

# **GODMANCHESTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010 AT THE COMRADES CLUB**

### **1-APOLOGIES: -**

John Thackray, Jon Young, Mike Westcott-Rudd, Gordon Allgood.

### **2-PRESENT:-**

Stephen Spencer (chair), Alan Hooker (treasurer), Richard Harrison (minutes), Brian May, Brenda and Bill Hennessy, Eric Kynoch, Roy and Christine White, Bridget Gaskill, Kim Davies, Anne and Charles Looker, Alan Suter, Nicola Rule, John Death, Peter Stringer, Linda and Peter Heseltine, David and Wendy Underwood Ted Malone, David and Allison Metcalfe, Fitzroy Davies, Malcolm Cohen, Arthur Moate, Peter and Gillian Hall, Richard Morton, Josephine Crimmin

### **3-MINUTES OF LAST AGM: -**

Proposed as a true record by Ted Malone and seconded by Brian May. No matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM.

### **4-CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY: -**

Stephen Spencer welcomed everyone and then went on to thank the many people who had assisted him during the busiest year, in the GMCCA's history. Special thanks were given to Alan Hooker and Alan Suter, without whom many of the events of the past year would not have been possible. He then went on to outline that the GMCCA had been asked by the Town Council to organise the celebrations during 2012 to mark 800 years since the town charter was signed. Events will include; a living history event on the recreation ground, a Town Sign to be sited on the Causeway, and marked with a Royal visit, a literary competition and 8 signs indicating locations of historic interest.

The Fozdyke Proms Night was held this year at the Comrades club, unfortunately the event was not quite as successful as in previous years and made a slight loss. However, the event was enjoyed by all that attended, The Bridge Magazine – Stephen thanked the editor, Alan Hooker for production of The Bridge Magazine. It is hoped that 2012 will see a special commemorative A4 all colour version.

Gala Week- The Fishing Competition returned and proved to be very successful, an event which was enjoyed by both girls and boys from 3 to 11 years. The first 'Historic evening walk', a guided tour by Historian Ken Sneath was so oversubscribed, that a second evening was arranged. Special mention was made of the Bowl's tournament (only because the chairman won it!), conversely his presence at the Exhibition Fun Run in support of Macmillan nurses, was not.

Gala Day- Special thanks went to Huw Gaskill, Barry McGregor and Richard Harrison for organising the children games, whilst Nina Collier, Roy and Christine White were thanked for organising Duck Race.

Picnic In The Park- With the Take That Tribute band, the highlight of the day, it was felt that Alan Suter had proceeded over the most successful PIP.

Bonfire Night – Despite the dreadful weather, this year’s attendance was the highest ever.

Website- The community association website [www.godmanchestercommunityassociation.org](http://www.godmanchestercommunityassociation.org) continues to receive 80-90 hits a day.

Club 800- Over 700 tickets have been presold, with winners receiving £270 1<sup>st</sup> prize, £60 2<sup>nd</sup> prize and a £25 3<sup>rd</sup> prize every month. Stephen noted that it was nice to see at least 4 top prize winners attending the AGM. To-date £4,325 has been put aside towards 2012 funding while £4,110 had been issued as prize money.

## **5-COMPANY SECRETARIES REPORT: -**

In Mike Westcott-Rudd’s absence, Stephen Spencer outlined the legalities involved in the way the community association was now set up and read the prepared Trustees Report (Appendix 1).

With the increasing growth of our litigious society the committee felt it could no longer risk its member’s financial wellbeing a registered charity. In 1999 the Association became led by guarantee. The current set up is as follows:

1. Godmanchester Community Association LTD. Co. No. 3769694 -3 Directors – Mike Westcott-Rudd (Company Secretary), Alan Hooker, Roy White. These directors oversee the association is run in a legal manner compliant with company rules- this gives the association members protection against personal claims. The directors delegate the running of the Association to the trustees of Godmanchester Community Association – registered charity no. 274712. Trustees: Stuart Bond, Nicola Rule, Roy White, Mike Westcott-Rudd, Alan Hooker, Stephen Spencer. The trustees are responsible for the association running in accordance with the charity rules and regulations and conduct business in a transparent manner. The trustees in turn delegate the day to day running of the Community Association to its members.

## **6-TREASURERS AUDITED ACCOUNTS REPORT: -**

Alan Hooker produced the association’s profit and loss summary and balance sheet (Appendix 2). He explained this was produced on a cash basis to enable it to be easily understood. Furthermore, he explained that the balance sheet now includes an Earmarked Reserves section. This includes funds which are deemed not to be part of the GMCCA reserves, and includes accumulated surplus funds for Picnic in the Park of £2,712 and Club 800 profits held for the 2012 celebrations of £4,325. The assembled members were invited by Alan Hooker to review the accounts and ask questions.

Questions – Brian May asked what effect the reduced funding from the Town Council would have on PIP. Stephen Spencer outlined the current situation, that funding from the town council was reduced by £2,000 to £6,000 and it was suggested that a future reductions could not be ruled out. He pointed out that GMCCA would cover the shortfall this year and would review the situation for 2012 and beyond. Alan Hooker explained that the current cost to run PIP was £11,000 and it would be necessary to consider extra sponsorship, increased rents or donations from local businesses. With respect to the 2012 celebrations further sponsorship in the form of Company sponsored flyers was being explored, as the in current budget there is a potential overspend of £20,000. Stephen also confirmed that seeking funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund was an option and this was being explored.

Linda Heseltine pointed out the Bridge Magazine made a slight loss. This was for accounted for by BBQ World still owing £182 for space advertising which we were hopeful of retrieving in the current financial year.

The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Eric Kynoch and seconded by Anne Looker. They were passed on a show of hands.

#### **6.1- ELECTION OF AUDITORS: -**

Alan Hooker proposed the retention of Bulley Davey, as auditors for the year 2011-2012, this was proposed by Brian May and seconded by Charles Looker and passed by a show of hands.

#### **7- ELECTION OF OFFICERS: -**

Stephen Spencer noted that the following officers had not offered their resignation, and therefore he proposed their re-election on block (company secretary; company directors; treasurer; vice chair). Alan Suter seconded and this was passed on a show of hands. The position of Minutes Secretary was vacant and Richard Harrison was proposed by Stephen Spencer and seconded by Ted Malone.

#### **8- FUTURE ACTIVITIES:-**

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS- postponed until 2012

2012 COMMITTEE- Stephen outlined progress being made on the various planned activities/events organised by the various sub-committees. Current funding for the event was broken down;

Town Council	£15,000
Fund Raising By Community Association (Club 800)	£14,000
Skinner's Company Lady Neville Charity	£1,000
Football Club	£242

Originally called together in 2008 by the Town Council to look into the feasibility of commemorating this historic event, it was subsequently taken under the wing of the Community Association for accounting and organizational reasons at the request of council members.

**TOWN SIGN-** The design is finalised and is awaiting planning approval for erection next to the river on the Causeway (Cost £6,000).

**Questions** – Brenda Hennessey asked had the Town Council agreed to pay for the sign. Stephen Spencer explained the history and confusion that had initially arisen over the Town Sign. Ann Looker suggested that it was within the remit of the Town Council to fund a town Sign. Charles Looker explained the town council funding policy for the 2012 committee of in principal putting aside £5,000 per year over a 4 year period although they could only actually commit to the year in hand. Consequently the Town Council wanted more involvement on how the money was spent and a town sign was seen as a primary requirement.

**LIVING HISTORY-** This is to be split into 3 periods Roman / Vikings, Medieval and WWI/WWII with a basic budget for the arena of £ 10,000 agreed and modules being worked on in £5,000 packages to be added as funds were improved , or not. There would be additional costs ie parking promotion some of which would be self funding but would still require a minimum of £5,000 additional funds. The sub-committee was looking into a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

**CLUB 800-** Alan reported a large number of additional shares were being requested and new members were already coming forward, however nothing could be done about selling the remaining 100 shares until all current members had confirmed and paid. He then made an appeal to all current members of Club 800 for any outstanding renewals.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS-** A set of Christmas cards were being worked on in readiness for sale on Gala Day.

**'HISTORIC RECORD SIGNS'**- are to be placed at strategic points around Godmanchester and are being worked on.

**FIREWORK DISPLAY-** The committee was exploring the possibly of having a firework display on New Year's Eve 2011 and 2012, to mark the start and end of 2012 celebrations, respectively.

## **9- AOB: -**

Both Stephen Spencer and Alan Hooker pleaded for more willing hands to help organize the numerous events planned 2012 festivities and invited anybody interested in helping to contact one of the many sub-committees.

Eric Kynoch suggested the Huntingdon & Godmanchester Civic Society could be approached as a possible source of funding/grant for the Historic signs.

Eric also confirmed that the Town Council planned to reopen public lavatories on 1<sup>st</sup> April at a cost of £11,000 a year.

## **10 CHINWAG: -**

The meeting was called to a close to enable new and old members to catch up with the gossip.

Next meetings-

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> March                      Picnic in the Park meeting, Comrades Club, 8pm

Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Bridge Magazine
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> March	General Committee meeting, Comrades Club, 8pm
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> March	2012 General Committee Meeting, 7.30pm Queen Elizabeth School

**Appendix 1**                      **Trustees Report**

**Appendix 2**                      **Profit & Loss summary and balance sheet**