

THE CORFE CASTLE TOWN TRUST

The Town Hall, 1 West Street
Corfe Castle, Wareham BH20 5HA

www.corfecastletrust.co.uk



MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11TH JANUARY 2017

Present: Louise Haywood (Chair), Emma Grinsted (Secretary), Rupert Spicer-Short, Tony Bryan, Nigel Dragon, Angela Sturch, George Preston

Apologies: Rev Ian Jackson, Colin Fuller, Mary Wills, Andy Withers (Treasurer), John Lindsay, Dawn Lindsay, Steve Clarke

Absences: Mark Taylor

George Preston addressed the meeting - George Preston came before the meeting to explain about Bill Carter's will of 22 April 2009. Mr Carter's will was divided into 5 shares. There are 4 groups of people involved, one of whom is a married couple who get two shares, along with the RSPB, the Village Hall and The Corfe Castle Town Trust. Two nieces on his deceased wife's side claimed that when he wrote the will he was not of sound mind. The will has been contested by his wife's nieces since November 2014. The RSPB's legal department deal solely with legacy problems and have employed Withers, a London solicitors, to act for them in this case. Any legal fees will be taken out of the estate and Withers hoped for an early settlement. This did not happen and the legal fees are increasing leaving a smaller pot to share out amongst those benefitting from the will. At present, the nieces have demanded 28% of the estate (which has been rejected by the RSPB's legal team) and the legal fees stand at about £40,000. Mr Preston had no idea when a settlement would be agreed, or if a settlement would be agreed, before the estate's money ran out. The Village Hall has set a ceiling of £15,000 as their contribution towards the legal fees.

Trustee changes – Nigel has been re-elected as a Parish Council Trustee. Ros Marshallsay has been replaced by Peter Morrison-Wells as a Parish Council Trustee. Tony has also been re-elected after his term was up for renewal in October, (Tony was away at the time). Nigel, Tony and Angela all made the declaration and signed the declaration form. ***Peter to sign at the next meeting.***

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting (20th September 2016) – Tony has printed off a new copy of the Terms and Conditions of Hire and an instruction sheet for the pantry.

The King Edward's plaque has been added to the insurance at a value of £2000.

There is no new information on the mace or seal.

Colin has eased the toilet door somewhat, but it still needs to be removed to finish the job. It will require two people to remove the door and rehang it again as it is a very heavy fire door and we do not want any accidents. ***Colin and Rupert to do asap.***

Colin is meeting up with Tessa next week to carry out the PAT testing.

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Colin is yet to sort out the fire extinguisher tests but this will be done by the end of the month.

Correspondence – None received.

Chairman's Report – Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report – Andy has asked that no more post is put through the door at the old post office. The address for statements also needs to be updated to Andy's.

The financial roles were clarified; Andy will do book keeping, Rupert will report to the committee and Dawn and John will do invoices for bookings. ***Emma to check if we have an invoice.***

The finance spreadsheet will be ready for next meeting.

Our financial situation is looking quite good at the moment as we are receiving a good income from our collecting boxes and we aren't spending any money. We have c.£17, 000 in the bank.

We are waiting the building valuation from Alan Clevett.

Rupert is going to look at our council tax. ***Louise & Rupert to meet and discuss this.***

The new agreement for the storage unit at Rempstone has been signed and returned by Tony. The cost was £1 again. The electricity meter at the container is due to be read; it is currently c.£40 in credit.

Rupert is going to chase our missing annual £14 payment from the National Trust.

Museum Report – Nothing to report.

Town Hall Report – Nothing to report.

Bookings – We all agreed that the proposed advert produced by John Lindsay looked very good. We questioned what the cost would be to insert it in the CVN. We used to pay £100 as a yearly voluntary donation, but stopped this a while ago when we were short of cash. ***Louise to contact the CVN***

We have a local booking for the meeting room on Saturday 14th January.

The Parish Council want to hire the meeting room for two full days to interview for a new clerk. We agreed to reduce our normal local rate of £30 per day to £20 per day as this would cover costs. ***Louise to liaise with the Parish Council***

Accreditation –The sub-committee are working on a meeting date.

AOB – Does anyone want to be the Town Trust's representative on the Village Hall committee?

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Diary Dates:

Town Trust Meeting - Wednesday 5th July 2017
Town Trust Meeting - Tuesday 3rd October 2017

Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 7.30pm, Town Hall

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