

Tutbury Old School Community Association

Minutes of a meeting of Tutbury Old School Community Association held on Wednesday 26th August 2009 at Tutbury Old School, Cornmill Lane, Tutbury at 7.30pm.

Present

Joanna Woodberry, Jane Taylor, Councillor Bob Fraser, Bill Crossley, Councillor Liz Staples, Caroline Stringer, Councillor Trevor Hathaway, Sue Adams, Pat Harvey, Malcolm Wardle and Arthur Tipper.

Apologies

Duncan Austin, Dave Kennedy, Sally Walkley and Francis Crossley.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 6th July 2009 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

The petition organised by Caroline Stringer, in support of Tutbury Pre-school, has not yet been presented. Councillor Fraser suggested it was not necessary to present the petition at the moment, as things seem to be going well and we should hold on to it for now.

The books are still at Jane Taylor's house. Bill Crossley asked for some to sell at the Tutbury Show to be held at Tutbury Institute on Saturday 29th August (Jane's apologies for completely forgetting).

Caroline reported that the 5 aside football event held on Saturday 25th July has been very successful with a good turnout and is intended to be repeated on an annual basis.

Joanna has spoken to the lady who represents to Heritage Lottery Fund for the region. Assistance may be provided for large maintenance projects and if a pre-application were submitted, she could attend a meeting of TOSCA. Caroline reported that the poor state of the internal walls had been mentioned in the Ofsted report. Joanna reported that the Heritage Lottery grants of over £50,000 were harder to obtain due to more competition but that lower grants are easier to secure.

In spite of the County Council trying to claim the land at Richard Wakefield Primary School, Arthur Tipper reported that the land on which the school stands has now been registered by the School Charity. There is a meeting scheduled with the solicitor in September.

Report from Councillor Bob Fraser

Councillor Fraser made the meeting aware of the letter from Graham Bott which stated that work on implementing the Youth Service asset management plan had been suspended for the remainder of the current financial year.

As reported at the last meeting, all property has been brought together to be reviewed by the council as a whole and headed by Jamie MacDonald. Jamie met with Councillor Fraser and Joanna at Tutbury Old School while pre-school was in session on Thursday 9th July. He was impressed by the building, especially the ceilings, and is keen to help TOSCA move ahead. He has since studied the business case and a meeting has been arranged for Thursday 10th September at 1 pm at Tutbury Old School, with a view to making a case to a council meeting in October.

Councillor Trevor Hathaway queried whether discussions would include the car park. It was agreed that the subject of the car park be raised at the meeting of 10th September even though it was not considered to be within the remit of TOSCA. Councillor Hathaway had brought the ESBC Chief Executive to the car park as part of the case being made to secure the car park for Tutbury, this also being fully supported by Councillor Liz Staples.

Chair's Report

Joanna reported the meeting with Jamie MacDonald on Thursday 9th September, which involved Councillor Fraser (as previously mentioned), Caroline Stringer and Jill Page. Jamie offered the opinion that a Community Asset Transfer would be possible and took a copy of the business plan to study. Such a transfer would probably be initially on a 3 year lease. He did say that he would not have recommended sale of a building with a long term lease, as held by the scout group.

Joanna read out the letter from Graham Bott.

Joanna urged as many members of TOSCA as possible to attend the meeting to be held on Thursday 10th September. TOSCA still needs to keep a high profile as there is still plenty of work to be done but there is now time to fully discuss the Community Asset Transfer to work out the best terms.

Correspondence

Letter from Graham Bott
CASES notes issue 39

Any Other Business

The boiler at Tutbury Old School has been condemned and therefore has to be replaced by Staffs County Council.

Date of next meeting

The first Annual General Meeting of TOSCA will be held on Thursday 8th October 2009 at Tutbury Old School at 8 pm (subject to permission of Tutbury Youth Club).

This will be followed by a general meeting of TOSCA.

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm.