

Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign  
Committee Meeting 3  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011, The Kings Head, Cullompton

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

Guest: Nigel Middlewick (Treasurer of previous committee)

Apologies: Lynne Read, Pete Woodley, Sharon Vaughan, Caroline Pring, Carla Wetherell

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

Previous minutes agreed.

Minutes need to be agreed by all committee members before they are published on our website. Please email Carol as soon as you have received and checked your copy. We'd like to get them online within 48 hours of them being circulated if possible.

A point needs clarifying from the previous minutes, following questions that have been asked by two members of the public. We concluded that the claim made in the anonymous letter we received was unsubstantiated. It is not backed up by the accounts or any other documents or information we have at this time. We will therefore not be taking any further action on this.

Cullompton Town Hall has been booked for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October for our public meeting. The meeting will begin at 7pm. We will need a poster to advertise it. We agreed that this should be circulated to everyone by email so we can all print off copies and distribute them. We should remember to put copies in the doctors' surgeries, on the council notice board, and in all the surrounding towns and villages. Cullompton Post Office has an events diary, so Anita has added the meeting to it.

**Action Point** – Anita/Carol to design and circulate a poster and co-ordinate distribution.

James has not yet heard back from Waymill Pools, and will contact them again. He will also contact another company in the area that builds community pools. We are hoping to get a rough idea of the cost in time for the public meeting.

Nigel gave us 7 collecting boxes which the previous committee used for fundraising. He also gave us some stickers that feature the logo they used. We agreed that we would continue to use the same logo, and would honour the prize awarded to the winner of their competition – i.e. that he would be the first person to swim in the new pool.

The competition we had planned to design a new logo has therefore been postponed. We will need a new logo for the pool itself (the current logo is just for the campaign), so we will hold a competition for that at a later date.

**UPDATE:** The Gazette printed details of the logo competition even though we told them it had been cancelled. We therefore decided to run the competition anyway. Carol will circulate the poster she designed.

**Action point** – everyone please print as many copies of the poster as you can and distribute them around the area as quickly as possible. Dave to put the details online.

Anita has not yet arranged for the accounts to be transferred over as she needed two signatures from the previous committee. Nigel agreed to arrange this.

Sarah Dienes, a member of the previous committee, has copies of some of their minutes. Nigel agreed to collect them and pass them on to us.

Cullompton Rugby Club have offered their full support.

BBC Radio Devon feature – this was postponed because the BBC wanted to link it with a feature on a pool at Ivybridge which is being taken over by the local community. It is now due to be broadcast on Thursday 29th September. We will get a recording as soon as it is available.

## **2. Visit to Crewkerne Pool**

James has visited Crewkerne Pool. It was built in 1996 and began as a community pool but they have now added a gym as well, which cost an additional £700,000. They have two indoor pools, the main one is 25m, and they are heated to 32 degrees. They have not needed to do any further fundraising since they opened. James circulated copies of some of their leaflets.

## **3. Locations**

Dave, James and Sean have visited several of the possible sites for our pool, and will visit the rest over the next few days. They will then discuss and prioritise them so we know which ones we should focus on.

Town Councillor Nikki Woollatt has agreed to help with the selection, and has contacted Jonathan Guscott, Head of Planning at MDDC, who is happy to discuss the sites with them. Dave will set up appointments with both of them when the site visits have been completed and the prioritised list of sites has been drawn up.

Sean circulated copies of the latest development plan for the town, which shows the areas that are available for building the pool and the sites that have been earmarked for other purposes.

Some communities around the country have purchased pools and sports centres from their local authorities for as little as £10, and then run them themselves. James suggested that we consider making a similar approach to MDDC to buy the Culm Valley Sports Centre, and then add a pool to it.

#### **4. Online publicity**

Dave has set up our website: **www.cullypool.org.uk**

**www.cullomptonpool.org.uk** also goes to the same site, so we can publicise either address depending on the circumstances.

Our Facebook page seems to have become a bit static recently, and the number of new people 'Liking' the page has tailed off. Some of the information we added as Notes, including details of the committee members, seems to have dropped off the bottom of the page and might need to be added again, or a new Information section added.

We should publicise the page and website when we hold meetings and events.

We could also look at using Twitter.

**Action Point** – Carol to look at setting up a Twitter account

#### **5. Accounts**

Anita suggested putting the funds we currently hold into premium bonds, as these offer a better rate of return than other types of investment at the moment, and are risk-free.

We agreed that this might be a good idea in principle, but we should get further advice, particularly from a legal point of view, before proceeding.

**Action Point** – Anita to find out more about this.

#### **6. Constitution**

We were going to use the model constitution provided by the Charity Commission, but Anita attended a funding conference recently and learned about a new funding option that would allow us to sell shares in the pool while operating as a charity. We will therefore postpone drawing up the constitution until we have found out more about this. We agreed that this scheme sounded like a good way forward.

There is a lot of work in setting up a scheme like this, and we would need to carry out a feasibility study and work out what our operating costs would be.

**Action Point** – Anita will arrange a meeting with Charlotte Weedon from the Rural Community Council for Devon to find out more.

#### **7. Funding**

Another suggestion from the funding conference was that we should look at sponsorship from companies such as like South West Water, EDF, etc.

James also mentioned the possibility of a sponsorship deal with Speedo, who already have deals with some other pools. We could then sell some of their range of costumes, goggles, etc, once the pool was open.

We discussed putting buttons on our website that would allow people to make donations. Sarah suggested JustGiving, and will look into this further, but they take a commission so it might not be worthwhile at the moment. Dave suggested having a PayPal “Donate” button on the site, and will explore this further.

**Action Point** – Sarah and Dave to look at online donation options.

## **8. Fundraising events**

We decided not to proceed with the idea for a Halloween event this year as there are too many other events happening around the same time. But it is still a good possibility for next year.

We agreed that we should have a table-top sale in the Market House Inn’s garden on the morning of Saturday 8th October, as it would coincide with the Farmers’ Market and there would be plenty of people passing by. Sarah will run the stall and asked for donations of books and other goods that could be sold.

**Action Point** – everyone to ask for donations from friends, family, etc and drop them off at the Market House.

It would be a good idea if we all had t-shirts when we are running stalls like this and collecting/fundraising, so everyone knows who we are.

**Action Point** – Anita will contact Devon Shirts

Sarah mentioned that Mrs Ford (fundraiser for the Community Hall) was willing to come and talk to us about fundraising.

Other ideas for fundraising include pub quizzes, bingo, sponsored walks and a dog show.

**Action Point** – everyone to think about further fundraising events, particularly large events as we’d like to hold one of these each month. Please email your ideas to Sarah.

## **9. Town Council Grant Application**

Nigel confirmed that submitting a grant application this year would not bar us from submitting another one next year. We therefore agreed to submit an application for £1,000 for printing costs, banners, display boards, t-shirts, and more collection boxes.

**Action Point** – Anita to submit the grant application.

## **10. Cullompton Regeneration And Enhancement Group – Action Planning Event**

Anita, Sarah and Sean will be attending this event. If anyone else wants to go along it's at the Town Hall at 6.30 pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011, 7.00pm at The King's Head, Cullompton.

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