

Committee Meeting Minutes

When: Tuesday, 25th September 2018 (6:30pm – 8:00pm)

Where: Carmelita Centre, 41 Vauxhall Walk, SE11 5EJT

1. Welcome and Apologies

This is the first committee meeting since July AGM.

Present (Please note that we do not use full names in the minutes):

Jean; Jen; Jamie; Philippe; Carroll; Clare.

In Attendance: Jon Davies local Councillor

Local Residents: Eleanor and Tony. Julia, VGERTA volunteer.

Apologies:

Apologies have been received from Alison and from Reece Ferguson, the new Estate Officer.

The meeting heard that John Bennett has been replaced by Abu as the Estate Caretaker

2. Minutes of previous meeting

These were Accepted and agreed, with the correction that VGERTA agreed to contribute £1,000 to the summer scheme.

Developments:

In relation to Item 3 'Amanzi Enterprises proposal for a summer scheme' Resident Involvement subsequently offered to provide the full amount in the grant.

Clare still needs to meet with Alison to clarify her view about the money. Clare to bring this back to the next meeting.

Jean clarified that the money (£7,500) had been given by Bellway in 2014 to the local estate office, and that Tim Fairhurst had given the money to VGERTA to carry out a consultation with the residents living by the area on the corner of Sancroft St and Vauxhall St and find out what they would like provided there once the hoardings and



portacabins are removed. Bellway are no longer occupying the site but it continues to be used to provide facilities for construction in the local area. Clare clarified that as Chair she had never been advised prior to the July 2018 meeting that £7,500 of the money in the accounts was ring-fenced, and that spending plans produced by VGERTA previously had shown this money committed to the VGERTA community activities. The money has now been ring-fenced and placed in a separate account.

Haverly Gardens- Application for the award has gone in. Deadline for response is end of October. One of Cherry Trees is dead, needs to be replanted. Jean asked if Alison could keep an eye to see if this is done.

3. Update summer scheme

The play scheme was run by Asafo of Amanzi enterprises. Carroll attended each day. The children and young people that attended really enjoyed it. There were 20-23 kids each day out of a maximum of 25. Mixed group, lots of activities, museums, screen prints, learning about animals etc. Parents want another one in October. A big success. Kids got awards. Parents did a BBQ for the last day

It was agreed in principle to run a scheme in October, if Asafo is successful in securing funding.

It was agreed to request copies of feedback which has been gathered from parents and kids.

Drumming was very popular. If Lambeth fund then this can continue.

Action- Clare to Email Asafo about monitoring for the summer scheme. Asafo also has pictures and consent to use them.

Action- put pictures on social media

4. Update Comms

Phillipe and Jamie are covering Facebook page, Twitter and the website.

Jamie - Social media, twitter and Facebook page

Twitter and Facebook accounts exist for VGERTA and the Carmelita Centre.

It was agreed that we only need one account as we don't want duplication or unnecessary additional work. It was agreed to ensure that passwords are shared among those who are currently



involved directly so that we are not in a situation where only one person has access to an element of our social media.

It was agreed that Jamie can shut down the additional accounts once Clare has provided the passwords.

Social media and restarting newsletter

It was agreed to send an email using mailchimp to old contacts to ask them to actively 'opt in' if they want to keep receiving comms. Previously Chrys sent newsletter emails from the secretary email account. Clare will provide access.

Phillipe – Website.

This is currently hosted by Wix. Phillipe has done a little update. Links to videos are there but just archived. Phillipe happy to be emailed regarding updates/changes to the website. There is an option to upgrade website. This will cost about £20 a year. Phillipe recommends this upgrade.

ACTION - Clare to look in to the secretary email account

ACTION - JAMIE AND PHILLIPE to organise mail out.

ACTION- Phillipe to come to next meeting with a mock up of new website design.

ACTION- Comms to be a standing item on the committee meeting agenda

Management of Estate Comms

Clare received an email about installation of solar panels on some houses on estate. Clare will forward this to Phillipe and Jamie to put on the website.

Blocks affected are:

Arne House, Arrowsmith House, Mountain House, Jameson House and Kennedy House,

5. Developers and local developments

Campaign against Graphite Square Development

VGERTA agreed to support the group who are opposing the Graphite Square Development, and will continue to post updates and news on our social media accounts. Clare said that she had offered the opposition group use of the Carmelita centre for meetings if they need a venue.

New VGERTA Policy on Consultations:

It was unanimously agreed that developers requesting to present information to the committee as part of their consultation activities in the local community will be invited to hire the Hall and invite all of the local community to come along and hear about their proposals.



VGERTA will publicise these events on our social media accounts and in the newsletter as soon as it is running again.

ACTION- Clare to invite developers to hire the Carmelita Centre for public consultation events and VGERTA will support with publicity on our social media to encourage residents to attend.

6. Update AGM and forward plan

Roles agreed

Chair - Clare

Secretary - Vacant

Treasurer – Jen

Comms - Jamie and Phillippe sharing

Deputy Treasurer and Vice Chair – Carroll

Eleanor was unanimously co-opted on to the committee

Alison will continue to represent VGERTA at contractor meetings.

Jean will be responsible for Housing and to represent VGERTA at meetings if Alison is not able to attend. Jean will email short updates to Jamie and Philippe for circulation via social media

7. Centre Management

The work required to manage the centre is currently being delivered by Jen Jamie and Philippe on alternate Saturdays, when Clare is also in the building. Julia is stepping in on the days when no one is available. Carroll is providing additional support.

Date and time: Saturday 11am – 1pm	Philippe	Jen & Jamie	Julia
September 1 st	Yes	Yes (Initial tutorial ½ hour)	
September 15 th			Yes
September 29 th	yes		
October 13th		Yes	
October 27th			Yes
November 10th	Yes		
November 24th		Yes	
December 8th		Yes	
December 22nd	Yes		

8. The next AGM

Possible dates for the next AGM were discussed at length with the committee agreeing that later is better due to the current financial constraints.

It was agreed to consider a Spring Fair at the end of March as this may be the latest date under the rules. It was also agreed to cancel the Christmas party.

ACTION- Clare to check if the Pantomime is already booked for Christmas

9. Redevelopment Update

A draft business plan is now complete. It needs to be agreed by our committee. There also seem to be various committee approvals within the council and it is still going to be more than a year before the project goes ahead. We have proactive commitment of the Ward Councillors. The committee will also need to agree the governance structure and we will have to take the time to explore the different options and what they mean. The redevelopment group continue to meeting once a month going forward, the dates on the website are now accurate.

ACTION- Clare to circulate business plan.

10. Finance update

- £8,690 grant was received from council for the summer scheme. We have spent £9,305. This means there has been a £615 overspend.
- We have agreed as a committee that we must monitor spend more carefully. We will review our financial processes, as previously agreed and make some decisions about when we spend money on.
- £591.60 in the bank account at present. all incoming money and outgoing money has been reconciled, except one phone bill. There is a missing invoice from Asafo.
- Normally we would have had £2,000 grant at this time of year.
- In other account is £6,502.23 (ring-fenced Bellway money)

It was agreed that the signatories for bank purposes will be Jen, Carole and Clare

Action- Clare send Jen Asafo's email address

Action- Jen to chase Asafo for duplicate invoice to be paid

Action- Clare to speak to Mark Howarth to see if we can have this grant brought forward

11.Safeguarding policy

- Mark Howarth has sent us a set of policies. Clare will go through and adapt them to VGERTA. Carole and Clare currently share safeguarding responsibilities for VGERTA. Carole is the Safeguarding Officer and Clare is the named Safeguarding Lead and will be responsible for any referrals we need to make.

12.Activities in the centre update:

- Drumming has yet not started, Asafo is applying for a grant from Housing Engagement.
- Yoga- ongoing, new dates to be released. Phillipe wants to contact local GPs to send word out through them
- GPs locally to be asked if they want to use centre for meetings
- Spinners meeting Saturdays in term time
- The London Guild of Spinners, weavers and dyers are moving in
- Cool it Art have started their new term at the Centre

13. AOB

Clare shared an action plan to demonstrate a way that we could

ACTION- Clare to email PLAN FOR VGERTA to Jean Fire Safety of Estate

Jean reported that a new law has coming in saying that fire doors need to be 30 mins fire resistant. All doors were replaced on Estate 5 years ago, but are only 20 minutes fire resistant. Lambeth are in processes of replacing doors. Coverley and Hayman are happening right now. High-rise is the first priority. Asbestos is also being removed from communal areas (stair doors, shoot doors etc.)

Air conditioning in Carmelita Centre

Air conditioners have all been taken out of service and hopefully can be repaired although we will probably need to remind the Estate Management Team to complete this work

Tescos development & other development



Both Tescos Kennington Lane and at Elephant and Castle will be closing and will be replaced by smaller shops with luxury flats on top. The Committee expressed dismay about this.

Antisocial behaviour and noise

The meeting heard about continuous antisocial behaviour all night in the courtyard and playground of Dunmow, Pella & Malmsey. There is constant noise from mopeds, music, and cars. There may be a proposal to install CCTV could be installed. VGERTA agreed to support this.

14.Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 23rd of October at 6.30pm at the Carmelita Centre. We will continue to meet on a rotation of the 4th Tuesday of the Month after that.