

Minutes of the Fordingbridge & District Community Association Annual General Meeting held on Monday 23rd May 2022 at the Avonway Community Centre @ 7pm

Papers previously circulated: agenda, minutes of the 2021 AGM, chairman's report, treasurer's report, election candidates' statements

Present: Janet Brown (chair), Iain Kidson (treasurer), Derek Brooks (trustee), David Sanders (trustee), Karen Williets (trustee), Emma Blake (trustee), Carole Gannon (trustee), Sara Winteridge (centre manager), Claire Godson (scribe), Lorraine Thompson (Stepping Stones Pre School), Helen Tague, Chris Calder, Maureen Burt, Colin Burt, Eleanor Morgan, Wendy Cracknell, Penny Kidson, Mike Jackson (town councillor).

Apologies: Ade Ings (trustee), Julia Harley, Annie Mitchel, Ian Newman, Annie Wilson, Nicky Jenkins, Sophie Burghart, Mike Burghart, Paul Harding.

1. Minutes of previous meeting & matters arising

1.1 Minutes of the last AGM were tabled and no corrections were requested. Janet Brown signed the minutes as being approved.

1.2 A letter from Sophie Burghart, the dance teacher, was read; she thanked the retiring trustees for their support.

1.3 The Pat Britain bequest to Avonway was mentioned; further details can be found in the Avonway Journal and the Fordingbridge and Ringwood News.

2. Chairman's report – Janet Brown read her report which had been previously circulated, emphasising that following a request to members of the Minibus Committee for proposals for spending funds on transport for local residents, nothing had been forthcoming.

4. Treasurer's report –

4.1 The annual report and accounts were approved by the trustees, submitted to the Charity Commission and audited by the independent examiner. They have been available to view on the website for 2 weeks.

4.2 Proposed planning objections - the town council upheld objections, including those submitted by Iain Kidson on behalf of Avonway, to the building of a two-storey residence in the plot next to the Annex on Shaftesbury Street. Issues highlighted would have been security for the nursery, lighting, fencing boundaries, ecological and residential perspectives.

4.3 The Gate - Chris Calder again raised the issue from the last AGM of The Gate accounts. The Gate was closed in 2020 due to Covid and there was over £7000 raised in the account. She requested that the money should be used to fund a project "preferably for the older generation that were such loyal patrons to The Gate". DB responded by saying that the new trustees would welcome such discussion when the new trustees had familiarised themselves with their roles and the standing financial instrument.

4.4 Maureen Burt expressed similar concerns regarding funding for the potential reopening of the day centre / catering for local residents. DB ensured MB that the new trustees would welcome any future discussions, but emphasised that no promises could be made at present.

4.5 Minibus - Maureen Burt asked for clarification on the minibus accounts regarding depreciation and hypothesized money. ;Iain Kidson responded

5. Elections

5.1 Introductions were made of those standing for Election. Derek Brooks affirmed that the new committee will be looking at where Avonway is going, management structures and community involvement.

5.2 Roles were voted in (proposed and seconded) as follows:

chair - Derek Brooks - by Lorraine Thompson & Penny Kidson;

treasurer - Karen Williets - by Iain Kidson & Wendy Cracknell;

secretary - Claire Godson - by Derek Brooks and Dave Sanders.

5.3 Standing for re-election - Ade Ings, Carole Gannon, David Sanders, Karen Williets –proposed by Colin Burt, seconded by Penny Kidson.

5.4 New trustees: Julia Harley and Paul Harding –proposed by Karen Williets, seconded by Derek Brooks,

5.5 Standing down - Janet Brown, Iain Kidson and Emma Blake.

6. Continuation of the appointment of independent examiner Artema - proposed by Iain Kidson, seconded by Dave Sanders.

7. Any Other Business -thanks were given to trustees past and present, the Rotary Club, Sara Winteridge, Iain Kidson and Janet Brown.