

**Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign  
Committee Meeting 25  
Tuesday 19th February 2013, Mary's House, Cullompton**

Attendees: Dave Haslett (Chair) James MacPherson, Lynne Read, Roy Gould, Lynn Craddock Sharon Vaughan, Mary Christie (minutes)

Apologies: Chris Mussen, Helen Giles.

Note: This meeting was held at Mary's house as she had injured her leg and was unable to get to our regular venue.

**1. Acceptance of previous minutes**

Unanimous.

**2. Updates and matters arising from previous minutes**

We still need to compile a list of traders in the catchment area so we can tell them about the Mile of 20ps, the recycling of office consumables, and our other events this year. Sharon said Michael Speirs (Secretary of Cullompton Traders Association) should have a list of about 300 traders in Cullompton. Dave has emailed him, but he said he did not have such a list.

**Action Point** – Dave to compile the list of traders.

Dave has sent a letter of apology Sue Scargill at Padbrook Park regarding the cancellation of the Caribbean Night. He has not yet sent letters to the Community Centre or Jenny Radford as he was waiting to see if they would charge us for the cancellation of the Scottish Evening, or whether we would give them a compensation payment. We have not been charged, and it was agreed that we would not pay a compensation payment.

**Action Point** – Dave to send letters of apology to the Community Centre and Jenny Radford.

In his letter to Sue Scargill, Dave asked her to contact us so we could arrange to put our stickers on their collecting boxes. She has not yet replied. Dave, Lynne R and Lynn C will be running a stand at Padbrook's members' evening on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, so Dave will speak to her then.

**Action Point** – Dave, Lynne R and Lynn C to run the stand at Padbrook.

**Action Point** – Dave to speak to Sue Scargill at the same event.

We are still awaiting the list of successful applicants for the Gazette/Western Power Distribution's 'Cash for Your Communities' scheme. We were expecting to see the list this week, but it has not yet been published.

James has ordered the collecting buckets, which have now arrived. He did not order any collecting tins.

**Action Point** – James to order collecting tins.

We now have a banner (cost £42) which we are happy with. It was agreed that Lynne should pay the invoice (A S Signs and Graphics).

**Action Point** – James and Roy to contact parish clerks, regarding promotion of the campaign and fundraising in their parishes.

### **3. Feedback from the meeting with Steve Eastland (architect) and Steve Keable (fundraiser)**

Dave and Roy attended a meeting with Steve Eastland and Steve Keable on 11<sup>th</sup> February. Steve Eastland (architect) regularly works with Steve Keable whose job is to secure funds for community projects. He charges for his work if he is successful in securing grant funding. He did not specify how much he charged, and said he was not yet convinced that he would accept our project.

In his opinion, a project such as ours would take at least 10 years to complete. Funding organisations would require at least a 75-year lease on the land/building.

We will need to get the arrangement with Padbrook Park confirmed in writing and formalised by a solicitor as soon as possible. This should include details of the ownership of Padbrook Park and the pool, and rights of access to the pool and related facilities. This is particularly important in case Padbrook Park gets sold or goes into administration.

**Action Point** – Dave to make an appointment with Sue Scargill at Padbrook to discuss this.

In order to secure funding we would need to have a programme in place which shows how learners could eventually progress up to national competition standard. This would have to be included in our business plan.

**Action Point** – Dave to contact the ASA for information.

He suggested that we could get a significant amount of ‘green’ funding for a pool if Cullompton became an eco town, as Totnes has done.

Steve Eastland said he had prepared an outline design of the pool, which he estimates would cost £1 million pounds to build. He will prepare a scale model which we can display at the Family Day in July. He said the design was for a 25m pool with 4 lanes, plus a separate learner/hydrotherapy pool. Also included is a redesign of the toilets/changing area, entry route and reception area, plus a plant room, storage and office.

He is investigating a new heating system based on a heat exchanger. His opinion is that if we put photo-voltaic (PV) solar panels on the roof of the building they would

generate enough revenue to cover the cost of running the heat exchanger system all year round – so there would effectively be no running costs for heating. This would be far more effective than a solar hot water system, which would only operate effectively in the summer and would require supplementary heating during the winter. He has included the cost of the system in his £1 million estimate.

He said the Health Centre in Willand Road was still a good site for the pool, and although it would be more expensive to build it there we shouldn't dismiss it.

He also said we should make sure the swimming pool is part of the strategic plan for the town.

Following the meeting, Steve Keable contacted Jill Borrow at Active Devon (who Dave and James met at a fundraising workshop last year). She said that all funding for swimming pools for 2013–17 would be for refurbishment only, not for new builds.

James said he felt this should not deter us from making applications anyway, as Heathfield have recently had funding approved for their pool. (However, this may have been approved in 2012, before the current restrictions were imposed.)

#### **4. Fundraising team update**

Sharon will run a raffle at Tiverton Comedy Club's *Alistair McGowan* show on 24th March. (This is already sold out.) She needs up to 10 prizes. Lynne will provide the tickets. Sharon thought the raffle would raise at least £250.

More volunteers are needed for the service station collections at Easter.

**Action Point** – Dave and Mary to inspect the area we have been allocated and decide how we will manage it.

Easter Egg Hunt: Dave and Lynne will run the stall, which will be outside the Baptist Church as last year.

#### **5. Other fundraising matters**

It was suggested that we should have a stall at Willand's monthly Sunday Market in their village hall. We agreed this was a good idea. A stall costs £5. Lynne volunteered to run it when she is available. (Update: they have a free charity stall at each event and we have been offered one of the slots.)

#### **6. Feasibility Team Update**

James said we can start our business plan by reviewing the information which formed part of the feasibility study in 2004. He said it was full of mistakes, but we can learn from that. There have been significant changes in things like the size of the population and the bus services since then. He also said we should do a comparison study with the Heathfield project, which successfully received funding recently. He noted that MDDC stated in the 2004 study that they would support a pool in Cullompton.

**Action Point** – Dave to chase up the second architect and see if a meeting can be arranged with the fundraising organisation he works with.

**Action Point** – James to look at the Heathfield project and continue working through the 2004 feasibility study.

## **7. Shop update**

Lynne has a large amount of craft supplies left over from her own shop. She will put these in our shop a few at a time and will share the profit with us. She will also order some of the most popular items from her wholesaler, who she still has an account with.

The shop has been very quiet for the last few weeks, probably due to the cold weather and people being away for half term. It is covering its costs, but not currently raising much money for the campaign.

The shop has been closed several times because volunteers have failed to turn up and they haven't notified anyone, and we haven't known about it until afterwards. Lynne stressed that communication is vital and that volunteers should inform the manager in good time if they are unable to attend, so that someone else can cover their absence.

Some of the volunteers have been reorganising the shop without permission, and some of the fittings have been damaged as a result. Lynne and Dave have written a new set of guidelines for the shop volunteers to highlight their duties and responsibilities.

## **8. Accounts update**

The campaign has raised just over £6,000 since we took it over in August 2011.

James has been looking at bank accounts with Virgin, which seems to offer the best rates at present. They have three charity accounts with interest rates of 2.5 – 3%.

**Action Point** – James to find out if we qualify for Virgin's 3% charity account.

Lynne said she needs to do more work on the various accounts we received from the previous committee, including changing signatories and merging them all into a single account.

**Action Point** – Lynne to sort out the bank/post office accounts.

## **9. Any other business**

James visited a trade show at Westpoint and met some companies which help groups to construct pools using trust schemes.

He and Roy both felt that we should cast our net wider for more information rather than relying on what is available locally.

Roy gave James a copy of the original plan for the Hazelmere complex, which he was involved in, and which he felt contained useful information.

**Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013, 6.30pm at Padbrook Park.