

EAST GRINSTEAD WAR MEMORIAL LTD

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

No. 02/2016

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7PM

AT CHEQUER MEAD, EAST GRINSTEAD

1 Present

C.Nunn	P.Thurlow	T.Hayman	M.Phillips
M.Funnell	D.Yeoman	A.Fisher	G.Stagg
N.Davis	C.Russell	L.Graysmark	D.Sweatman

2 Apologies for Absence

S.Baker

3 Minutes of previous CoM Meeting

- The Draft Minutes of the Meeting on 13th January 2016 were agreed. CN

4 Matters arising from previous CoM Meeting

- Any matters arising would be covered by the Agenda

5 Membership

- Membership was static at 316.
- CN had explored the Wild Apricot software, but for it to work properly it needed a unique email CN address for every member. 25% of our members either shared an email address or didn't have one and for this reason this solution was sub-optimal. CN would explore other solutions, particularly those that would allow us to collect membership fees.
- It was proposed to do another mailshot to members at the end of March advising of new news CN items and a heads-up on the date of the AGM. We would take the opportunity to ask members if they had any updated details

6 East Court Steering Meeting

- There had been a useful walkabout on 18th Jan with Greg Sweeney, the new MSDC recruit CN/TH/ who will apparently be responsible for East Court. We have scheduled a review with him for PT March 14th, prior to the Steering Committee walkabout on 21st March. The objective is to keep the pressure on MSDC to gear up for the new Plan.
- We have just received a revised draft of the Management Plan following on from the meeting CN/TH/ with DT in early Jan. This needs assessment. PT
- The previous Draft does contain a number of factual errors, which TH is collating TH
- We don't have confirmation yet that MSDC will pay for any remedial work on the SANGS path CN because of "cutting corners" in the original installation.
- Work on paths, boardwalks and steps was progressing very well and had received much CN positive feedback. Completion is due end of Feb and it was agreed that an "opening ceremony" would be good PR.
- We had made suggestions to MSDC about the location of extra dog bins. The problem with dog CN poo at East Court had featured on EG Online

7 Finances

- We now have on-line access to our accounts but are awaiting PIN number to enable CN to ND countersign.
- It was agreed by Council that Graeme Stagg should replace Allan Tyler as the third signatory ND for our account

- ND presented a spreadsheet showing 2014 actual P&L vs 2015 Estimate vs 2016 suggested ND budget. We had made losses of £13k in 2014 (mainly due to high maintenance costs on the Lodge) and £8k in 2015 (mainly due to the extraordinary costs of managing the huge influx of new members. The 2016 budget suggested a £5k provision for Lodge Costs and reducing Grants and Donations to £5k. This should leave us with a small positive outcome at the end of the year. This scenario was agreed by Council who thanked ND for the transparency of the information

8 Property

- EGTSC (Shooting): MP was progressing in setting up a formal agreement for them to sub-let MP
 - The EGTFC (Football) MP was progressing in setting up a formal agreement for them to sub-let CN/MP
 - We must be sure to highlight this combined £10k indirect subsidy to both Football and CN Shooting in our Annual Report
 - East Court Lodge: SB Lettings had requested an increase in fees from 7.5% to 12.5%. Whilst it was felt that this was a steep increase, it was not so much in monetary terms and SBL's in-depth knowledge of the property was important whilst we considered how to move forward. It was agreed that we should accept these new terms. A general consensus was emerging that we should retain some of our investments in "bricks and mortar". CN/SB
 - We still need to get some estimates on improvements to the Lodge to enable us to decide how to move forward SB/CN
 - There was concern about a Willow Tree behind The Lodge. TH was tasked to come up with a solution TH
 - Residents had been written to about boundary encroachments behind ██████ Gleave Close. No response had been received from ██████ had claimed they didn't need to stop. Issuing a Personal License may be a way forward for ██████ CN/MP
 - It was suggested that we write to all 200 or so of our neighbours about boundaries (and other issues) but these would need to be on an individual basis and would present a mammoth task. CN/MP
- ██████ Fulmar Drive had been encouraged to remove an incinerator from our land and had complied.

9 Grants and Donations

- Since the last meeting "2015" grants had been paid to SSAFA (£4,250) and RBL Poppy Appeal (£150). Apparently though, EG RBL womens branch was on the brink of closing and donations would no longer be ring-fenced for the people of EG. It was therefore agreed not to pay the £200 grant allocated in 2015.
- In light of the new budgeted amount for Grants and Donations agreed in the 2016 budget (see CR/LG above), it was agreed that we needed to reconsider our approach.
- SSAFA had provided a breakdown of their P&L from their Xmas concert which had generated a £6.7k profit, including our £4.25k donation. GS was of the opinion that we shouldn't cut their grant to zero, but discussion of this was postponed for now.

10 The Lake project

- DY had explored the opportunity to get grants for the Lake Restoration Project and felt that grants in the order of £50k should be entirely achievable with us putting forward 10%. This leveraging in of grant money would enhance our capability to good work enormously and the news was enthusiastically received by Council. DY/MF
- However, we are still unsure about what the Lake Project "is" and, in particular, about the GCN constraints. Agreed to meet Barry Kemp to see what is (and what isn't) possible. DY/MF

11 Insurances

- GS presented a summary of our insurances which seemed in order GS

12 Website/Publicity

- 4 new items had been added to the Latest News section of our website since the last meeting

13 Archives

- AF has received 18 boxes from Dennis Jefferies which he was ploughing his way through AF

14 Any other business

- A contract had been signed with Lorraine Young (£2k + VAT) to review our M&A's. The cost CN would include explaining to members what the changes entailed and managing a vote. Hopefully this could be incorporated with the AGM in June.
- A further submission had been made about the EG Neighbourhood Plan regarding the need for TH/MF countryside links. MF & TH were making other representations.
- CN would make Google Drive access available to all Council Members to view past papers etc CN
- TH suggested we raise our profile by making presentations etc, but there were no volunteers forthcoming to do this.

15 Dates of Subsequent meetings

- Wednesday 23rd March 7pm
- Wednesday 11th May 7pm
- AGM - Wednesday June 22nd 7pm (see AOB above)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dennis Jefferies', with a horizontal line underneath it.