

Minutes for EGM Thursday 22nd October 2015 Trecastle Community Centre

PRESENT: Dave Howells, Julia Blazer, Sharon Millar, Sian Miller, David Ross, Christopher Spry, Punch Maugham, Rick Coldicott , Nathan Morley, Peter Barrow, Les Williams, Helena Barnard and Kiefflin Barnard.

APOLOGIES: Liz Bickerton

Dave started by referring to the changes to the constitution and reasons why this has been deemed necessary. The constitution needs to be tightened up because we as a group will be trying to access funding for future projects etc. Sian Miller also added that the new improved constitution will protect us while making us accountable to the community.

Rick Coldicott proposed the constitution from the floor and Sian Miller seconded it. The vote by the group was unanimous

Punch Maugham added that there are a few bits to 'tidy up' but nothing that changes the sentiment or meaning.

Achievements

Punch showed the Power Point presentation of achievements by the group so far. Details of these can be found on our Wordpress website.

Dave went through a number of our projects already achieved such as the leaflets, beer mats, Dark Sky event and reopening of Sennybridge conveniences. He then referred to ongoing plans such as replacing plaques at The Usk Reservoir and adapting the conveniences in Sennybridge to make a visitor centre while retaining the toilet facility.

Dave then asked for questions from the floor. Peter Barrow from Crai asked where the initial funding for the group's activities had come from and it was explained that it was from European funding through National Parks.

Julia Blazer mentioned that there are a number of funding pots that we need to access.

Action Plan

It was explained that the reason our AP is so broad is because we need to keep our options open in terms of what kind of funding pots will be available. It was decided by the group that we ought to prioritise projects and this will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Phase 2 Of Sennybridge Conveniences-

A working group to develop these plans was agreed upon:

Rick Coldicott

David Ross

Kay Evans

Julia Blazer

Sharon Millar

Sian Miller emphasised how this is a very different group to the Management team who run the toilets at the moment.

Kiefflin Barnard from Heol Senni expressed concern that there may be a problem with vandalism of the toilets due to the fact that there are few facilities for young people these days. The group will look at provision for young people in the area and possible youth projects.

Helena Barnard suggested that young people doing Duke Of Edinburgh Award could be enlisted to help with volunteering for community projects as part of the qualification.

Maybe a youth forum would be useful in order to spread the word.

Improvement of communication is a vital part of our Action Plan.

Julia Blazer suggested that a future project could be Festival Of The Yew. She already has some ideas for this and will work towards holding it on the first May Bank Holiday weekend 2016. Julia wonders whether the church would be happy to come on board. A small working party was agreed:

Julia Blazer

Sian Miller

Dave Howells

We all agree the Action Plan but by the next meeting, everyone should take time to read it through and write comments.

Next Meeting – Thursday 12th Nov 6.30pm The Shoemakers – Sharon to confirm with Gwyneth.

Sub committee for The Usk Reservoir project will meet the week beginning 2nd November to discuss developments

AOB

Christopher Spry Vice Chairman is going on a fabulously long trip so Sian Miller has agreed to take over his duties while he is away.