

GODMANCHESTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH JULY 2010

APOLOGIES

Richard Pease, Roy and Christine White, Nina Collier, Brenda Hennessy, Bonnie Hooker

PRESENT

Kim Davies, Alan Suter, Huw Gaskill, Richard Harrison, Shirley Brown, Lynda Heseltine, Stephen Spencer (chair) Alan Hooker (minutes)

GALAWEEK

Stephen offered his thanks to everyone involved in achieving this most successful Gala Week to date. Additional events had meant our resources had been stretched to the limit exposing the need for more people on the ground. **GALA PRINCESS COMPETITION:** - The promotion through the primary schools had made a great difference to the volume of interest for this event over previous years with 25 young ladies taking part and not one mention of 'World Peace'. Shirley was thanked for her involvement in pushing this through the various school outlets as she had done with the Fishing Match. We have set up a scrapbook album on the website to record this and future contests for posterity. **THE HISTORIC WALK:** - this had had to be extended to 2 days due to the interest. Alan H reported there had been confusion over the food budget with the Black Bull staff quoting a figure which was the basis of the £ 5 charge for the event. The bill came in at nearly double this which led to some negotiation with the proprietor who allowed a £ 50 discount to enable us to avoid a loss, a £ 5 profit was achieved. For future events of this nature it was agreed a written quotation should be requested at the outset and the ticket price be raised to £ 10. **THE CHILDRENS FISHING MATCH:** - This had been a great success with 28 children and their families taking part. Stephen wanted to thank Gordon Allgood for encouraging the COMMASS to undertake this new event and putting the blocks in place for it although he had not been able to participate himself due to last minute work commitments. Stan at Stanjay's needed to be thanked also for putting himself out for the cause. The Q E School had had to be hired to ensure a toilet facility. An additional trophy had been created as well as 30 medals for those actually catching a fish. The awards were -overall winner, best weight boys, best weight girls (not including the overall winner) the additional award had been added to ensure the overall winner didn't affect there being a winner from both sexes. A new scrapbook section on the website had been formed which included photos of the days participants and would hopefully generate interest for next year's event if it is decided to repeat it. Car booter's are to look out for cheap keep nets and children's rods to enable those without equipment to join in and the use of buckets for holding catches to be ceased. Thanks were in order for Alan S and the Comrades Club for hosting the prize giving and afternoon Tea Party the cost of which they had born themselves. **BOWLS:** - Stephen thanked Jack Tyler for successfully organizing this again in competition with England v whoever knocked us out! Jack had requested the entrance fee be raised from £1 to £2 a head as he had

struggled to cover the cost of worthwhile prizes and refreshments from the income, as it was self funding this was felt reasonable. **Stephen** agreed to chase Jack for some figures to enter into the accounts. **PETANQUE:-** Brenda Hennessy and Ivan were thanked for their efforts on making this yet another very successful evening. Its efficient running meant that by the time AH arrived it had finished!! the evening generated a profit of £ 40 and many happy people. **GALA DAY** Stephen and Shirley told of the favourable comments they had received. A well deserved vote of thanks was offered to our dynamic trio – Huw Gaskill, Richard Harrison and Barry Mc Gregor for their sterling efforts not only as Batman Superman and Spiderman, the children’s arena entertainers but also for their work in the Carnival procession on such a hot day. Alan H suggested we make more of this talent and provide them with an equipment budget and let them make more of their activities to include larger numbers of children, this was agreed. It was a shame that lack of equipment means they have to limit the number of children taking part when so many are eager to do so. Shirley had had comments that we should have much larger arena attractions, Alan H pointed out that we were not a County show and spending what we do on arena events was the affordable limit, blowing a further £2000 was not justifiable given the traditional ‘village / community ‘ nature of Gala Day. **CARNIVAL:-** Alan Suter felt the day of the float had come to an end with 3 Lorries pulling out at the last minute, health and safety issues make it increasingly difficult for this activity. Alan H commented that the parents of the gala princesses had said they would have happily been involved in dressing a float for their girls if asked. Maybe a trailer for next year could be found for this? Huw requested that more radios be available for use during the procession to help with overlapping of personnel during its progress also more collection buckets would be useful as would 1 more steward. Richard said he had picked up a collection bucket from the senior citizens tea area on the car park side of the Bridge and suggested instructions should be issued to all wanting to carry a bucket, Alan admitted he had forgotten to give his usual commands for ‘buckets to the front ‘as they arrived in the arena however this would not have addressed the tea room problem. **POLICING-** the car and police were more of a procession entry than a useful element. Their blue flashing light did however give Batman and Superman some credibility when trying to clear people out of the way at the front of the procession and at junctions. Stephen observed that a subcommittee was needed to look into these Carnival matters, it was pointed out this existed but so far only included Charlotte Oldwood and Alan Suter! **DUCK RACE-** Stephen thanked Nina Collier for all her efforts on this one. Nina had been concerned at the manning situation for selling ducks but it had all fallen into place. Lynda said a formal rota was needed to enable people to know what was expected of them and to ensure everything was covered. It was noted that Roy’s planning sheets had not been used and this would have highlighted some of the potential problems had it have been used. In future this should be resurrected as well as for November the 5th. We had sold out of ducks by 4 pm. It was suggested we could have double sold ducks but this was felt, although it didn’t disadvantage anyone, to be perceived as a bit dubious. It was agreed to purchase another 1-200 ducks for next year.

GALA WEEK ISSUES: - BUNTING – our stocks are getting depleted, Alan H requested a Further 12 Bundles –Agreed. CONING - there was none! Stephen to bring this up with the police. CAR PARK CONING- we should purchase our own cones to ensure no parking in this area during the weekend (Alan H has his own which will be available next year)

REPLACEMENT KIT- apart from the bunting many things are needing replenishing, they are :- **COLLECTION BUCKETS** – FLO JOE’S (we seem to have only 8 left !!) **RUBBISH PICKERS** (we now have 2; they vanished from under the stage on Sunday!)

PICNIC IN THE PARK: - As with Gala Day this year’s had proved the most successful to date with fine weather playing its part. Stephen thanked Alan Suter for chairing this committee and making it happen. Alan S pointed out it was a team effort with the hard core members Helen Galer, Stephen Spencer, Alan Hooker and Brian May putting in a solid 12 hour shift. Once again it had highlighted our need for more bodies on the ground and the use of pre - agreed rotas, Helen had spent the bulk of the afternoon single handed running the boat trips. The one rota we did have fully organized was made redundant when new boy Richard Pease volunteered to man the Tower for the afternoon once Charles Looker had finished thus releasing the rest on the list. Alan H congratulated Stephen Spencer on his dynamic approach to manning the donation dustbin which had raised £ 1500, a vast improvement on last year’s £ 900. **SIGNAGE-** it was felt a large very visible sign or map of the site be designed for use at the entrance to indicate where the designated Bar B Q area was. Although well used there were still people ignorant of its existence! **RUBBISH-** giving out bin bags on entry had worked well but they had been set light to in the evening and the re-cycling bins had once again gone unused. Huw offered to look into getting Dunarbon, the re-cycling company, to put a couple of skips over there for the weekend as rubbish collection points.

FINANCIALS: - Alan H reported the financial results as follows-

COMMASS GALA STALLS

Benda and Anne Lookers Tombola Profit £ 154.10 well done Duck Race - profit £ 313.50 well done Nina and team.

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

INCOME -Petangue profit £40, Gala stall receipts £ 580 (bar yet to pay aprox £100) Historic Walk profit £ 5.00, Bucket receipts £ 181 aprox.

EXPENDITURE - Fishing Competition trophies £ 95 Hire of toilets £ 21.25 Sweets Prizes and sundries £ 105. 75, hire of fancy dress £ 60, Blue vision Twirlers £ 75, the Mighty Smith £ 550 we should just about break even on the week.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

INCOME- Stalls£590 (bar still to pay aprox £ 100), Council £ 2213, Dustbin Donations £1500 Tower profit £ 169

EXPENDITURE- Stage acts £ 1750, insurance £ 183, Deckchair hire & transport £300, Boat Trips £ 600 Sundry items £ 900. It is hoped to be in surplus by around £ 600

NOVEMBER 5TH- A budget of £ 4000 was agreed for Alan H to purchase fireworks with for this year's event. Organization deferred to the September meeting

STORAGE CONTAINER: - Now a reality, to be shelved out in 2 weeks time. Anyone with COMMASS equipment wanting to get it stored contact Alan or Stephen.

AOB: - Huw had brought a clipping from the Hunts Post letters section from a GMC gent that questioned the state of the Ouse along the causeway. Huw asked if this was something the COMMASS should get involved in. Alan H had read it also and offered to make note of the state of the river on the website, he would also write to the council on behalf of COMMASS to ask what steps were being taken and whose responsibility it was. Huw offered to visit the gent to discuss, Alan H to visit Pat Dougherty to enlist his wisdom on the situation. Stephen to Approach Taylor Dredging to find out who had authorized them in the past and cost for dredging the area.

NEXT MEETING

Not agreed but the 2nd Thursday in August is the 12th

AH offers his apologies and will be on holiday.