



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

**Minutes of committee meeting held at Leasowe Community Centre  
on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

**Present**

**Chair:** Jane Davies, Paul Townley, Iris Coates, Ken Williams, Councillor Treena Johnson and Anita Leech, Sheila Henry, Sandra Camello, Jenni Jones, Ian Lewis, Danny Docherty, Lesley May

**Apologies**

Mary Quigg, Councillor Ron Abbey, Ken Murphy, Michelle Gray, Tina Amis & Pauline Murphy

**Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes**

These had been circulated and agreed to be true record of the meeting

**Matters arising**

Nil

**Correspondence**

Paul had written, on behalf of the committee trying to save the Play Centres to all of the 66 Wirral Borough Councillors and the Members of Parliament for the Wirral Area. To date only 4 Councillors had responded and Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead. Councillor Anita Leech said that Councillors will usually only respond to correspondence if asked for a reply.

The Committee agreed that the response from the political people who were paid to represent Wirral residents had been extremely poor and Chair Jane asked Paul if he could write again to those people who had not responded conveying the Committee's disappointment in their lack of response.

A letter had been sent to Graham Burgess, The Chief Executive of Wirral Council, and a 'standard letter' of reply had been received from him.

**Invited Guests / Reports / Presentations**

None

**Treasurer's Report**

Paul gave the Committee the following figures

- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| • Savings Account | £34,798.07 |
| • Current Account | £24,092.40 |
| • Minibus Account | £ 1,992.24 |

## **Reports:**

### **Senior Playleader**

The fight to save the Adventure Playground was still being fought but as Danny was an employee of the Council he could not be involved.

Danny said that during the Lantern Parade the Centre would be open but he was concerned that the map showing the Lantern Parade route (on a leaflet advertising the parade) did not show the 'Addy' and asked why. Sandra said that when the leaflet was produced they had asked around for a map and this had been given to them, they had been unaware that there was the omission but assured Danny that this would not happen again. It was asked if leaflets regarding 'Save the Playgrounds' could be given out during the parade but Chair Jane said that the Lantern Parade was an event for children and should not be used for 'political issues'.

Anita said that at Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> October the Councillors would be presenting the petitions to the Council. Paul said there were 2 petitions, one on-line and a paper petition. The consultation will close on 31st October. All feedback will then be put into a report, which will be considered by Councilors on 15th November, before they set the budget for the next financial year in December.

Jenni was concerned that people may not be aware of the threat to the 'Addy' although Sandra said that it had been mentioned in their newsletters nothing had been put through people's doors. Anita said that if the leaflets were printed she would ensure that they were delivered to people's houses.

### **Youth Report / Youth Society**

The volunteers running the Society had told Ian, the treasurer, they had been approached to pay rent to the Community Centre. The number of people attending on a night fluctuates and can vary from between 22 to 50. Any money that has been raised in the past has been put towards supplies. He asked if any changes could be started in the New Year so they would have time to address them and make plans. Paul said that there was an amount in the Centres funds that was allocated to the Youth Society so a paper exercise could be done using this money to pay the rent. Sheila said that in the present climate it should be seen that everyone was contributing something to the Centre.

Chair Jane said that her philosophy was that no one should be turned away because they have no money and she suggested a fee of £10 be charged, the Committee agreed. Chair Jane asked Ian if there was any funding that they could apply for – maybe from the youth hub or police and Ian said he was looking at various possible sources

### **Art Club**

The JMC had given Iris money for her to buy materials that could be used by the children that came to the Club. It was mentioned that Iris and the Art Club had always promptly paid a room rental fee. Iris did mention that at one stage there were not enough members coming to the Club to make it viable so she had appealed to the JMC and they had reviewed her rent. Chair Jane said that rentals needed to be fair and acceptable because people could always go to the Millennium Centre if they thought the Community Centres rates were too high

### **Autumn Club**

There was no official report but everything was going fine

### **Wirral Radio** (formally 7 Waves Community Radio)

Pauline had not been able to attend the meeting

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

Ken had nothing new to report – his focus had been on trying to attract new members. He has tried and is still trying to get funding for the Club and any money that he has received in the past has been given to the Treasurer.

### **Leasowe Development Trust**

Jenni said they would be running another volunteering course for people in the area. She also complimented Sasha on the great job that she was doing. Chair Jane said that she had received good feedback about Sasha's work and how she was breaking down barriers. A Halloween party will be run at the Millennium Centre on 29<sup>th</sup> October for children between the ages of 3 to 8 years old. Tickets would be 50pence and this would include a Grotto and a Disco.

### **Leasowe Community Homes**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> of November was the deadline to receive any articles for inclusion in the Newsletter, which will be published in December. The closure of the Adventure Playground would be mentioned but the Newsletter cannot enter into any political debate - it can only report facts.

### **Wirral Borough Council (Sheila Henry)**

Sheila said that a Fire Marshalls course would be run on 8<sup>th</sup> November but those that attended last year do not have to renew annually. She had not heard anything about the future of the Community Centre and the figures that the Council needed about the income and expenditure of the Millennium Centre and the Community Centre was a normal occurrence; she would report the figures to the JMC when they had been received. Sheila did mention that the Millennium Centre did have an income but any revenue received by the Community Centre is usually swallowed up by expenses. It was pointed out that various organisations used the Millennium Centre, which created their income but the Community Centre's only income was room rental.

### **Councillor's report**

#### **Councillor Treena Johnson**

Treena reported that evidence gathering for the fight for the Playgrounds was going on. Emma Wilkes, the community advisor would be running an anti-social event. The Bike Store had been broken into and 10 mountain bikes were stolen. A young girl and her boyfriend had been 'jumped on' in the estate. The Keep Britain Tidy campaign of 60 years ago was being revived to help train children to actively participate in keeping the Estate clean and tidy. Aldi had applied to extend its trading hours and wanted to operate between 8.00am to 11.00pm but residents in Stavourdale Road were objecting to this proposal. There had been fly tipping issues in the area

#### **Councillor Anita Leech**

Anita reported that funding had been given for mending the pot holes that she had identified in the area, so work would be commencing soon. Measures were under way to make Chapelhill a 20mph zone. The sleeping policemen in Cameron Road were to be redone. Along with Treena, she had been involved in sorting out a lot of the problems and issues of residents. There was a plan for Halloween and Bonfire Week, which she would send to Paul for distribution and she mentioned that she had the cue's and balls from the pool table at Fernleigh and asked Ian if they would be of use to the Youth Society – Ian said he would gratefully accept them.

### **Any other reports (updates)**

Paul had looked into getting Broadband installed in the Centre. After some work the owner of the Centre's telephone line (in Scotland) had been traced and had no problem in the line being used to supply broadband. He had been quoted for Business use a figure of £403 per year but had negotiated a monthly fee of £28 plus VAT.

He was asked whether it would be possible to use Wirral Radio's facility but it was agreed that it would be preferable to have our own independent facility. Chair Jane proposed that the final decisions and go ahead be left up to Paul and the members agreed.

**Any other business**

Date of next meeting.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**