given to Ken Murphy, who with Ian Lewis will be independent advisors to the JMC. Jamie Bells and Howard Nickson representing PEGS and Jenny who was a trainee community organiser were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

### Minutes of Last Meeting

These had been circulated

### Matters Arising

There were no matters arising and the minutes were accepted by the committee

### PEGS

Jamie gave the committee a brief description of PEGS – there are two different organisations under the umbrella of Plant Earth Green Solutions, a non profit company

- To insulate homes and enable local people to switch energy companies and combat fuel poverty in Leasowe. They have opened an Advice Centre next to the NISA shop. At this moment they have helped 50 people to switch to a better fuel tariff.

In the future they hope to employ 15 to 20 local people in a call centre and create an apprenticeship. They require premises for the call centre and the Great Escape is currently not used during the day and would suit their purposes. They would like to use the room between 10am to 7.00pm Monday to Friday and 10.00am to 4.00pm on a Saturday but were willing to compromise. Iris was concerned that vulnerable people come to the Centre and she was assured by Jamie that there would be responsible people in the room and he would be overlooking the Call Centre and the Advice Centre.

Sheila liked the idea that a firm were looking to create new jobs in the area. Ian remarked that as PEGS were set up to help with energy costs would they look at the Centre as it needed professional assessment and Jamie agreed to undertake this. Emma remarked that the Great Escape had been rented before by Dianthus. Jane asked what equipment would be in the room and was told that it would be desks, chairs and computers. Jane was concerned that the Youth Society wants to use the room on a Monday night for the television and asked if someone from PEGS could be present – Jamie agreed and said that Howard could be present and he would be happy to teach things if it was wanted. Jane thanked Jamie and Howard for their presentation and said that the committee would discuss the rental and let them know the decision later in the day. They then left the meeting

### **Jenny Trainee Community Organiser**

Jenny was now working in the Activities Hub, set up at Holy Spirit. The schools already had a relationship with the local community and she was hoping to enhance this and tackle child poverty in the area. Everton Football Club were coming to the Hub on various dates to help with the activities. Jenny would be visiting and listening to local people to find out what they wanted for their community - this is not just for the Holy Spirit, activities will branch out to other areas. Jenny will be working in the whole area and was looking at ways to help people develop useful skills. Jane asked if the activities would be only for the children as dress making would be a useful skill. Sheila said that the activities would be just for Leasowe and based within the area – the priority would be children. Anita asked if there was a website and was told that in the future it is hoped to have a Leasowe website with all that goes on in the area. Paul asked if Jenny could email him any information about the activities so that he could distribute it. Emma made the point that a lack of communication was still a problem as three events can sometimes be run at exactly the same time.

### **Treasurers Report**

When Jamie Bells and Howard Nickson had left the meeting after their presentation Paul explained that he and Mary Quigge had been in discussion and negotiations with PEGS Sheila Henry was looking into internet access to the building, which would be of benefit to the local community and JMC would pay the cost of the Internet (but not the cost of the phoned line). Wirral Borough Council buildings have to make a profit. PEGS is in its infancy and will not be able to pay much towards a rent until the business gets going but if they rent a room – there will be costs e.g. extra telephone line and electric costs plus they would need wireless internet access. As Treasurer Paul reported that there had been little activity. He presented all members with a copy of the previous year's accounts so that they can be looked at prior to the AGM. They showed an operating profit of £2163 which was mainly due to rental of the Centre – this coming year the rental figures will be smaller due to the loss of Dianthus but hopefully rental income from PEGS will balance this out.

### **Current Balances:**

- Current Account           £23, 935-74
- Minibus Account         £2,169-95
- Savings Account         £34, 791-93
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Ian raised the matter of money that had been given to the Council by Barrett's for play areas this needed to be transferred and 'ring fenced'. He also asked if money could be given to the Youth Society for a barbeque. Jane said she was visiting the Youth Society on the following Monday and she would look at what was planned.

There is a need for a large fridge/freezer in the Centre's kitchen.

Paul raised the matter of Broadband with Sheila and said that the Centre would be responsible for policing it He would look at prices for open access so it could be used by the community.

The Cleaning Contract was discussed as a bid had been submitted by Minster. Although it had been agreed that it should really go to a local person/company at this moment no one has the setup. Emma knows a husband and wife team that are setting up but as this is their first enterprise they need help in formulating a bid and working out what equipment they will need and Emma asked if the committee could wait until September. It was mentioned that the Council will need to be assured that Health and Safety matters will be covered

### **Senior Playleader**

There was no report

### **Youth Society**

Ian was pleased to report that the relationship working with The Youth Federation was working well. They had been given tickets from Andy Dunn to a play about bullying and Ian had taken 28 young people and then on to McDonalds. The trip had been expensive but the successful. Ian was still going to be involved and would be Treasurer but he would be taking a back seat in the future

Greggs, the bakers were donating money and the committee agreed that Ian could apply.

The Youth Society wanted a television in the Great Escape, the one in the main room was the property of the Men's' Club and people were worried that it could be damaged. The Autumn Club are protective of the room as they use it so much and things that they have provided at the Centre have gone missing. The Autumn Club are the mainstay of the Centre and they want the youngsters to respect the room and its contents. To help appease the situation there would be a responsible adult in the kitchen during the evening so that the girls can use the facilities. Jane said that she would attend a meeting of the Youth Society and explain to them what the conditions were about respecting the Centre and its facilities, one set of keys will be given to the Society

### **Art Club**

Iris said that her Club had been working on pictures depicting World War One. She was pleasantly surprised they now had a total of 45 pictures, which would make a wonderful exhibition at St Chads on the Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August between 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Some of the pictures have already been sold They will be holding a Dutch Auction and money raised will go to the Help The Heroes charity and the British Legion. Iris asked the Treasurer for money to help buy fibre tips pens for the children.

Iris had been paying £20 room hire fees for the Club. As her numbers have gone down it is sometimes hard to raise the money to pay this and Iris could no longer support the Club financially as she was retired. She asked if the room could be hired for the usual room hire cost of £7.50 per hour as it would be easier to afford, this was agreed. To help boost numbers Emma said she would distribute flyers for the Art Club at the Monday Bingo she holds at the Millennium Centre.

### **Autumn Club**

Emma reported that the Autumn Club had seen some new faces and a lot has been happening. There are a list of events on the board and the trips out are becoming so popular that the trip to Llandudno had to be run over two days to accommodate all of the people who wanted to go. Other successful trips have been Bury Market and the Anderton Boat Lift. Future plans include a Men's Only trip out and some speakers.

### **7Waves Community Radio**

Pauline had not been able to attend the meeting

### **Men's Fit Club**

Ken had not been able to attend the meeting

### **Leasowe Development Trust**

Verbal report given by Jenni Jones

### **Wirral Borough Council**

Sheila reported that she had been approached by two ladies who were interested to learn how the Centre had set up the Autumn Club. They have the use of a larger minibus and would be quite happy for the Autumn Club to use it; Emma said that would have help prevent having to make 2 trips to Llandudno. Emma said that she would be happy to show the two ladies round the Club and advise them

The cost of running the Community Centre was in the region of £24,000 pa – the cost to the Council being two thousand pounds. Emma asked if energy efficiency could be looked at. It was important that 7waves and the centres electricity costs were completely separate. Despite Sheila handing out Room Hire Forms the only Block Booking Form that had been received back had been from the Art Club

### **Councillor Reports**

#### **Councillor Ron Abbey**

Apologies had been received,

**Councillor Treena Johnson**

Apologies had been received,

**Councillor Anita Leech**

Anita informed the meeting that an Children's Art Exhibition was taking place at St Chads, Japanese knot weed had been seen on the estate and will be treated in the Autumn, which is the best time for tackling it, Anita had been out with the Council to look at the pot holes in the area (especially around Cameron and Kellet Road and Oxley Avenue) and she had asked for money to be spent on these and the drop kerbs in various areas. Litter bins had been replaced and the fourth proposal had been put in. Reports had been received that the gun path was overgrown. The land at Cameron Road had been sold at auction to a private builder, who had yet to maintain the grass. Wasp nets were being removed by Leasowe Community Housing. Leasowe Station had been asked to open their toilets.

A Leasowe Hub Event – Raising Aspirations- had taken place for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children but the children did not seem to be bothered, The committee were disappointed in the event and Jenny said it wasn't what it should have been – Emma said that it was a good opportunity that was missed . Anita said she would feedback these comments as those involved thought that it had been a success

The Council had looked at the Special Schools and there had been a consultation but the report was not out yet. The Moreton Centre was now closed. Oakenholt was built and up and running although the kitchen was not yet operational. The official opening would be in August

Fernlea would be soon demolished and made into a car park

**Leasowe Community Homes**

Sandra said they were running a free trip on the following Friday to see the giant puppets and a free lunch was included. There would be a Fun Day on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August; it would have exhibitions, demonstrations how to make a bird box. Tom from the allotments would be showing how to plant herbs, there would be tombola and for pensioners there will be free cake and a comfortable seating area. A lantern parade would take place on Halloween between 6.00pm to 8.00pm and their first News Letter would be out soon

**Any Other Business**

Anita broached the subject of loaning the minibus and what it was licence for. Paul responded that ours had to be for someone over the age of 25 with a clean licence.

Paul asked if the members formally agreed to rent the room to PEGS on the conditions that had been agreed. Paul said that he would draw up the first Service Level Agreement to run for between 6 to 8 weeks, after this time it will be reviewed and the final SLA set up. This was unanimously agreed

Unity in the Community had been accepted by the Council.

Jenni Jones informed the committee that a bike event was taking place on the Saturday and asked people to sign up. Bikes for hire would be available

No other business – the meeting closed

**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 10.30am**