

GASKELL RECREATION GROUND MUCH WENLOCK

Registered Charity no. 1116940

Minutes of the
Annual General Meeting
held at
The Guildhall, Much Wenlock
7 pm on Thursday 15 December 2016

PRESENT:

Graham Edgcumbe Venning (Chairman), Trevor Childs, Don Davies, David Gibbon, Herbert Harper, Mary Hill, and David Turner

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sharon Clayton – Secretary and Treasurer
2 members of the public

The Chairman, David Gibbon, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their support during his chairmanship. He said that the charity had moved on over the last couple of years and although there had been some dramatic changes, some of which had not pleased everyone, the charity was moving towards the future very quickly having started from a benchmark of zero.

1) ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nominations were sought for the election of Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED by Herbert Harper and SECONDED by David Gibbon that Graham Edgcumbe Venning be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was unanimously AGREED that Graham Edgcumbe Venning be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

The newly elected Chairman thanked everyone for their vote of confidence and gave thanks to the outgoing Chairman for his hard work and commitment during his chairmanship.

2) ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Nominations were sought for the election of Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED by Herbert Harper and SECONDED by David Turner that David Gibbon be elected as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was unanimously AGREED that David Gibbon be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

3) ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Nominations were sought for the election of Secretary.

It was PROPOSED by Herbert Harper and SECONDED by Graham Edgcumbe Venning that Sharon Clayton be elected as Secretary.

It was unanimously AGREED that Sharon Clayton be elected as Secretary.

4) ELECTION OF TREASURER

Nominations were sought for the election of Treasurer.

It was PROPOSED by Herbert Harper and SECONDED by Mary Hill that Sharon Clayton be elected as Treasurer.

It was unanimously AGREED that Sharon Clayton be elected as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

5) APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following:

Robin Bennett
Yvonne Holyoak
Paul Laming
Milner Whiteman

These apologies were ACCEPTED.

ABSENT:

Chris Bowden
Dafydd Jenkins
Joffrey Watson
Mike Grace

6) MINUTES

- a) It was PROPOSED by David Gibbon and SECONDED by Herbert Harper that the minutes of a meeting held on 16 June 2016 be CONFIRMED.
It was AGREED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.
- b) The minutes of a Gaskell Recreation Ground Management Committee meeting held on 20 April 2016 were **NOTED.**
- c) The minutes of a Gaskell Recreation Ground Management Committee meeting held on 21 July 2016 were **NOTED.**

7) APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE(S)

Consideration was given to the appointment of members to the Gaskell Recreation Ground Management Committee.

It was PROPOSED by David Gibbon and SECONDED by David Turner that the committee membership remain the same for the time being.

It was AGREED that membership of the committee would be Bert Harper, Graham Edgcombe Venning and Paul Laming representing the town council and Chris Bowden, David Gibbon and Trevor Childs representing Wenlock Estates.

David Gibbon advised that he wished to give notice that he would be making proposals to amend the charity's Constitution at its next meeting so that it made provision for each Chairman to remain in post for 2 years with the addition of a third year as an option.

8) OFFICER REPORTS

- a) Members received a written report from the Secretary which outlined the actions taken by the Management Committee since the last meeting of the charity. The Committee had:
- Developed a drainage plan and exercise plan which had been approved by the town council.
 - Considered health and safety on the ground and carried out regular risk assessments.
 - Liaised with William Brookes School concerning right of passage between the school site and the Gaskell Recreation Ground.
 - Arranged for football pitch marking.
 - Held a meeting with the Bowling Club to discuss concerns raised.

Members were informed that:

- Chris Bowden had a meeting arranged to meet with the manager of the William Brookes School on 16 December 2016 to discuss access and egress between the school site and the Gaskell Recreation Ground.
- The meeting between the Management Committee and the Bowling Club had been very positive.
- The football pitch had been marked and the football team had been very cooperative.
- The order had been placed for works to the borehole.

It was **AGREED** that:

- i. **The Secretary's report be NOTED.**
 - ii. **The grounds maintenance contractor should be thanked for continuing to maintain the ground to such a high standard and level of care.**
 - iii. **The Chairman would make investigative enquiries to source other specialist companies who would provide advice and guidance to improve the condition of the ground.**
- b) Members received a financial report from the Treasurer. The balance brought forward at 1 April 2016 was £9,265.52. The balance in the bank at 30 November 2016 was £12,612.76. As at 12 May 2016 the balance in the bank was £15,315.52. This amount was made up as follows:

For this financial year (2016/2017) the Town Council had awarded the charity a grant of £6,000 as the charity was responsible for its own income and expenditure, with all income and expenditure accounted for independently. With the money presently held in the bank, and if there was no additional expenditure other than that projected, the charity should have sufficient funds to break even this financial year.

It was **AGREED** that the Treasurer's report be **NOTED**.

9) 2017/2018 BUDGET

Members were informed that the draft budget had been agreed by the Management Committee when it met on 8 November 2016 and it was now being recommended to the charity for approval.

Members were informed that the children's play equipment receives an annual RoSPA inspection and each year it reveals more remedial work. As the play equipment was aging and the soft pore surface was showing signs of wear a budget of £3,000 was felt prudent since it may be more economical to replace rather than to repair. The draft budget also included £3,000 for the cost of a disability carriage (buggy) to convey the less able bodied to areas such as the bowling green since vehicles are prohibited from driving on the ground unless for authorised access. The buggy could possibly be used for other tasks, such as litter picking and could prove useful at the annual Olympian games organised by the Wenlock Olympian Society. The town council may also find a use for it because it could be used on the road. Whilst the notion was in an embryonic stage it was felt prudent by the Management Committee to include a budget for such a vehicle to assist with disabled access as a contingency should the school not agree to provide access between the Gaskell Recreation Ground and the school car park.

David Turner did not take part in the discussion nor the vote concerning annual fees for the Bowling Club.

It was PROPOSED by David Gibbon and SECONDED by Graham Edgcumbe Venning that an overall budget of £19,950 be APPROVED and presented to the town council for financial support.

It was **AGREED** that:

- i. **An overall budget of £19,950 with an anticipated income of £9,700 leaving a shortfall of £10,250 be APPROVED.**
- ii. **The town council should be asked for grant aid towards the costs.**

10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 15 June 2017 and the Annual General Meeting would take place on Thursday 14 December 2017.

The meeting closed at 19:59.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....