

800 Charter Celebration

Minutes of a meeting held on March 15, 2010 Queen Elizabeth School, Godmanchester

Present

Stephen Spencer (chairman), Alan Hooker (Treasurer), Colin Hyams, David Stokes, Mary Stokes, Ken Sneath, Pam Sneath, Nigel Pawley, Ken Savage, Mavis Savage, Charles Looker, Sue Young, Jo Mackenzie, Malcolm Cohen, Trish Harewood, Alan Martin, Peter Irving, David Busk, Peter Heseltine (Minutes)

Apologies

Christopher Vane Percy, John Thackery, Sue Worthington, Jonathan Young

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the chairman

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes

Financial Matters

Councillor Pawley explained that the Town Council were to discuss this on Thursday. It has been confirmed £5000 was set aside in 2008 - 2009 and 2009 - 2010 making a total of £10,000 available. Future budgets for 2010-2011 and 2011 – 2012 were to be discussed by the Town Council and it was hoped, but not guaranteed, a similar amount would be available. The 800 Committee would seek match funding from outside sources, such as the Big Lottery Fund and SITA. Also money would be forthcoming from the Club 800 monthly Lottery.

Finance for the newsletter was being considered by the Council namely whether the council will find additional money for it or whether it needs to come from funds already allocated and if agreed could be circulated within two weeks. Arrangements for Town Council involvement would also be discussed on Thursday. Some items could be paid for directly by the Town Council when VAT was involved. It was noted that payment by the Town Council could affect grant aid and this would be borne in mind.

Grant applications

At present it was too early for a Heritage Fund application but this could be made at an earlier date for spending in advance. SITA was suggested as a source when the pit reopened for the Town Sign and History Signs. Charles Looker was preparing a grant application for Historic Signs. The two building companies involved in the town were to be approached. The Co-op is a possibility. A grant should be considered for the town to be tidied up for 2012. The Mayor would be asked to follow this up with the District Council. Charles would also consider a Grass Roots application. Viridor would be approached – Colin Hyams to supply contacts.

800 Club

The town had been leafleted and the response had been positive with 67 signing up. Current numbers were 256. The draw would be made at each Town Council, possibly by the Mayor. Alan Hooker made a plea to all that had promised to purchase the Club 800 lottery tickets made their promises reality by doing it in the next few days.

Godmanchester Football Club

The Club offered to provide 50% of any money raised at a sporting event if the Committee could arrange a match with, for example, Cambridge United.

Publicity

The chairman would prepare a press release. Leaflet holders were being provided in local shops.

Living History Event

Alan Hooker introduced the minutes.

Proposed David Busk, seconded Colin Hyams that Event Plan be employed to provide a two-day event at an initial cost of £10,000 with additional funding being made if possible.

More involvement locally was required on the organising group.

Medieval Market / Street Party

Nigel had discussed street closure with the County Council and Police. This would need to be arranged a year before the event by the Town Council. Organisation would be linked to the Living History committee.

Town Signs

Peter Irving explained that a local artist had been involved and a visit made to a supplier. A possible design would come to the 800 Committee when the sub-committee had agreed a sign. A double sided sign would cost £4000 to £4500. Different sides would cost £600 extra. Delivery from the order would take three months and it was felt best to buy at current costs. It was suggested this should be purchased by the Town Council to reduce VAT. Members were asked to consider a polyurethane sign.

History Interpretation Signs

Mary Stokes said the committee were looking at where six to eight signs should be placed, the wording and obtaining costings.

Community Café

David Busk was trying to form a committee to progress this. The Senior Citizens had not felt able to be involved. Other sites were being considered.

Logo

It was felt a logo would be useful and Charles would follow this up. If necessary the Regional College would be contacted by Stephen to see if there was someone local who could help.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 26 at the QE School at 7.30 pm