

Website: 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 JMC Meeting held at Leasowe Community Centre on Thursday 12TH March 2015

Present

Iris Coates (acting as Chair), Paul Townley, Ken Williams, Councillor Ron Abbey, Councillor Anita Leech, Danny McGarry, Pauline Murphy, John Storey (CEO Wirral Media) , Sheila Henry, Lesley May

Apologies

Jane Davies, Tina Amis, Councillor Treena Johnson, Ian Lewis, Jenni Jones LDT , Sandra Camello & Emma Hopwood

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

These had been circulated.

Amendments made:

Under Men's Fit Club – it should read 'the walking machine had been PAT tested.

Matters arising

Iris was incensed that people had complained about navigating through the Art Clubs layout to get to the cafe, especially when they had pushchairs. It was unsure who had complained. Iris said that they paid the full rent for the Club and yet had no privacy. Before the cafe had opened the Art Club had made their own tea and coffee but now they supported the cafe. The problems had only arisen since the snooker table had appeared. Ken said that some of the members of the Men's Fit Club had tried to move the table but had stopped when they had been worried about maybe breaking Health and Safety standards

Councillor Ron Abbey said that the work on the bike hub was still ongoing.

The car park at the Fernleigh site was now complete. The area had not been designated as a car park but was now being used as one due to people complaining about the Centre not having enough parking. It was hoped the area could be sold but the cost of building on it (flood precautions etc.) meant it was not viable even though there was a 'footprint' on the land.

There was an ongoing problem with the outer doors. Pauline said members of the Youth Society had been swinging on the doors and the youths would be responsible for any repair costs for damage that might occur due to this.

Correspondence

Councillor Anita Leech had sent some information to Paul which he had forwarded on by email to the Committee members.

Financial Report

The Current Balances are

Current Account	£20, 902,32
Savings Account	£34, 808.28
Minibus Account	£ 2, 297.24

Currently there was not much activity on the accounts and Paul was currently working on getting them ready to be sent out for audit in the middle of April.

Paul had sent out an application for funding the Art Club, Michelle Grey had received it and it was being processed.

Sheila asked that as the accounts were healthy, could the management committee look at smoking Shelter being bought. Paul said that all of the money in the accounts was not necessarily free to be used. The JMC funds included money that was for use by other groups. Twenty thousand pounds had been ring fenced as a 'Slush Fund'. This is set aside in the event that the Council give the Centre notice that they were withdrawing their funding support. Danny thought that a Smoking Shelter would not be used and Pauline felt it would be damaged. Ron said that such structures are usually magnets for anti-social behaviour and it was agreed that a Shelter would become a 'White Elephant' and we would not purchase one.

All of the Meals on Wheels equipment had now been purchased, the laptop and printer being the last of the items bought from the grant that had been received in 2014. Everything was now 'up and ready to go'. Anita asked if a donation had been received from the YMCA and Paul said he would check

Health and Safety signage was being sent by the Council for the Youth Society and Sheila said she would check.

Work still needs to be done on the Alarm System, which has not worked since last December when the broadband had been installed. Pauline said that Wirral Media no longer had any connection with the Centre's phone system and/or broadband system

Reports:

Senior Play Leader

Danny said that the Addy was still here, and would be for the next year but the closure of it is probably something that will always resurface in the future when it is mentioned that the Council will have to make cuts. He wanted to express his thanks to everyone who had helped in saving the Addy. The Addy had a staff of two and a half so sometimes it was necessary to close but staff were being shared between other centres to try and prevent this. The only funding received from the Council was for running costs; anything else has to be sourced through fund-raising.

It was the 40th 'birthday celebration' of the Addy and Danny would like 2 celebrations; a daytime celebration for the kids which would include something different than usual like a Bouncy Castle; and an evening celebration for the adults and volunteers who used the playground, especially those who attended the Addy when they were children. The celebrations would be planned by a steering group that would consist of parents and children. Anita suggested that Leasowe Community Homes be contacted for funding as they could give amounts of £250 up to £1,000.

Danny said that masonry paint was needed to decorate the outside of the building. Sheila suggested the Probationary department be contacted to do the painting but Danny said the children wanted to be involved. Paint can be sourced from Falkland Road but they usually stock normal indoor paint and limited quantities of a colour. A graffiti project from the Early Learning will be based at the Addy. Danny said that the kids knew what they wanted and it was important that they had their say in their building.

A new 'slush machine' is needed but the cost is £1600 which is not possible so Danny was hoping someone would be able to fix it.

Youth Report / Youth Society

There was no report.

The Society had been asked if they could use the other entry to the building so the automatic doors can stay closed but this hadn't worked so far. Pauline said that the majority of the children were fine and Wirral Media had worked with them but others were swinging on the door and starting to use graffiti so more volunteers should be used so that the older children can be closer supervised. Paul Townley said he would have a conversation with Ian about the problem

Art Club

Iris said that her membership numbers were up. She had a Mental Health person attending with his carer and she wished that more could join. Sadly they can only attend if they can find a carer to come with them. It was pointed out that sometimes when the Art Club was running some people with push chairs were having problems getting to the cafe. Iris said that the layout of the Club had changed since the snooker table had been rehoused but she would have a word with Billy to see if the chairs could be laid out differently

Autumn Club

As mentioned earlier, the Meals on Wheels is setup and ready to go. Tina is trying to source training for the volunteers.

Wirral Radio (7 Waves Community Radio)

Pauline apologised that she had not been able to make some of the earlier meeting but they had been very busy. John Storey reported that the station had been going from strength to strength. They had been involved with Everton in the Community, which was one of the best outreach programmes, helping the long term unemployed, Merseyside Police (at the Headquarters Level) and had broadcast a programme from the Headquarters about 'Hate Crime'. John had been working as the Business development Manager in helping to develop and support other businesses and develop partnerships with them across the Wirral

A TV show about the first year of Wirral Media was being made by BayTv and they would be coming to Leasowe to film. A Children in Need award was being set up and up to thirty young people aged up to 17 were being recruited for the Wirral Radio Academy. It would teach the radio skills and give them qualities like self-esteem and the ability to learn. They would have their own programme on a Saturday evening between 6-7.00pm and they will have full control over the programme.

NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) People between the ages of 18 -24 years old will be able to attend a course on Social Media and be taught how to use it properly and how it can benefit small businesses and organisations. The course will start at the beginning of April and will be one day a week for twelve weeks

Men's Fit Club

Ken said there was 'nothing ' to report

Leasowe Development Trust

Anita said that there would be a 'Clean Up For Leasowe' being held on 7th April and would be a day of fun as well as work

Leasowe Community Homes

It was tenant lead and Anita had been appointed as Chair for 6 months , with a view to the appointment being extended for another 6 months. This was after a new rule had wiped out at least 50% of the board. The LCH had been taken over by Your Housing and had to change 'model'. Working in the 'Call Centre Model' with an extension of hours over the weekends was being looked at. There was a proposal to use the Office model. The board was looking for new members – 5 tenants and 5 local authority

Wirral Borough Council (Sheila Henry)

Sheila said a Thank You to the Wallasey School for using the Community Centre for a meeting over the abolishment of their 6th form. It would also be used for a 'Question and Answer' discussion with Angela Eagle MP and parents.

At the end of the financial year Sheila was busy compiling the Asset List and gathering together the room hire paperwork

There would be a feasibility study on the Leasowe estate to see what the community groups need as the estate has the most community spaces. Now that the Council have the Millennium Centre it is important that it be looked at with regard to housing various committees. Sheila said that it was now time to be practical and it is important that the building is looked at for this purpose whilst there is still available space. The Millennium Centre was moving forward and had new groups moving in, the opportunity of moving there may not be available later in the year. Ron Abbey said that the Council was releasing a lot of its buildings. Beechwood Centre is setting up on its own which leaves only three Community Centres still supported by the Council. Sheila felt that it was important the Autumn Club who would be funded in the new financial year, we need to start planning for the financial year 2016/2017. Tina has been talking to Emma about whether the Autumn Club would be able to relocate there and use the cafe. Paul said that everyone had to be realistic as we needed to consider what would happen if the Community Centre did not receive the support from the local authority.

Anita said that we need to look at future funding and we had three years to plan what will happen. Pauline said that Wirral Radio would like to be involved in any talks; we also need to have an 'Impact Statement' showing how volunteers and people (especially those with Special Needs) who use the Centre would be affected if the centre closed. We can also obtain testimonials from user groups which could be used in the future.

Councillor's Reports

Councillor Ron Abbey

Verbal report given

Councillor Anita Leech

Verbal report given

Any other business

The building had been broken into the previous week. Pauline had spoken with the police and given them the CCTV footage

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 30th April 2015 at 10.30am