

Tutbury Old School Community Association

Minutes of a meeting of Tutbury Old School Community Association held on Wednesday 19th November 2008 at Tutbury Old School, Cornmill Lane, Tutbury at 9.05 pm

Present

Please see attached list of those people who were present, which has been converted to pdf format (the original to be kept with the master copy of the minutes).

Apologies

Liz Staples	East Staffs Borough Council Member
Trevor Hathaway	East Staffs Borough Council Member
Malcolm Wardle	Tutbury Resident's Association

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 29th October 2008 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Report from Councillor Bob Fraser

Councillor Bob Fraser did not have anything further to report since the last TOSCA meeting as he has still not met with Peter Traves, to clarify exactly what is for sale. However, he is to meet with Eric Drinkwater, member of Staffordshire County Council (Councillor Fraser's opposite number in the ruling political party) and Graham Bott, from SCC Youth Service, whose asset management plan includes the sale of Tutbury Old School.

Councillor Fraser confirmed that Councillor Liz Staples has granted a sum of £334 for a survey of the building from her WASP funding (Ward Action Service Plan). TOSCA would like to record its thanks to Councillor Staples for this most welcome financial assistance.

Councillor Fraser also reported on behalf of Councillor Staples that an offer had been made for the car park across the road, by ESBC and that a response was awaited from SCC.

Application to Register TOSCA as a charity

Jane Taylor reported that the application to register as a charity had been accepted in principle as the aims of TOSCA are charitable in law. However, the governing document did not meet the legal requirements unless changes were made to the wording of the objects of TOSCA to meet the tests that have arisen from case law.

The trustees feel the new wording suggested by the Charity Commission accurately covers the aims and so it is recommended that a resolution is passed to agree the changes to the constitution; the governing document.

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Adoption of the Amended Constitution

Joanna Woodberry duly read out aloud the amended objects:-

To further or benefit the residents of Tutbury and the surrounding area, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power:

To establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain or manage or co-operate with any statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the charity in furtherance of the above objects.

Councillor Bob Fraser proposed a resolution to adopt the amended constitution, including the above objects, and this was seconded by Pat Harvey, Treasurer of TOSCA. The resolution was carried unanimously by a show of hands and the new constitution was signed by the officers and other members.

Report on Applications for Funding and the Business Plan

The outline bid for funding from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund had been refused.

Joanna Woodberry had met with a member of VAST (Voluntary Action Stoke) to discuss how to put together a business plan. VAST can offer support for this.

VAST suggested writing to the Chief Executive of SCC to make a formal request for a community asset transfer as detailed in the Quirk Report.

Joanna Woodberry also visited CASES, where Kay Hickinbottom supported her with a 'Fund Finder' search which suggested more places from which to apply for grants.

Mr Jamie MacDonald, Head of Strategic Property SCC has given a presentation about community asset transfers. This information came from CASES and was given to Councillor Fraser for further investigation.

There was some discussion about compiling a sound business plan. It was agreed that this is crucial. Dave Kennedy appealed for any expertise in this area from the meeting.

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Tutbury Christmas Festival

This will take place on Friday 28th November from 6 pm. A stall has been reserved for TOSCA. At the least there will be a petition to sign. Jane Taylor asked if it might be possible to borrow the wheel of fortune from Rolleston Scouts as a fundraising activity. Jane Taylor will be manning the stall.

Local Fundraising

It was agreed that there must be some local fundraising in January/February 2009.

In addition, the meeting was reminded of the Dove side project in Hatton, where local residents joined together to raise money to buy land by the River Dove for the community. The Co-op donated to the project.

Nestle also give donations to the local community.

It was agreed it would be very useful to speak to someone who had been involved in the Dove side project but contact details are required.

Glenys Shenton felt it might be worthwhile approaching Toyota.

There was general agreement that there ought to be some sort of event at a weekend at Tutbury Old School, such as cheese and wine with a raffle, to raise some money.

Correspondence

Letter from Charity Commission regarding amending the constitution
Letter from the Big Lottery Fund – Reaching Communities

Any Other Business

Arthur Tipper re-stated how annoying it is that the proceeds from a sale of the building would not come back to Tutbury but be used in other places, leaving nothing for the young people of Tutbury.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 8th January 2009 to be held at Tutbury Institute, High Street, Tutbury at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.