

Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign 2011  
Committee Meeting 2  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011, The Kings Head, Cullompton

Attendees: Dave Haslett (Chair), Anita North, Carol Pickering (Minutes), James MacPherson, Sean Burrett, Sarah Cagney, Carla Wetherell, Caroline Pring

Apologies: Lynne Read, Pete Woodley, Sharon Vaughan

**1. Previous Minutes, Matters Arising, Action Points**

Previous minutes agreed.

James has contacted Way Mill Pools but they cannot supply pools of the size we need. They will send him details of other pool builders in the area.

Other action points are covered below.

**2. Updates from those with specific roles**

Fundraising: Sarah suggested we buy charity collecting boxes as soon as possible; they cost about £1.60 each. She also suggested that sponsored walks could be organised for next spring/summer. Other ideas include a bring-and-buy stall at the Wednesday market, which costs £5 a stand, and car boot sales, etc.

Publicity: Recent press publicity, letters, etc to be made into a scrapbook and display board so we have a history of what's been said. Dave has an exhibition stand we can use.

**Action Point** – Sarah to order charity collecting boxes (some of them will need security chains/fixings so they can be attached to shop counters, bars, etc.)

**Action Point** – Carol to collate press cuttings for scrapbook/display board.

**3. Accounts Update**

Anita has received the full set of accounts from the previous committee, which she is in the process of going through. There are 3 accounts: a current account with approximately £1,600, an investment account which holds £19,367.51, and a disability account with £2,160.

**Action Point** – Anita to send off forms to the bank to be able to access these accounts.

**4. Progress on Charity Application**

Anita has been looking in depth at this and thinks we might need to become a limited company. This means that no one on the committee would be liable to pay more than £10 if anything went wrong. We can register as a charity as soon as we have access to the money in the bank accounts. She thinks this will take approximately 2 – 4 weeks.

## **5. Application for Grant from Town Council**

We were concerned that if we applied for a small grant this year, we might not be eligible to make another application next year, when we might want a larger amount. This year's application does not need to be submitted until 30<sup>th</sup> September so we will look at this again at the next meeting.

**Action Point** – Anita will find out more about this at the next Town Council meeting.

## **6. Constitution**

The Charity Commission has a standard model constitution we can use. Anita will complete this and submit it online with our application to become a charity.

The full constitution will be agreed at our next meeting.

## **7. Dates for Public Meeting and How to Publicise**

We are still trying to find a suitable date for the public meeting, as the Town Hall is already booked on the dates we wanted.

The meeting needs to be well publicised, including: town website, leaflets, posters, schools, health centre and doctors' surgeries, Padbrook Park, vets, library, Tesco, churches, local press, Facebook, and our own website.

It is important that we also publicise it in the surrounding towns and villages.

**Action point** – Carol to try to book the Town Hall for a Monday in mid-October, or consider other venues.

## **8. BBC Radio Devon feature on the Pool Campaign**

We were told this would be featured on Good Morning Devon on 13<sup>th</sup> September but it seems to have been postponed. Dave will contact the BBC to find out when it will be broadcast, and will arrange to have it recorded.

## **9. Visit to Topsham Pool**

Dave and James visited Topsham Pool on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. They were given a copy of their 2009 accounts. The cost to run the pool is approx £30,000 per year (they only open for 18 weeks each year, during the summer). They haven't done any fundraising for 15 years. Their only paid staff are the lifeguards. They have 20 – 25 volunteers to cover the front desk, each of whom works a 2-hour shift and is then entitled to a free swim.

The pool is open-air but the walls are strong enough to take a roof if they ever decide to add one. But they seem to be perfectly comfortable operating as they are.

At the end of 2010 they had £90,000 in the bank, but then spent £30,000 on 3 new gas boilers to replace the 4 they'd had for the last 30 years. The company that installed the new boilers told them they only really needed 2, as the new ones are much more efficient. Two-thirds of

the time the pool runs entirely on solar power – Dave showed an aerial view of the site which shows that every available roof space is covered in solar panels. These are low-cost, basic panels not the latest evacuated tube or photovoltaic type, but they work perfectly well.

The filter system uses small, electrified copper and titanium plates (approx 2” x 3”). They have 4 sets of these arranged in 2 transparent tubes, and the water passes over 2 sets before returning to the pool. The copper plates are sourced locally and need to be replaced every 2 years as they gradually dissolve. The titanium plates never need replacing. On rare occasions they need to add chloride pellets to the filter, but the level of chlorine in the pool is never more than you would find in ordinary tap water, there is no smell, and the water in the pool is safe to drink.

Although they are closed in the winter, they open on New Year’s day. It costs £500 to bring the water back up to temperature, but they take £1,200 from paying customers, so make a profit of £700.

They have a wishing well that raises approximately £35 per year, and they also sell a small range of sundries including armbands, floats, goggles, etc.

James said that some pools have a contract with Speedo to sell their merchandise.

Possibilities for our own pool could include a mother and baby pool, which could also be used for learners, hydrotherapy, party hire, etc.

## **10. Locations**

The Meadow Lane site has now been classified as a flood plain, but this doesn’t necessarily rule it out. James will continue to pursue it.

Anita is still keen on the CCA site and will raise it at the next CCA meeting.

Dave has set up a web page showing more than 20 possible sites around the town.

James has identified another possible site in the park between Headweir Road and Millennium Way.

## **11. Fundraising Ideas**

We considered the idea of a Halloween walk around Cullompton as our first event. Ghost stories could be told at various sites, and there could be a treasure hunt with prizes, perhaps followed by a disco where we could sell drinks, sweets etc.

Dave has circulated a list of other fundraising ideas, which Sarah will consider further before deciding which ones we should do.

## **12. History of the Pool Campaign**

We have received an anonymous letter about the history of the Culm Valley Swimming Pool Campaign.

A concern was raised about £1,300 that the letter states was handed over to the Regeneration Group in 2001, when they apparently took over the Culm Valley Swimming Club. Anita could find no record of this in the accounts.

### **13. Website**

Dave is working on our new website and requested that everyone email him photos of themselves for the Committee Members page. He can take photos if anyone doesn't have one.

It was agreed that the domain names should be cullomptonpool.org and cullypool.org, with both addresses going to the same site.

### **14. Any Other Business**

Name of the campaign – we agreed that we should drop the “2011” from the name, so it is now called Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign. This will prevent the name from becoming outdated. It is still distinctly different from the previous committee's name: Culm Valley Swimming Pool Campaign.

Logo – we agreed that our new campaign should have a logo. We thought the previous committee might have had one some years ago, but none of us had ever seen it. Carol will set up a competition for local schools to take part in. Prize to be decided later.

### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011, 7.00pm at The King's Head, Cullompton.

Please email Dave with anything that you feel should be included on the agenda.