

NCA Committee Meeting - Minutes

Monday, 20 May 2024, 7:00 – 8:30 pm in person at the Community Centre and by Zoom

Welcome and apologies

Present: Kev Winser (by zoom) - chair, Alex Leaver, Ella Westland, Steve Palmer, Jane Tymkow, Kerri Seymour (by Zoom) Jean Kimber, Steve Fearn, Matt Vizard

Apologies Su Aves, Andy Ketchin, Lynn Wetenhall, Rachael Shah, Christina Towler.

Approval of Minutes – 25th March 2024

Approved

Matters arising

- Signs about use of recycling bin – Kerrie needs printer to be reconnected, Steve P to check on this.
- Kitchen extractor fan not working. (Sec note – it was turned off in the cupboard) – Bug killer not working, needs replacement UV lamps.
- Query to ECC Parks & Open Spaces about paving slabs between verandah and tarmac. Kerrie - Guttering needs sorting. Main gutter has been displaced.
- Noticeboards – Ella has not got reply, so need to search again for suitable pinboard. Kerrie – possibility of community project to make resin shapes to fit into the cutouts. Awards for all grant? Or Locality grant?

Newtown Community Centre – Manager's report

Regular booking – calendar growing.

Social cafe made bunting, with aim to put up to attract more participants.

Maddy at Scrapstore is keen on a craft café.

Roots band doing well, card machine working well. Ali has requested a rise to £100 per session, this is viable.

Jazz band is well attended, beginning to get more income.

Party bookings dropping off, but one most Saturdays.

No significant maintenance to report, all routine checks are up to data, Kev and Jean have been trained on the fire panels.

Devon Live wrote an article on Newtown, but negative on students and anti-social behaviour. Did not take up offer to write a positive one.

Summer Sunday event. Would require a major effort.

Discussion – Kev asked about translation for rules into other languages for non native English speakers.

Ella – how is this publicised? Kerrie – through Facebook, noticeboard, website. Discussion of external branding on building, with web link, QR code to activities page, Facebook link.

Kev – taking the social café outside, with games etc. Developing link with Maddy at Scrapstore.

Kerrie to send out Trustees door code.

Finance Report

See below.

We advertised for a self-employed cleaner, but none of the three respondents were able to register as self-employed. Currently being covered by Kerrie and Jean.

EJO – more participants paying, are now clearing the backlog, most are now paying the full rate.

Action Steve P and Jean to meet to finalise 2023 accounts.

Request from Ali for £100 per session. Proposed Steve, Seconded Kev, **agreed** unanimously.

Maintenance

Items already covered; kitchen door screws.

Friends of Belmont Park

Report from Rachael about goal posts, Nic Meade (Parks & Open Spaces) has organised breaking of concrete pad next week.

Revenue generation, grants and Projects

- Garden for the bees signs – now in place.
- Ideas for new projects/grants
 - Noticeboard
 - Feast-together event. Alex – Jayne had run pot-luck supper events.
 - Ella – winter warmer event very crammed. Example of over-60s disco in the library. Probably need to rethink.
 - Jo Evans suggested link with Polsloe Road allotments group. Generally welcomed, with NCA acting as umbrella. Discussion of increasing community involvement through existing gardening groups.
 - Jane discussion of increasing involvement with students. Steve P asked for someone to join the university community involvement panel.

Events

Summer event. Depends on voluntary effort, not yet identified. Alex's coffee bike is being upgraded soon to espresso machine.

Respect Festival. No involvement requested, but good relations maintained. Needs further conversation.

Website, social media

Kev – social media, low engagement month.

Steve F – website, aiming to get more engagement, including through LinkedIn to engage with business people. Booking form coming through, working well.

AOB

Thanks to Richard Branston for support over many years.

Matt – Clifton Hill green space, Matt and Andy Ketchin had discussion with Nick Meade (Parks & Open Spaces). Plans for more tree planting along the golf-driving range, and other areas. Longer term, what does the community want? Perhaps a natural amphitheatre, community orchard, grow-

your own space, enhanced biodiversity, other ideas. Kerrie – suggests a drop-in event to engage and gather ideas. Ella – need to communicate what is happening.

Kerrie – lighting for the Park? Matt to check timeline.

Matt – locality grant programme will reopen in June, max of £350 per project, £3K per ward.

Ella asked if meetings are open - yes

[Next Meeting Date – Monday 24th June 2024](#)

[Close](#)

Closed at 20:30

FINANCE REPORT FOR NCA COMMITTEE MEETING - 20th May 2024

EJO & ROOTS BAND

Roots Band is still doing well with regard to attendees paying their subscriptions.

Ali has asked if we could review her fee for running Roots Band.

3 of EJO's attendees who have not previously paid have now started paying their subscriptions this month. Most of them are now paying the new subscription rate.

Will from EJO is still not using the cardnet machine.

Steve and I still need to get together to finalise the 2023 accounts before meeting with the accountant.

Finance Report

	25th March 2024	20th May 2024
Current account:	£7625.91	£6306.24
Savings account:	£20,564.12	£20,644.43