

AMBLESIDE CIVIC TRUST

Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18th April 2017 at Ambleside Library

Present: Steve Dickinson (SD - Chair), Jane Beenstock (JB), Mike Green (MG), Luke Steer (LS).

Apologies: Rose Lord (RL).

1. Minutes of the last meeting:

The draft minutes were approved as a true record after two corrections: editing question deleted at end of 4.1 and last sentence at end of 4.2 changed to: "MG would exercise the vote on ACT's behalf".

2. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting :

2.1. AGM

JM has booked the Kelsick Centre for the evening of Friday 2 June.

3. Treasurer's Report

3.1. Subscriptions & balances

As of 18 April we have a balance of £1046 in Barclays, £3019 with Skipton BS and £20 in cash.

3.2. Signatories for the Barclays account

The changes have still not all been effected and Barclays have admitted that their system for making changes has serious problems

3.3. Third Party Insurance

An invitation to renew for £140 has been received (last year £154 and there are small improvements in the cover). The committee asked the treasurer to renew.

Action: MG to make payment

4. Committee changes

SD reported that JM has resigned as secretary because of ongoing health issues and that TB is standing down for the time being to stand in the upcoming elections for SDLC. The committee thanked both for their major efforts on behalf of ACT and Ambleside over many years.

The committee agreed that we should make efforts to recruit new committee members with project management, fund raising experience and publicity experience and noted that we also need a new membership secretary.

5. Open Meeting on 2nd June

Cockermouth CT are not able to provide a speaker. The Armitt will be approached to see if a speaker is available to talk about the upcoming exhibition of Brunskill photographs.

Action: SD to contact Deborah Walsh

6. Environmental Survey

SD has carried out a trial survey in Church Street and JB is studying how to analyse the output.

Training dates are agreed as Saturday 10 June (am) and Thursday 22 June (evening). An agenda for the meetings exists and a venue will now be sought. JB will advertise the survey and the training dates in local papers and magazines.

SD will advise partner organisations about the survey before it is undertaken.

Action: JB and SD

7. Spring Newsletter

It was agreed to concentrate on a single A4 sheet to be widely circulated emphasising the environmental survey and other projects, and to stress the need for more committee members. If material already exists that could be made into an A5 newsletter this could be produced in addition.

Action: SD and MG

8. Planning Applications

SD has produced a spreadsheet that can be extended as applications appear on the LDNPA website. This will next be loaded to Google MyDrive with all committee members having editing rights.

Action: SD

The committee noted that the Betting Shop application has been approved by the LDNPA Planning Committee with conditions regarding the frontage and that a further application will be needed for shopfront signs.

9. Strategic statement

The final version will be brought to a future meeting for approval.

Action: SD

10. 'Blue' plaques

The map of current plaques (with photos) is now on our website.

JB has now obtained prices and her proposal to request suggestions for further plaques was agreed, including that if good ideas are forthcoming ACT will fund one and seek sponsorship for others. It was also agreed that it would be inappropriate to accept sponsorship from businesses that did not comply with ACTs strategic statement on planning.

Action: JB to advertise scheme

11. Cobbles/dog bins/ Thirlmere Aqueduct gates/benches

11.1. Cobbles

MG and SD have taken photographs of poorly repaired sections of cobbles in Sweden Bridge Lane

Action: SD to send item and photograph to Westmorland Gazette

11.2. Dog bins

SD has received a further complaint about abandoned bags but has heard nothing in reply to his letter to SDLC.

11.3. Aqueduct gates

No report.

11.4. Benches

A resident sent an email saying that benches in Greenbank needed to be included and this has been done. The three benches outside the Post Office have been treated by the LPC handyman and have been reclassified as 'good condition'.

12. Stockghyll and Rothay Parks

12.1. Stockghyll Park

SDLC have recently appointed a 'green space' officer. SD will make contact to discuss our interest in improving the state of the park.

The committee agreed to prepare a short document summarising some of the issues, to include historical points, tree management and archaeological interests.

Action: SD, MG, LS

12.2. Rothay Park

The committee noted that the playground is almost complete. LS has commented to SLDC and LDNPA that the groundwork carried out in preparation for the playground has been detrimental to the trees. SD will write formally to Richard Leafe, CEO of LDNPA, asking for a tree preservation order to be placed on the trees.

Action: SD

13. Any Other Business

There was none.

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting

7:15pm on Tuesday 16 May 2017 at Ambleside Library.