

Minutes of Sellindge Sports and Social Club Annual General Meeting

Monday 25th March 2013 – 8.00pm

1) Welcome & Opening Remarks

David opened the meeting by thanking all for attending. He distributed the minutes of last year's meeting, asking everyone to read them before continuing.

2) Attendance & Apologies

In Attendance

David Crumley	John Collins	Sarah-Jane Sandy	Nick Hollingsbee
Caroline Crumley	Ian Birch	Susie Smith	Dave Motley

President:	Jenny Hollingsbee	
Trustees:	Margaret Birch	Christina Sandy

New Tenant:	Gavin Bayley
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Apologies

George Oakley	David Haining
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3) Minutes of previous AGM

Jenny stated she did attend last year's AGM. David said the Minutes would be adjusted accordingly. With this exception, the Minutes were proposed as a true record by Ian and seconded by Nick.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes

Jenny asked if the £3000, referred to in the Minutes, as promised from the Shepway District Council Community Chest had been received. This was confirmed.

5) Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave his report. A summary of the points included are:

- Clubhouse extension and refurbishment project – there has been extensive dialogue with both the architects and the builders over the last year, with the project much closer to sign-off with one remaining issue of particular significance being the drainage from the ladies toilets. This is in the process of being formally investigated so we can agree a solution with the builders, and fully sign-off the project
- Club membership and usage – we are working hard to increase the usage of the Club, with a number of notable and well-attended social events over the year including:
 - Queens Diamond Jubilee Day Event

- Quiz Night for Great Ormond Street
- Quiz night for Sellindge Surgery
- Fireworks display and bonfire
- Elvis Curry Night
- Website – the Club’s website was re-launched in February 2012. This is now actively used to promote our facilities and events. Since its launch it has had over 3,500 hits
- Facebook - The Club now has a Facebook page, created in January 2013. We have started to promote our Facebook page more actively this month, including from Facebook itself, reaching hundreds of people with details of our facilities and news of various events
- Membership – The Club now has new membership cards where both the Club’s website and Facebook page are included. As of today, we have 292 signed up members, which is slightly ahead of this time last year.
- Functions – many functions have continued to be booked at the Club. Our function room is available for hire at very reasonable rates. Please spread the word and give us a try.
- Tenants - Steve & Sue, the Club’s bar and catering tenants, left the Club just over a week ago to pursue new business ventures. Our thanks go to them for all their efforts over the last, nearly, 2 years. Since then, the Committee has been keeping the Club open itself, and in particular due to Nick and Kerry Hollingsbee who have offered to work most of the shifts over the two week period to the end of the month, when new tenants arrive. Many thanks to Nick and Kerry.
- New tenants – after much hard work searching for new tenants over the last few months, I am pleased to announce Gavin and Letty will be starting officially on 1st April and come to the Club with a lot of energy and many fresh ideas to increase the popularity and membership of the Club, whilst delivering excellent customer service. Letty and Gavin are here tonight, so I would like to introduce them to you now. Please join me in wishing them the best of luck.
- Youth Club – we will continue to focus on offering youth-centred activities. We are in touch with Kent Youth, planning a meeting specifically to talk about establishing a youth club. Also, we have been running a number of youth-centred activities at the Club over the past year, and have more in the pipeline including:
 - A successful weekly ‘Streetdance for Kidz’ class
 - Free educational workshops run recently by ‘Explore Learning’ for young children in the local community earlier this month, with very positive feedback
 - Free ‘youth tennis day(s)’ last summer with a regular series of tennis courses run for various age groups and abilities
- Worked alongside and supported local organisations and charities – we have collaborated, supported and / or worked with:
 - Elham Valley and Wye Lions Club on their Christmas float
 - Sally Mellor with her great fundraising work for Great Ormond Street Hospital
 - Sellindge School Association and Village Hall on bonfire night and the Diamond Jubilee celebrations
 - Sellindge Surgery (Patients Participation Group) with their fundraising Quiz night last September
 - Offered the use of our facilities to the scouts and guides in Sellindge, Brabourne and Smeeth

- Invited the WI and Gardeners association to last summer's Jubilee celebrations
- Sellindge Garage Safari last June, with in this instance, the Parish Council. I would like to thank the Parish Council for the funds this raised towards the upkeep of the Club.
- I would also like to express our thanks for the recent grant of £500 awarded to us by the Parish Council towards the cost of repairs and improvements we plan to carry out to the playing fields. Thanks also to:
 - Nigel Fursden for his continued support, specifically for allowing us to insert promotional flyers for the Club in the Sellindge Village News
 - Anne at Lympne Parish Council for advertising on a monthly basis what's on at the Club in the Lympne village newsletter
 - Academy radio and Chris Kirkham and the tourist board team in Folkestone for all their support
 - Co-Op in Sellindge for the raffle prizes and advertising they have helped us with
 - Last but no means least, thanks to Barry the local plumber, Paul Smith and Phil Manning, Ian and Richard Birch for all their help and support over the last year.
- Our facilities are here for the local community, and we are keen to ensure they are used
- Club's future – It is now well over 40 years since the Sellindge and District Playing Fields Benevolent Society was first established and there are only just over 15 years remaining on the original term of 60 years. Over the course of the year, we have worked with David Fifield, one of the Trustees of the E. Sedgewick and Sarah Godfrey Charities, to prepare a new lease which will combine both the original land leased by the Club in 1968 and the new field behind the tennis courts. The new lease will run for a fresh term of 60 years and will be signed on the next anniversary of the current lease, replacing it and securing the long term future of the Club. Many thanks go the Trustees of the E. Sedgwick and Sarah Godfrey Charities and in particular to David (Fifield) for all his help and advice over the last year
- Sports Clubs - We continue to have a number of thriving sports and social clubs including junior football, bowls, tennis, whist and bingo. We are always looking to build for the future and are still open to a new cricket team. Plans are also afoot to establish darts and pool teams at the Club with the help of our new tenants. We also have the prospect of the return of a village football team in the shape of the new Sellindge Swans Sunday football team. They have made a start this year playing a number of friendly games and are looking to formally join the Hythe, Folkestone & District Sunday league in the next season. We also look forward to seeing growth in the tennis and bowls clubs with their efforts in promoting their activities more widely.
- Next Year focus - will be on working towards establishing the new children's playground, a regular youth club and more family and youth focussed activities, driving higher levels of customer service for our members and increasing membership.
- Forthcoming events in the near future include: Easter Junior Tennis Courses - Tuesday to Friday - 2nd to 5th April, The Great Easter Egg Hunt - Wednesday 3rd April, Gavin and Letty's Welcome Party - Saturday 4th May.

- Last but not least, a big thank you to the Committee for all the work they have done over the last year.

6) Presentation of Accounts (Treasurer)

John circulated a summary of the un-audited accounts for the year ending 31st December 2012, showing figures for 2012 and 2011 per category, which he then provided commentary with points raised as follows:

- The Junior Football Club has an amount outstanding of £850 for their rent
- The Club was not open until May in the year 2011, hence the running costs for things such as heating/electricity usage are for only eight months in 2011, compared to twelve months for 2012. Hence, it can be seen costs have increased by approximately 25%
- Youth room heating is now turned off when not in use
- Once turned on, the car park flood lights are on all the time until manually turned off, hence the obvious need for a timer
- John was asked if we can separate oil and electricity costs. John reported the light, heat and power is made of approximately 75% electricity and 25% oil
- The tennis coach gives private lessons. The idea of introducing formal contracts by the club covering this activity, as well as for any other club activities such as for example, junior football, was discussed. Action agreed was:
 - David would contact David Fifield regarding having a standard contract for 'Usage by Clubs' drawn up.
- With electricity costs rising significantly over recent years, it was thought maybe the base rent for clubs, where appropriate, should be lower with electricity usage charged separately. This could apply to, say, the tennis club due to their use of the floodlights. John would monitor electricity usage for six months or so. This would be considered in April for next year's rents
- John reported insurance cover has been increased, which was necessary as we have increased assets including the refurbished extended building, with extra contents and the goal posts
- John reported there is £10,000 sitting in the current account, waiting to pay for the 'building refurbishment project', once this has been signed off
- John reported he believed we would obtain the full 100% rate relief. He is waiting for 20% to be refunded.
- Finally, John is seeing our accountant tomorrow to hopefully complete the sign-off of our accounts for last year.

7) Fundraising Report

George (Oakley), Vice-Chairman and Head of Fundraising Sub-Committee, in his absence, had submitted his report stating the following:

"The main objective of the Fund Raising Sub-Committee over the past year has been to raise funds towards the cost of a new play area details of which can be seen in the main

bar area. This new play area will be in front of the Club towards the Bowls Club, allowing parents improved sight and control of their children.

Four Playground equipment suppliers were approached for quotations, after discussion, it was decided to place our business with Kompan who, as part of their service, offered a dedicated person to apply for grants on our behalf. Contracts are currently in discussion and these are expected to be in place shortly. The total cost of the project is expected to be in the region of £60K.

Unfortunately, the continued downturn in the Economic climate and the poor weather last summer, has made raising funds difficult. However, we have been lucky enough to obtain a Grant from Shepway District Council (Community Chest award) of £3,000 and a further grant of £3,000 from our County Councillor, Susan Carey. Our thanks go to them both for their continued support. These funds have been utilised towards the cost of a Basket Swing and Rota Bounce and these are expected to be installed shortly.

The Bonfire Night proved an outstanding success with a net profit of £4,500 being made on the evening. A Black Tie event was also held in November which raised a further £1,000. The Afternoon Boot Fairs held during the year proved disappointing because of the weather but still raised a further £3,000.

On a separate note, new portable goalposts were purchased jointly with Junior Football and these funds were raised by way of a sponsored swim and rag collection.

My thanks goes to all those who have helped organise events and assist on the day of the event without whom our fund raising activities would be seriously curtailed.

The Balance of the Fund Raising Account currently stands at £13,250.”

Jenny ((Hollingsbee), suggested other grants may be available should equipment be purchased for disabled children or adults.

8) Election of Committee / Office Bearers

The Chairman asked the Committee members if it was their intention to stay on the Committee in their current roles. All confirmed such. The Chairman asked for any new nominations, which there were none. Hence, unless there were any objections the existing Committee would continue. All agreed.

9) Motions to be put to the AGM

i. Membership Fee 2014

The Chairman commented at the current rate, the number of members at the end of the year would be approximately 600, resulting in an income of £1,200 from membership. After some discussion it was agreed the membership fee should remain at £2 per person for 2014.

10) Any Other Business

- a) The picture painted by South Kent College showing the initial member, Colonel Metcalf, looking over the fields has been restored. Discussion followed as to where this should now be sited.
- b) The Chairman stated he has recently typed up all the names for the Board covering the previous years. This would be circulated so that the blanks can be added.
- c) It was remarked the Clubhouse needs some curtains and furnishings as it sounds very hollow. The new tenants are looking to get some as soon as possible. The Chairman added the Committee would be working with the new tenants to support each other for the benefit of the Community.
- d) Jenny suggested maybe a small amount of money could be bolstered by a temporary loan from the fundraising account where necessary. There are various projects that need addressing including fencing and the repair of the fascia/soffit boards for the Club. It was confirmed also the intention is to convert the old playground area to an additional car park.

11) Closing remarks

David closed the meeting by thanking all for attending.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.