



THE LEINTWARDINE CENTRE

The High Street, Leintwardine, SY7 0LB



MINUTES

Date and Time: WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017 at 19.30

Venue: Reading Room, Leintwardine Centre

Present:

Chair: Harvey Vallis (HV)

Members: Elisabeth Egelund (EE), Stephen Nockolds (SN), Richard Sudworth (RS), Malcolm Turner (MT),

Treasurer: Rob Cock (RC)

Secretary: Terry Clough (TC)

Observer: Paul Kennedy

Absent: Naomi Vera-Sanso.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Roger Blake and Karen Foote

2. Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 1 January 2017

The minutes of the meeting of 1 January were proposed for approval by SN, seconded by MT. The approved minutes will be published on the website together with the Treasurer's report. A copy of the minutes will be sent to the LGPC.

3. Matters arising

- Cleaning of toilets.

HV spoke informally to Mrs. Galliers. The matter has now been resolved

- Website

TC reported that the website is now functioning normally. The online booking option has been removed.

4. Finance

- General review

Last month saw a net influx of funds, thanks to Lazy Lunches (£590) and donations (£600). My Dearest Girls netted £433. Spending was in line with the budget. Cash at bank is now approximately £33,000.

- Telephone and broadband

The internet provider for the new high speed connection in the main hall is Zen. BT continues to provide the normal-speed connection in the Reading Room. Since the phone contract with BT for the main Hall was terminated early, a penalty of £179 had to be paid. This was offset by the donations and consequently the LCC is not out of pocket.

5. Accident and incident report

No information. The metal bar over the main doors to the Main Hall fell off but is now firmly in place.

[Action: RS to check if a formal accident report was entered into the log. If so, RC to report the incident to the insurers]

6. Reports from sub-Committees

a) Maintenance and Equipment

- Exterior floodlighting

A reply is awaited from Richard Parker-Morgan (electrician)

- Blinds for Main Hall Windows

EE has contacted Hillary's Blinds and ordered a catalogue

- PAT testing

Postponed in the absence of RB

The Reading Room kitchen door is sticking. This may be due to damp, however and consequently, no action is envisaged for the time being.

b) Catering

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c) Events

- Quiz Night

All the arrangements are in place

- The Great Get-Together – 17 & 18 June

This event will take place at the same time as Open Gardens. **[Action: TC to email the LGPC to see what is being planned and whether a joint event could be staged]**

- The LYG "village event" tentatively scheduled for 13 May has been cancelled

d) Entertainments

- As The Crow Flies (April)

Preparations are in hand. Tickets will be on sale at the April First Saturday

7. Infants' School building

- Progress report

The work schedule has now been received. The surveyors have been asked to submit a revised figure for the access ramp, which is an additional item. It was suggested that any spoil from the works could be spread over the land behind the Main Hall, thus obviating the need for removal from the site and reducing the cost. The funders will need to be consulted, and may make disabled access a prerequisite, depending on the use to which the building is put. It is suggested that at least three contractors be contacted, preferably local firms. RC is awaiting a reply from David Tristram, the grants advisor at Herefordshire Council. The Committee endorsed the approach adopted by the steering group, observing that as this was a public building, the relevant rules would need to be complied with. This will also be a concern for potential grant providers.

In response to a question as to what would happen if the project turned out to be more expensive than planned, RC and HV replied that the risk was small, the biggest item being the replacement of the floor. In the event of a possible overrun, work would be suspended and the Committee would be called upon to decide a course of action. In any case, the contract will be insured and there will be no personal liability, provided the Committee can demonstrate it has acted reasonably.

8. Use of the Reading Room (possible)

A representative of McCartney's, the estate agents, has agreed to look at the building informally to consider possible uses and determine its rentable value.

TC and MT raised the question of the possible sale of the building. HV and RC explained that it was held in trust for the village and that while a sale would be theoretically possible, the procedure would be long, complex and expensive and any "beneficiary" of the building (i.e. any person living in Leintwardine) could object that the trust was being breached. The financial situation was not sufficiently serious to warrant consideration of this option. Furthermore, one of the conditions of the grant funding for the building's refurbishment was that it should continue to be used for 20 years after completion of the work.

9. Recruitment campaign

- Advertising of vacancies

A new treasurer and chairman will need to be found before the AGM at the beginning of May. It was agreed that EE would have a table at the April First Saturday, with posters and material explaining what the committee does. RC will prepare posters.

- New secretary

Carol Surman, who has attended Committee meetings as an observer, has agreed to take over as Secretary when TC steps down at the end of July. She has considerable experience of the work, both as secretary and as chair of similar bodies.

10. Points from the Chairman

- Sale of David Donne paintings – April First Saturday

Of the approximately 80 paintings given to the LCC, only the framed landscapes are saleable. The Committee agreed to dispose of the numerous anonymous portraits as they are unlikely to find buyers.

- Arts Alive funding request

Following a recommendation by the Officers, the Committee agreed to make a donation of £100 to Arts Alive in recognition of their excellent service.

- New rental agreement

HV will send the standard agreement purchased from ACRE to TC for preparation for the new tenant of Room 8.

11. Other business

- Rural isolation and loneliness

It was agreed that the Committee as such would not become involved in this initiative, not least as the care in Leintwardine was generally good.

12. Date of next meeting: 3 May 2017. In conjunction with AGM.

The meeting ended at 20.45

Signed:

H. Vallis, Chairman