

**Newtown Community Association Committee Meeting  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 11 Cleveland Court, 7.30 pm  
Minutes**

**Present:** Derek Burnside (Treasurer) James Leigh (Hut maintenance), Rory McNeile (Chair), Michael Parrott (Vice Chair & Publicity), Saxon Spence (acting Secretary).

**Visiting:** Su Aves, Elena Milego.

**Apologies:** Jackie Holdstock (Hut Bookings Manager)

|          | <u>Item</u>   | <u>Action by:</u> |
|----------|---|-------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <p><b>Treasurer's Report</b> Finances remain healthy. Bank balance stands at <b>£14539.68</b>, slightly down due to the September payments of our Public and Officers' Liability insurance premiums.</p> <p><b>Qigong</b> remains a concern: if the agreed hut hire costs are applied its annual expenditure is exceeding income by approx. £1800. We acknowledged this is unsustainable in the long-term, but agreed to extend a 'rent amnesty' to QG for 2016; Su will seek further grant funding (including the option of NHS support) and assess the future viability of running two weekly groups.</p> <p><b>New Treasurer:</b> Derek confirmed that <b>Gareth Carey-Jones</b>, a Newtown resident, has offered his services as the new treasurer from the new year. We unanimously agreed to accept this kind offer. Derek will inform Gareth and initiate the hand-over later in the autumn.</p> | SA<br>DB          |
| <b>2</b> | <p><b>Review of minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> June.</b> The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the chair. No matters arising not covered elsewhere.</p>   |                   |
| <b>3</b> | <p><b>The Vision</b><br/>MACE had offered a contribution of £25k, although as their planning permission has been refused this is currently on hold. Rory has also approached the developers of the 79 Heavitree Rd site to see if any funding may be forthcoming. Pete Edwards has indicated that additional ECC funds may be available. Rory will continue to pursue these leads and keep us informed.</p>   | RM                |
| <b>4</b> | <p><b>Play Equipment</b> Ruth Mollins, Sue Lawrence and Jo White have all expressed interest in helping to plan replacement play equipment in Belmont Park. Derek will make contact to assess the viability of a working party forming, and will seek further advice.</p>   | DB                |
| <b>5</b> | <p><b>30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b><br/>Sat 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 were agreed as the dates for the celebrations. Jackie will please book the hut for those days, including the preceding Friday for set up. Richard Westlake has indicated that a £1k grant will be available for us to use, and we agreed to add a further £1k from our general funds. Rory agreed to ask James Cotter to quote for writing and directing a 'drama vignette' about Newtown's history, and Rory will also ask Jacky Cox whether she would be willing to adopt this as another short-term project. (At the same time he'll discuss with her the 'Volunteer Policy' documents as described in the previous minutes). Michael Parrott would also be an excellent addition to the team.</p>   | RM<br>MP          |
| <b>6</b> | <p><b>Hut Issues</b><br/>Recent late night hut bookings have not caused problems, although wider noise disturbance issues in the park are an ongoing concern, and are being frequently reported to the police via 101. Hut booking rules have been updated, including the need to curtail bookings at 10pm, for the hut to be</p>   |                   |

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|           | <p>cleaned and vacated by 11pm, and that any damage done, accidental or deliberate, must be paid for; our thanks to Jackie and Peter.</p> <p>The recent internal damage has now all been repaired; our warm thanks to Rory and James for all their hard work! No invoice for the carpentry has yet been received; once it has, Rory will seek damage reparations from the individuals responsible.</p> <p>Mice have been reported in some cupboards: Steps are in hand to remove them.</p>  | RM                 |
| <b>7</b>  | <p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>Elena visited for this item. Facebook and Twitter remain effective methods of communication, although both could be better-utilised by us all. Newtown News, Street Life, the Newtown School newsletter, flyering, posters, community boards, shop windows and the Express and Echo should all continue to be used. We need to be seeking a replacement once Michael steps down as Publicity Officer from the February AGM.</p>   | RM                 |
| <b>8</b>  | <p><b>Exeter Community Forum and Grants panel</b></p> <p>Su sits on the grants panel, that will agree distribution of CIL monies. The next ECF meeting is on the 17<sup>th</sup> October and we are invited to send two delegates: Rory and Su will attend.</p>   | RM<br>SA           |
| <b>9</b>  | <p><b>Events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Newtown Food Festival Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September.</b> Our thanks to Su for another excellent event. The partnership with St Sidwell's Centre was successful and should be considered in future. We are now storing the Polsloe CA marquee, and can use it free of charge at any time.</li> <li>• <b>Craft Fair</b> is provisionally scheduled for <b>Sunday November 20<sup>th</sup></b>. Elena Milego is now unable to assist in its running, and will ask 'Bags of Hope''s Charlotte Nelderwood if she is willing to organise it, with Su assisting. If Charlotte is unwilling we may need to consider cancellation.</li> <li>• The <b>Winter Warmer</b> has been moved to <b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>, 6pm, from the 18<sup>th</sup>. Peter M is aware and will amend the website accordingly. The choir have confirmed their availability for that new date. Derek will confirm that the Palmers can still coordinate refreshments.</li> </ul> | EM<br><br>PM<br>DB |
| <b>10</b> | <p><b>AOB:</b></p> <p>Su will be submitting our Charity Commission return for this year. Derek will re-send the 2016 accounts summary for inclusion.</p>  | SA                 |
| <b>11</b> | <p><b>Date of next meeting: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 10am: NCA Forum, Belmont Park Hut.</b></p>   | All                |