



Pembroke 21C Community Association Ltd

Minutes of a General Meeting of the Members

Held on Tuesday 10th September 2008 at 7.30pm
Foundry House, Pembroke

Present: Nikki Anderson Brian Griffiths
Gwen Griffiths Liz Jenkins
Gareth Jones . Chair Irena Kruszona
Rosey Mitchell - Secretary

In attendance: Elizabeth Gossage . Pembroke 21C Development Officer

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from PLANED, Keith Allen, Linda and Stuart Asman, Rose Blackburn, Francesca Dusfrenoy, John Hayes, Ken Jones, Rosalie Lilwall, Jane Major, Pierce and Katy Murphy

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and read. Proposed by Rosey Mitchell and Seconded by Brian Griffiths and agreed by all.

3. Matters arising not on the current agenda

Brian Griffiths pointed out that there are now more than 700 attending each Farmers Market, a great improvement on what was reported at the June meeting.

The proposal for the land at the railway bridge is still outstanding. A response is awaited from the County Council who are apparently looking into the legal issues of using the land in this way.

4. Report from the Board of Trustees

Gareth Jones said that Trustees had taken steps to conserve their unrestricted reserves and were looking to generate income from projects and through the CIC. A competitive loan application to the Communities Investment Fund had been approved today which would provide core funding for six months from 1st October to enable the Development Officer to achieve a more sustainable future for the organisation.

Along with other local stakeholder organisations Pembroke 21C had been asked to put forward a proposal for community use of the South Quay Development. This had been submitted in consultation with Town Council, Chamber of Trade, Castle Trustees, Civic Trust and Monkton Communities First. A request was submitted for money to cover a feasibility study to see if the proposal is viable and this is being considered. It has been agreed that the project would be championed by the CIC as it is set up for the benefit of the community. There is to be a meeting on Friday afternoon with the stakeholders to look at the possibility of including the proposal in a convergence funding bid being submitted for Pembroke by PCC.

The CIC was also developing a carbon offset/ coppicing project which would be on land at Chevron. It has received approval for funding, with conditions, for a feasibility study from Environment Wales.

The Festival had been successful. All bills had been paid and £3,000 transferred to Pembroke 21C towards administration costs. However, the Festival admin had cost Pembroke 21C considerably more and the Trustees were adamant that they would not fund it to this extent again. The Festival must look to paying all its costs.

Gareth expressed thanks to Pierce and Katy Murphy for the improvements to the outside of the building. They plan more work to the outside and painting the front hall inside but no date is fixed.

Pat Hay had regrettably left Pembroke 21C. There is a collection for her and a card to sign. Rose Howson had been appointed as a cleaner for 8 hours a week. Staff and trustees are dealing with users at other times. The user groups are on the increase again, having declined over the summer term. There is a new dance academy on Wednesdays and Pembrokeshire College are beginning to use the building for community courses, starting with sugar craft.

5. Report from the Development Officer

Elizabeth had circulated her report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes together with a projects progress report and a report on fundraising.

6. Reports from Sub-Group Chairs

Environment and Heritage: Nikki Anderson reported that the group had not met for three months due the Festival and setting up the Pembroke Story project. They will meet later this month or in early October. Melissa Howells of PCC is being invited to speak about the work PCC are doing in the Town.

Together with Gwen and Brian Griffiths, the group had taken ownership of half of the Town Hall noticeboard and kept it updated.

The litter group were working in partnership with the Wildlife Trust and now has about 24 keen volunteers. They are going out again on first Saturday in October to clear the Mill Ponds walk. Funding had been received from CSV Action Earth for bag hoops and litter pickers and there may be funding from Keep Wales Tidy's Tidy Towns project.

They were working in partnership with the Civic Trust on looking to replace the numbered plaques on the Town Trail with short descriptions. It links into the Pembroke Story project and the sculpture trail.

The railway bridge in Holyland Road has been finished and is looking very good.

However, Brian added that he had heard that Network Rail were not going to do the one in the Upper Lamphey Road.

They had worked with the Town Council on the floral enhancement of the town with lamp post baskets and window boxes. It is hoped to extend this scheme next year.

Farmers Market: As mentioned above the visitors to the market is increasing and there are some new producers. The markets appear to be becoming well established with regular customers. Elizabeth is meeting soon with Kate Morgan to discuss joint promotion of the markets next year and has been attending meetings with WAG to look at pan Wales funding for Farmers Markets.

Liz Jenkins suggested speaking to Liz Cook at Communities First for the market to be promoted in M Life. The dates are on the Town noticeboard.

Festival: Gareth reported that the Festival had been successful despite the dreadful weather which had caused cancellation of the flotillas and the fireworks. The change of dates had brought the schools on board and the town traders. The Parade had been the most successful and was held in bright sunshine. The firework display is still in hand and the Festival group are meeting next week to discuss the future and a possible date for this to be held. If they wish to go ahead they must make the festival viable and paying for itself.

Foundry Fundraisers: Pierce Murphy was not present to report. However, the group plan to meet in the near future to discuss ideas. A big book sale is planned. Rosey offered to arrange an evening to view photos of her recent Chinese holiday with a Chinese takeaway supper.

The Pembroke Story – Nikki Anderson:

Nikki, as joint Project Officer, circulated a full report on progress with the project which is available on request. The project launch will be in the Town Hall on 25th October.

Pembroke Mill Ponds Action Group: John Hayes was not present due to shut down at Chevron. Elizabeth reported that the Cydcoed funding had all been signed off for the Woodland.

Nikki reported that she and Karen Houser had met today with Peter Howe of the Regeneration Unit at the County Council. They had had a very positive meeting and he is looking at possibilities for enhancing and resurfacing the walkway, providing a pond dipping area and interpretation boards. This may be covered by PCC or may be part of a larger bid. Elizabeth expressed the concern that this might be Community Regeneration funding that would clash with the building. She will check with Sinead Henehan.

Nikki also wanted to express her concern that large tree species had been planted in the meadow at Holyland Wood which was attracting butterflies. Elizabeth said that John Hayes had also expressed concern about the trees and had requested that they be moved as soon as possible in the winter.

Sustainable Energy Group: Rosey Mitchell reported that the group were concentrating on getting the carbon footprint and lifestyle audit underway so that they had the data and information needed to develop projects that would reduce the community impact on the environment. They would be meeting with Sustainable Development post-graduate students at Welsh School of Architecture to develop the methodology. Applications to fund the audit were being submitted this week to Environment Wales, Waterloo Foundation and Awards for All Wales. There is the possibility that the project might be a pilot in a Co-operation bid to the Rural Development Plan in partnership with PLANED and Ymlaen Ceredigion. The Interreg application mentioned previously was not happening.

WAG had published a toolkit called *Help your Community to reduce its Carbon Footprint* which is very good. The challenge will be getting people in Monkton and Devon Drive on board as well as those living off the Upper Lamphey Road. Liz Jenkins said that the houses in the Monkton Courts now had cavity wall insulation and gas central heating was being installed.

7. Reports from Affiliated Groups

Irena Kruszona reported that the Wildlife Trust had been pursuing the issue of access at Little Gates to the upper Mill Pond. It was still fenced off and is now in the hands of their solicitors. They believe that it is now a matter of time before the issue is resolved as it is clearly Crown Estates land and the owner of the house has no legal claim. The local group are keen to come back to meet at Foundry House. It is available on Tuesdays and they will speak to their committee about coming back from January.

8. Any Other Business

A representative from Pembroke 21C is invited to the PLANED AGM on 19th November. Pierce Murphy was on their Board but is not able to attend meetings in Narberth in the evenings. Gareth Jones will attend the meeting.

The over 50s keep fit group had folded because the leader was unable to do it any more. There is an advertisement on the board for a new leader if anyone knows of someone suitable.

The back yard needs strimming and tidying. Gareth agreed to do this. Elizabeth will get the strimmer off John Hayes.

Concern was expressed that the Rocky Park development has now passed planning and that councillors were not representing the community.

9. Date Of Next Meeting

10th December 2008 at 7.30pm