



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

Annual General Meeting Minutes

held at Leasowe Community Centre
on 29th October 2015.

Members Present

Chair Jane Davies, Paul Townley (Treasurer), Iris Coates, Ken Williams, Councillors Treena Johnson and Ron Abbey, Mary Quigg (LCH), Ian Lewis, Danny Docherty, Lesley May,

Apologies

Emma Hopwood, Michelle Grey, Councillor Anita Leech. Jenni Jones, Sheila Henry, Tina Amis and Sandra Camello

Last AGM Minutes

These were agreed to be a true record and were approved and signed

Matters Arising

Nil

Correspondence

None

Chair Persons Annual Report

Jane said that once again we had been waiting year to year to hear from the Council about their decision of the future funding of the Community Centre. She thanked everyone for their support, hard work and commitment.

Iris asked that a vote of thanks be given to Jane for the work, time and dedication that she put into her job as Chair

Treasurers Report

Paul circulated the accounts and his report. There was a small decrease in this year's figures, which reflected the 50% decrease in room hire. Dianthus had left and as yet no replacement had been found. Poor rates of interest were also reflected in the figures.

The minibus was proving to be a drain on resources

The Autumn Club is now the biggest user of the Centre. For the new financial year Wirral Borough Council had agreed to fund the activity for 2014-2015 with no cost of living rise and a 10% reduction in their grant. Over the past 11 years there has been no increase in the grant yet there is an expectation of maintaining and improving the service given.

Danny, his staff and volunteers were thanked for their hard work in the running of the Adventure Playground, many of their activities being funded through grants that they have applied for.

An amount of £20,000 is placed as a Special Reserve, to be used should the Council withdraw their funding of the Centre

Paul recommended that S Eyre be retained as auditor – which was agreed. Paul thanked everyone for their help over the year and Jane gave a vote of thanks to Paul for his hard work and dedication to the Centre

Annual Reports

Senior Play-worker

Danny pointed out that his job title had changed to Senior Play-Worker over 5 years ago and not Play-Leader. All the regular events had taken place during the year e.g. Halloween, Christmas, Bonfire night etc. There had been a vast increase in children between the ages of 5 to 7 years old. Staffing changes had occurred. John had left just before the start of the year and Gemma had left suddenly. Jackie, who was a peripatetic worker, was now based at Leasowe. Short staffing had meant that the three council centres were working together to cover annual leave etc. but if a staff member was ill then it meant that the Addy had to close. Children were never sure if the centre would be open and a new practice had to be put in place – if the centre had to close then a member of staff would ensure that all children that had turned up would be seen safely home.

The 40th Anniversary Celebrations had set off to a damp start but Jane thanked Danny for his hard work in putting on a fantastic celebratory day and evening

It had been an eventful year when the Council cuts had included plans to close the Adventure Centre. After a successful campaign, including the other two centres, the Council had revoked their decision. Danny gave Paul a special thank you for his work in the setting up of the campaign with other centres on the Wirral.

Councillor Ron Abbey asked Danny if he could provide him with figures about the centre should these be needed to justify the centres position at Council. Danny said that as part of Ofsted they had to register the children and keep daily, monthly and yearly figures.

A problem had been youths congregating outside after the Addy had closed. Litter e.g. broken glass and used condoms were littered on the ground when Danny came into work. This had to be cleaned, especially the broken glass, before the children arrived. Danny did not want to get the police involved so had taken the time to have a word with them asking them to stop and had noticed that quite a few of them were misplaced children (i.e. not from the local area). Katrina, from the Youth Services had met with them and was looking to source a room at the Holy Spirit that they could use.

Mary asked what had happened with the plan to run a Youth Night at the Millennium Cafe that was going to be on a Wednesday. The price of hiring room at the Millennium Centre is high and Mary has been negotiating with them to agree to a cheaper price for community use.

Youth Society

Nikki was not present but there were concerns that the Club set up primarily for the youths was now only open to children and this was why youths were now congregating outside of the Addy. A meeting will be set up between Jane, Paul and Nikki to rectify the problem. Treena asked if she could be involved in the talks. It was important that volunteers who could work with older children were involved so the age range could be extended

Men's Health Club

Ken reported, although numbers had decreased over the year, they met regularly and used the exercise equipment. Treena asked if the Club could be made intergenerational but Ken pointed out this would involve addressing a lot of Health and Safety issues

Autumn Club

Tina had a good bank of volunteers and the Club was going from strength to strength. The purchase of special equipment earlier in the year meant they now offered a similar service to 'Meals on Wheels'. Mary said that under the Data Protection Act it is harder to target older people but if she was given some leaflets they could be distributed around the bungalows on the 'walkabout'.

Art Club

Iris was finding it hard to financially manage the Club. She currently had a couple of Mental Health people attending and she would like to give places to more of them but they required

extra attention. The Club had provided new pictures to the Centre. Paul said that he would see if there were any funds available to help the Club

Leasowe Development Trust

No report

Leasowe Community Homes

Mary said that she would give the good news to the AGM and leave the bad news until the ordinary meeting. Dave McGuire had been appointed Chair and the first priority was to find new members. There had been a 100% stock condition survey and the electrical survey had found the condition of the work done by Magenta had been poor. They were currently suspended until the faults had been rectified and will then be phased back in. The contact centre was now up and running. The implication from Governments Summer Budget was alarming.

Jane asked why no community centre magazine was available anymore and Mary said with the introduction of the contact centre there were gradually morphing into other things and there was no budget available but information was available on the website.

Wirral Radio

No report

Councillors Reports

Councillor Anita Leech had sent an email report, which included links to 2 petitions. The first was a petition against Government cuts to Merseyside's Police Budget and the second to save the Job Centre in Wallasey.

Tranmere Rovers are in discussion about improvement to community pitches and have donated 50 free tickets to be used at their home games.

The three Councillors regularly reported to the committee during the year

Wirral Borough Council

Sheila had been unable to attend but had sent a report for the general meeting and said that she had enjoyed working with everyone during the year.

Election of Officers

As no nominations had been received it was agreed by the Committee to re-elect the officers on block

- **Chair** Jane Davies
- **Treasurer** Paul Townley
- **Minute Secretary** Lesley May

Any Other Business

Ken asked if some recognition could be given to Billy Townley for the hard work that does at the Centre. Ron said that he would look into the Councils Citizen of The Year award. Billy is an unsung hero, who does not welcome a fuss being made but his work is invaluable. He is at the Centre at 5.30am to prepare the veg, he has painted the Centre and Iris said his help was invaluable to the Art Club etc. Jane and Paul said they would 'sort something' out, maybe a golfing present as golf was one of his interests.