



Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, 28 May 2011

Present: Brycchan Carey; Sarah Sanders; Nick Hardiman; Mike Brettle; John Mercer; Alison Blake

Apologises: Peter Condon

Actions:

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Deadline	Status
Apply for outside pitch at Gamlingay Show	AB	ASAP	
BC to give written receipt to AB for reimbursement of Speaker expenses (£20.00)	BC	ASAP	BC supplied AB with receipt. AB to reimburse BC on 15/07/11
BC to give 4 traffic surveys to NH for inclusion with analysis.	BC	ASAP	
NH to send BC excel file of Traffic Survey Analysis.	NH	ASAP	
Bus timetable with pick-up and drop-off points to be included within The Gazette.	NH	ASAP	
Energy monitors to be collected and returned to Cambourne	BC	ASAP	
BC to ask Sebastian Kindersley if he will be guest speaker at July's meeting	BC	Before July Meeting	
Leaflet drop around entire village	ALL	Before July Meeting	

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from Committee Meeting that was held on 12th February were agreed.

GVC Consultation

BC advised that the impact to the environment should have been considered, however, the initial consultation failed to do this.

BC commented that at the Parish Council meeting it was stated that one school site will be sold for housing.

MB remarked that at the last meeting he attended, the Parish Council were discussing that they would like to encourage children to walk to school and that the proposed closure of GVC is contrary to that initiative.

JM raised concerns regarding possible traffic congestion that may result from more housing.

JM went on to comment that by reducing the school facilities it could discourage families from settling in Gamlingay. This could have a detrimental impact on village constitution as if there is no younger generation then who is going to carry forward green issues in the future?

BC agreed that the diversity of the community needed wider consideration.

SS mentioned that the response to the GVC proposal had raised the profile of GEAG as had resulted in a few enquiries from prospective members.

Treasury

AB informed the Committee that the balance, including proceeds from May's raffle, was £110.98. She advised that the healthy balance was mainly as a result of a grant of £100 received from the Parish Council.

On average, £14 is collected from the Raffle. Taking into consideration the Hall Hire fees of £10.92, GEAG is operating slightly above breakeven.

Transport

NH updated Committee members on the Transport Working Group. Although NH had not had time to indulge the preliminary consultation regarding the full range of bus services to Cambridge there will be follow up consultations that he will attend.

NH advised that he had completed data entry of the Transport Survey.

JM enquired whether the introduction of the 180 and 190 bus services dissolved some of the issues.

NH stated that the 180 and 190 services address commuter needs as commuters have two options either way to and from Sandy Station. Although the bus stop marking are not clear.

JM commented that the 180 and 190 services are only partially addressing the issues highlighted by the Traffic Survey. Desirable destinations for the older people of the village were highlighted as being Sandy, St Neots and Cambridge.

BC observed that there appears to be issues concerning the implementation and publication of the new bus services. He suggested inclusion of the bus timetable along with pick-up and drop-off points within the next edition of The Gazette.

Carbon

BC advised that the position of Carbon Tsar was still vacant and asked the Committee whether the position should be disbanded.

JM commented that Energy Companies now give away monitors but perhaps the Energy Monitors could be put in the Library.

BC thought this was a good idea but commented that running through the accompanying questionnaire was a key task.

It was agreed that the energy monitors should be returned to SCDC. The role of Carbon Tsar to be re-packaged as a "Green Living Monitor" whose role would be to encourage people to live as "green" as possible, i.e. insulate lofts, compost, etc.

Eco Hub

JM updated the Committee on the Eco Hub developments. The developer, D Jacks, has gone bankrupt. Despite D Jacks being paid for materials used, the Suppliers of those materials had not been paid resulting in them wanting to reclaim their materials. To prevent this happening security has been put in place but this is costing £1.2k per month. A new Developer has now been assigned but it is now unlikely that the Eco Hub will be finished before January 2012.

Membership

BC asked the Committee if they would help distribute leaflets around the village in an aid to promote awareness. **BC** commented that initially only a selected area was targeted but this time he would like the entire village covered.

BC also asked for the group to give him email addresses of anyone they feel would be interested in GEAG so that they can be included on the email distribution list.

AB suggested inviting representatives from the Gardening Club and the WI to present on topics concerned with sustainable living. **AB** felt that people who are interested in the smaller greener issues are more likely to be interested in the wider environmental issues that GEAG represents.

NH suggested asking Sebastian Kindersley to be a guest speaker as thought that an opportunity to participate in a debate with a local MP may encourage attendance.

Village Issues

The best course of action for current village issues is detailed below:

Lupin Field – Wait until a planning application is lodged then oppose.

Lake – This is privately owned and is being left to disintegrate. It has been recognised by the Wildlife Trust as a conservation site. Attempts to contact the Landowner have been futile so far, however discreet investigations are ongoing. GEAG's long term goal is to acquire the site and manage as a Nature Reserve.

Turbine – GEAG to formally respond to consultation.

Forthcoming Events

18th June - Bike Ride

26th June - Eco Home visit

2nd July - Annual BBQ