

Hallgarth Residents Association Committee Meeting 25/11/21

PRESENT: Tom Priestley (in the Chair),
Amy Hardy, Lana Grindley, Rachel Cadas

IN ATTENDANCE: Peter Thornton, Jon Gios, Liz Hendry, Karen Banks, Elaine Cuthbertson, Katie Becky, Maggie Becky, Giles Archibald, Carol Conyers

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported apologies for absence in respect of Chris Rowley, Franchesca McMinn, Lana Grindley, Hania Moiz, Mark Walker (PCSO)

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held 09/09/21 were agreed as a correct record. Copies are available online at www.hallgarthra.com

3. Reports

i. Chair

The Association seems to be progressing well with increased participation on social media and increased attendance at events. The recent walkaround has been a significant success and highlight a number of issues for the Association to address. Also the Christmas Fair worked really well and the Kids Christmas Party and Christmas Craft Day preparations are looking good.

ii. Treasurer

So far expenses have been minimal and mainly include biscuits, tea, coffee and pizzas provided for meetings. Grant money is secure, with some funds already allocated for the Christmas craft fair and gardening projects. Plans for utilising acquired funds are beginning to come together, after response to feedback about key areas of interest. It has been discussed that any remaining funds will go to Hallgarth Community Centre as a nominal contribution for the use of the Centre as we are not currently able to meet the standard rental prices.

iii. Community Police

Our new PCSO was identified as Mark Walker and Tom said he has been in touch with him. He has been around the estate whilst on shift to re-visit a number of issues identified at the walkaround.

iv. Past Events

Christmas Fair 20/11/21 – The Christmas Fair in the community centre was a great success. The fair hosted fourteen stalls and donations contributed towards refreshments rather than raffle, which meant that people enjoyed staying around to socialise as well as look at stalls. The stalls raised £84 whilst donations from refreshments raised £23.85 giving a total of £107.85. Funds will be used for the Kids Christmas Party if there is any leftover it will go into the Residents Association account but this is not expected.

Walkaround 15/11/21 - Addressed later in the meeting

Kendal Torchlight 24/09/21 – Hallgarth's torchlight contribution was also greatly enjoyed and was met with good feedback from other locals, commenting that Hallgarth's contribution was one of the busiest and liveliest.

v. Upcoming Events

Kids Christmas Party – Discussed Later

Children's Craft Day – Discussed Later

Flooding Drop In – Peter Thornton mentioned that it would be useful if he could pass on a time to Doug when I will be there

vi. SLH/Homegroup/SLDC/CCC Engagement

This has progressed significantly and was discussed in the Walkaround Section

6. The Petition About the Issue of Speeding in Front of the Playground

This was collected from the Hallgarth Shop and is now in the possession of Tom Priestley. Unfortunately Francesca could not make this meeting again but Tom will now hand it over to Peter on her behalf. There are 182 Signatories.

Action - Tom will hand this over to Peter Thornton at CCC

7. The Kids Christmas Party

Elaine reported that she has already sorted most of this. With donations coming from Morrisons and Hallgarth Shop. She has lots of activities planned for the kids and the event seems well in order. It was confirmed that contact has been made with Adam from Sandylands RA and he will provide DJ equipment, he may also be able to provide games equipment if needed. Morrisons were involved and able to provide hot dogs and tea/coffee. Tom added:

- Safeguarding was a concern and Elaine confirmed that parents will be present
- It was important that any sponsors got a fair deal out of donating to the event and were included on any promotional materials.
- Keeping track of all spending and receipts is essential so that all funds can be accounted for at year end. As the party is to be primarily funded by the Craft Fair then Elaine said it was all already fully funded. Tom also added some funds could come from the residents association account if needed to top up.

Many others present mentioned that they could be available to assist on the day if needed. These included Rachael Cadas and Karen Banks.

Action – Elaine to continue with final preparations and advise if any further help is needed.

8. Childrens Craft Day

Karen Banks is running this on 18/12/21 13:30-15:30 and she stated she was still in the early stages of planning. Much help was offered by all participants, mainly in regards possible sponsors and companies which may be willing to get involved to help provide materials. Karen mentioned she already had an advert out asking for donations of craft materials. These were identified as Ragtag, Boyes and Ryman, as well as Morrisons who have already offered some support for refreshments but will be contacted again to try and get Christmas cookies which can be decorated. Lana and Ragtag Arts will be an important contact and Karen said she will be in touch with them to try and organise things in the next few weeks. Amy has promised to assist with promotional materials. Tom has offered financial support from Residents Association funds for items which cannot be acquired through donation.

Action – Karen meet with Lana/Ragtag to plan the event. Then work on acquiring the necessary materials to make it happen. Karen to make contact with Boyes and Ryman to ask for donations to support.

Action – Amy to develop promotional poster

9. Community Centre Gardening

Lana has been in touch with local gardeners and the local plant nursery to develop a schedule of costs and project plan. Kendal in Bloom are happy with the quoted amount she has projected for the project and are happy to commit £500. The matched £500 needed can come from a CAFs grant rolled into a community grants or sourced from Peter Thornton via CCC. Hayes Garden centre and Low Sizergh Barn have been suggested as potential places for donations and contributions. Lynne Richardson from South Lakes Housing is incredibly keen to help assist with community centre development and has offered pallets and some equipment.

Action – Tom to check and apply for CAFs grant if applicable, otherwise to investigate other sources of funding the remaining £500.

10. Calendar of Events for Next Year

The calendar of events below was agreed upon and volunteers assigned to act as co-ordinators for these events.

Sunday 12th Dec – Kids Christmas Party – Elaine Cuthbertson
Saturday 18th Dec – Xmas Craft Day – Karen Banks
Sunday 16th Jan – Bank Holiday Litter Pick – Katie Becky*
Saturday 19th Feb – Community Centre Gardening – Lana Grindley
Saturday 26th March – 2pm Estate Walkaround - Tom Priestley
Friday 15th April – Easter Litter Pick – Currently Unassigned
Sunday 5th June – Jubilee Street Party – Elaine Cuthbertson & Karen Banks**
Saturday 17th Sept – Torchlight Crafts and Litter Pick – Lana Grindley
Sunday 28th Aug – Outdoor Music in the Park – Currently Unassigned
Saturday – 8th Oct – Apple Pressing – Tom Priestley
Saturday 29th Oct – Haloween Party – Karen Banks

*With regards to the first litter pick of 2022, equipment needs pickup from Town Hall and Kate has volunteered to take the lead. Refreshments are already sorted and funded. The Community Centre will need to be booked in through Elaine, bags and pickers need to be picked up then collected afterwards which can be sorted through KTC contact Chris Rowley. As a group, it is important for us to look at securing personal litter picking kit to ensure people can lead these sessions with less effort and travelling for collection.

**Karen and Elaine have volunteered to coordinate this between them. The suggested venue will be the community centre and nearby carpark, if cars can be removed, and will comprise of a central base with lots of tables, food and music. Funding is yet to be secured.

Volunteers have been assigned where possible but as always more are needed to run more events in the future. Logo representation on the posters for events from sponsors and suppliers who have contributed support and provisions has been discussed as an important issue. South Lakes Housing would like their logo on events they are associated with, as well as Hallgarth shop and Morrisons. Carol Coniers has agreed to assist in future advertising and promotional work.

Action – Tom to develop a communities grant application from the calendar of events.

Action – Tom to look at adding litterpickers and other items into the communities grant

Action – Carol to assist in promotional activities

11. Walkaround

The walkaround which occurred on 15/11/21 was agreed to be a success. The outcomes from this were recorded in the minutes of that event. For the actions all parties were asked to report back to this meeting. The reports have been captured in the attached spreadsheet which tracks the progress of these issues.

Some key action points discussed within the meeting that were highlighted through the walkaround:

- Interactions with residents online regarding the walkaround has been good
- The Council website has an interactive map where we can see SLDC land ownership. Ownership of Acre Moss Lane garages is disputed, but the surrounding woodlands is SLDC RA need confirmation of ownership and to look at what we want to do with this space. Proposal meeting would be useful for the community to decide in 2022
- Broader communication of walkarounds for those who aren't on Facebook is needed. e.g. press release, use of shop.
- Giles reported that Kendal Footpaths are to become a priority for SLDC, council are commissioning a footpath audit, and it is clear that Hallgarth ones are not adequate. They hope to prioritise community groups and school paths that need the most attention (ours).
- Regarding the poorly maintained amenity areas RA is going to push SLDC to give their management plan for these areas from Polly

- Pedestrian gate in play park after the golf buggy issue Susan from Homegroup has now requested that gate is locked again. Peter recommended it be welded shut.
- Regarding wheelchair access to playground if part of the gate is removed Facebook feedback is that a latch needed for the gate to stop it swinging wide open, Peter and Polly to discuss.
- Regarding bins a plan needs to be developed involving residents on the location on 7 new bins on the estate. This can then be handed over as a recommendation to SLDC. Survey of Grit Bins also to be undertaken.
- Next walkaround organised for 26th March at 2pm

12. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be at 19:00 on 27/01/22 at the Hallgarth Community Centre.

Action – Tom to book the centre for this date and bring cider

13. Any Other Business

Press release for the RA to the Westmorland Gazette for events may be a good idea – Joe Fletcher is the contact