

YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17th OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.30p.m. IN YARNFIELD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillor Margaret Broader, Ms. Karen Chapman, Mr. John Smee, Mrs. Linda Eyre, Councillor Stella Hughes.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. Tina Collins, Mr. Stan Collins.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

CAG-24-1 Councillor Beeston would no longer consult with the owner of the premises which accommodated the lighting business, as the owner was not interested in permitting the installation of a defibrillator on the exterior of the building. The present business owner occupying the building is supportive and would have no objections. There is a suggestion that the ownership of the building may change hands in the future. The Committee agreed that it would no longer pursue this matter unless it learnt of a change in ownership of the premises.

CAG-24-2 After the second meeting with a representative from AED Donate, Mr. Kennaugh, the representative, inspected the proposed sites for the defibrillators. He felt that there were no problems with the site at Ford Drive. He agreed that an unmetered supply could be accessed from the lamppost near the entrance to the Oaklands and that the defibrillator could be sited to the left of the lamppost, where the verge widens. He felt that this was preferable to siting the defibrillator next to the noticeboard which, he thought, would incur additional costs.

CAG-24-3 Mr. Collins had previously indicated that he is not receiving confirmation emails from W.M.A.S. when he submits his reports on the Ashdale defibrillator. He wondered if these were being sent to AED Donate. An email was sent to Mr. Kennaugh enquiring if this was the case, but it remained unanswered. A follow-up telephone call established that Mr. Kennaugh was on long-term sick leave. Furthermore, AED Donate had a complete record of Mr. Collins' reports on the Ashdale defibrillator that he had submitted to W.M.A.S. AED Donate also confirmed that when the pads of the Ashdale defibrillator expired, the battery would need to be replaced at the same time. The current replacement cost is £139. AED Donate has a deal to reduce the cost of these replacement items. On occasions the ambulance service will provide a replacement if the defibrillator has been used to treat a patient. There is also information suggesting the manufacturer will provide a free replacement on the first occasion the defibrillator is used to treat a patient.

CAG-24-4 A secondhand defibrillator has become available because a local charity, Sting, is closing. Initially, Sting's Chair was hoping that the defibrillator would go to a school or another charity. The former is unlikely as the government is providing schools with defibrillators. Mr. Collins asked if the CAG could obtain the defibrillator. As the M.S. Society had helped fund the setting up of Sting, the Chair felt it would be appropriate if a donation were made to the M.S. Society in exchange for the defibrillator. Mr. Collins and Councillor Hughes proposed that the sum of £250 would be an appropriate donation. The committee resolved that this would be an acceptable sum.

CAG-24-5 The Committee agreed to explore if a DHSC grant could bring the defibrillator project to a conclusion.

CAG-24-6 Unfortunately, siting a defibrillator on a lamppost had been ruled out by the local authority. Kits to attach defibrillators to lampposts are available now, so this must be acceptable to some local authorities.

CAG-24-7 Bulbs including daffodils, hyacinths and tulips had been purchased for the village spring display. The total spent amounted to £235.95 including VAT. (£196 less VAT.)

CAG-24-8 The Committee planned an Autumn Clean. This would include planting daffodils on another side of the Yarnfield Park play area, the roundabout at Yarnfield Park, and on the green area in Ashdale Park. (Councillor Hughes would plant daffodils, tulips, and hyacinths in containers during October and November.) Other proposed activities include tidying the communal gardens, cleaning the play equipment and the bus-shelter, and picking up litter. Councillor Hughes would ask Mr. Fraser to produce posters and contact villagers who had taken part in past community events. Mrs. Eyre that it would be attractive to plant daffodils on the verges between Cold Meece and Yarnfield. However, this would be a massive undertaking.

CAG-23-24 Summer planting. The Parish Council agreed to the purchase of two half-barrels to be sited outside Gorsty Hill. Councillor Hughes had agreed to purchase these.

CAG-23-25 Summer bedding plants would be needed. It was agreed to spend a maximum of £200 on planting and compost. It might not be possible to provide as many plants as usual because of expected price increases owing to higher fuel costs in which case it was agreed to reduce the areas of planting. It was agreed that Councillor Hughes use her own judgement regarding the types of plants purchased. A request for assistance with the planting was made.

CAG-23-26 Volunteers would be needed to help clear weeds from the bed outside High Winds, the garden on the Green and in the Furlong cul-de-sac.

CAG-23-27 Tabletop Sale. Unfortunately, attendance was poor and takings totalled £20. It was the intention of the VHMC to hold a further sale in November. Councillor Hughes suggested that a cake stall might be more successful but was concerned that this might impact on the sale of refreshments at the event. Mrs Collins, the organiser, believed that the latter would be the case and an alternative to a cake stall should be found.

CAG-23-28 Councillor Hughes proposed the date of Sunday 25th June from 3pm-5pm for the afternoon tea fund-raising event. Cost of tickets: £6 per adult; £3 per child. These proposals were accepted. The menu was agreed, and additional help requested. (Councillor Hughes would ask Mrs Rachel Cooper and Ms Hilary Pemberton to help.) It was suggested that Mrs Marion Cromey be asked to provide a cake. Councillor Hughes would provide napery, flowers, scones, and some cakes. It was agreed that Councillor Hughes should check with Mr. Pete Cresswell that the village hall rate would be £6 per hour and that she should book the village hall from 10-30am until 12-00 noon for setting up; and from 2-30pm until 6-00pm in the afternoon. Councillor Hughes would ask Mrs Joan Gater if she could donate some raffle prizes and she would arrange for the printing of tickets and advertisements with the Parish Clerk.

CAG-23-28 After the summer it would be necessary to consider other fund-raising activities.

CAG-23-29 The Coffee Club. Councillor Hughes asked if there were any further suggestions for the coffee club. Mrs. Collins reported that the group was now planning to celebrate the birthdays of the most senior members of the group by providing a birthday cake.

CAG-23-30 Councillor Hughes, having consulted Councillor Broader, proposed several changes to the Community Action Group's Terms of Reference. These were all accepted by the Committee. The CAG committee also requested that the committee increase membership to eight in future. There was also a request that they be given copies of the annual budget as they felt that this matter had not been sufficiently transparent.

Proposed by: *Linda Fyfe*
Seconded by: *Margaret Broader*
Signed: *Stella Hughes*