

ULGHAM VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting

Minutes

Thursday 11th January 2018

Present: Helen Dunn (HD), John Carpenter (JC), Keith Lowes (KL), George Brown (GB), Kathleen Keay (KK), Jim Scott (JS), Barbara Chandler (BC), Lesley Newman (LN), Pamela Lamb (PL), Tony Warlow (TW), Colin Tait (CT), Maureen Shotton (MS), Pauline Martin (PM)

Note: PC is for Parish Council

1. **Apologies**

Helen Shaw (HS)

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Item 10: LN said the money in the bank should be £244.99 not £644.99

Item 12: PM said the date was 16th not 19th.

The minutes were agreed and signed.

3. **Matters arising from the minutes**

Item 3: HD reported that the Public Liability disclaimer notice is now posted on the WI Hall notice board.

4. **Officers' reports**

Chair

HD apologised for omitting St. John's Church as a separate item from the Agenda, will be listed in future.

Treasurer

TW reported that the fireworks raised £2026, the PC donated £200 and Piccolo Coffee donated £25 for permission to sell coffee from a van. A vintage scarf donated by Joan Greaves for the Feast's bric-a-brac stall raised £30 at auction and the auctioneers waived their commission. £16 spent on container keys. £100 to Ulgham Film Club. £750 on fireworks; refreshments £24.49; post-fireworks refreshments £18.50. Laptop memory upgrade £63.59. Flower beds fertiliser £6.41. Total at bank £2714.36.

5. **Rendezvous**

HD said the number of attendees has increased due to new residents. Table-tennis is very popular. Funds have increased to £117.38.

6. **Wind Turbines**

JS reported that the fund had been running since 1st January. Grant applications are requested. The first panel/committee meeting will be at the end of March and JS is on the panel. 20 to 30 applications already submitted. £15k every year for first 4 years reserved for apprenticeships. Limit £10k at present. 2 priority levels: 2-5kms and up to 8kms distance from windfarm. Ulgham divided between the two groups.

7. **Ulgham War Memorial**

GB has written a restoration report and requires comments before Monday. All required planning permissions have been obtained, but the War Memorials Trust rejected the application and appeal for funds. The PC clerk, Mrs K Mavin is applying for funds. The report will be delivered with the newsletter and has been posted on the website. £8175 required for the work. There are a number of other options to obtain the required funds. HD thanked GB for all the time and effort he has put in regarding this matter.

8. **Neighbourhood Watch**

BC read out the report provided by Veronica Duffield. HD said that VD had called to say that a resident's garage had been broken into and a number of items stolen on Monday 8th Jan.

9. **Ulgham Meadows**

JC said that all the cuts of the grass verge had been done. A tree overhanging the ford is causing an obstruction, which has been reported to the Highways Department.

10. **Playing Fields Management**

JS and LN had nothing further to report. JS noted that there was insufficient space from the boundary to cut the hedge, hence specialists are required. A grant may be sought to cover the cost.

11. **Ulgham Village Cricket Club**
CT said the season is closed. Grass looks good. Fixtures awaited. Now in the Northumberland & Tyneside Cricket League, which extends from Consett to Berwick. KL said the 40th Anniversary Dinner on 7th October in the Masonic Hall in Ashington was greatly enjoyed with several ex-members attending. AGM takes place at the end of January. No progress on the new garage, which requires £7.5k and will be left til the end of September. Training nets have been organised in Ashington. A junior section is being promoted through a national scheme with local schools.
12. **W.I.**
PL said the next meeting on 12th February with Morpeth Cheese Shop will be an open meeting to include non-members. The village group will be taking part in a WI catering competition organised by the owner of the Coach Inn at Lesbury at the end of February. The piano has been moved to Tritlington School and there was a photo in the WI hall of the children playing on it. PM said The Valentine's Dance will be on Saturday 17th February in the WI Hall, the details will be in the newsletter and on the website.
13. **Hanging Baskets**
HD said that Sheila Caisley has agreed to plant these up again this year.
14. **Ulgham Feast 2018**
HD said it will be on Saturday 7th July and it is hoped that the KEVI steel band will be booked.
15. **AGM**
HD said the turnout was small but the evening was pleasant.
16. **Fireworks Display**
TW had raised the financial aspects in his report. HD said the Fire Service had misplaced their copy of the risk assessment and asked for a replacement. All the soup went; more may be required next year. The display had many favourable comments and was greatly enjoyed. Piccolo Coffee was appreciated by many and it was agreed that BC would ask if they would attend next year too and if so, a price agreed for their standing.
17. **Village Website**
BC reported that a message was left on the website Contact Us page by a lady collecting used candle wax. A box for collection may be left in the WI Hall. GB had posted a page under the Parish Council tab for reporting progress on the War Memorial. BC had posted a link to it from the News page. The WI page had been updated with the annual schedule. Newsletters, Film Club and News items are updated when necessary.
18. **St. John's News**
PM said that an exhibition with children's activities is being organised for the weekend of the May Day Bank Holiday, 5-7 May featuring owls, the bird adopted by Ulgham village. Any owl related objects are requested to be lent to the church for the exhibition. A local falconer will bring owls for displaying and handling. An owl treasure hunt will be arranged for children, plus art and craft. UVCC offered the club flag and mascot which feature owls. A Chinese Banquet at the Mulan Restaurant was being held on Monday 22nd January as a fundraiser.
19. **AOB**
 - a. HD said that the Garden Sculpture Weekend will be 15/16th September. The theme is to be agreed, but the Football World Cup has been suggested and the traditional garden scarecrow.
 - b. The Christmas meal will be at the Forge on Friday 9th February. After a short discussion, it was agreed everyone will pay for their own meal, but the UVA will pay the cost of a drink for everyone.
 - c. BC had proposed an alternative agenda which reflected the different groups. This was accepted with the Wind Turbines coming under the Representatives heading rather the PC.
 - d. GB agreed that the War Memorial report will be emailed to the relevant members.
 - e. JS mentioned that a tree obscuring light at Lindisfarne, at the end of Ulgham Lane will be attended to on 21st Jan at 11am.
 - f. TW asked for approval to donate £100 to the Little Owls Stay & Play group towards the running costs, which was agreed.
 - g. BC requested an increase of £1 per month to cover increased costs of printing the newsletters, bringing the total to £216 per annum, which was also agreed.
20. **Date and time of next meeting**
Thursday 12th April 2018 7:30pm in W.I. Hall.