

Men in Sheds, Milton Keynes

Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2017

Present: Peter Gallagher (Chair), Nigel Pigott (Secretary), Steve Heath, Les Hubbard, David Lewis, Nigel Paterson,

Apologies: Michael West

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2017 were approved as a correct record.

Lease

1. Negotiations between Age UK and MKCF concerning dilapidations are ongoing.
2. With the anticipated continuation of the lease arrangements it was agreed that there was no longer a case for investment in major capital items such as new heating and power supply.

Shed improvements

3. **Hot working:** No progress yet with reconfiguration of welding bay. A concerted effort would be needed by those who wished to use it. Purchase of new welding equipment on hold.
4. **First responder training:** One further session still to be run, thereafter those wishing to be trained could be referred to suitable web-based material.
5. **Training:** Didac accreditation has begun with bandsaw training. Eight pieces of equipment in total require procedures but the full system is not yet operational and five trainers will work from cribsheets in the interim. No invoices from Didac have yet been received.
6. **Calendar/Comms system:** Not currently being progressed.
7. **Access control:** New locks have been installed but new control system is still in development.
8. **Reorganisation of workshop areas:** A space utilisation plan is still awaited from Maker Andrew. This will then be reviewed by the Committee and others before an implementation plan is drawn up.

Extending membership

9. There have been several approaches from women wishing to join the Shed in order to learn DIY skills. This would take the Shed into a new realm and would once again highlight the shortage of training provision. It might also require female members to state what they could do to further the men's health remit. There could be a case for asking other organisations to commit resources to extending membership in this way.

Projects

10. The Wolverton Community Association had been very pleased with the British Railways-style sign commissioned for presentation to Wolverton's Belgian twin town, Ploegsteert. Other possible commissions were a noticeboard for Macmillan and playground equipment for schools.

Use and abuse of equipment

11. A lot of equipment was currently under-used and it was thought that this was mainly because training could not easily be provided. It was hoped that the Didac scheme would go some way towards remedying this.
12. There had been instances of both abuse of equipment and theft or misappropriation. It was hoped that the installation of CCTV would enable this to be monitored and deterred.

Trustees meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2017

Present: as above

Minutes

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 5 June were agreed as a correct record.

Finance

2. There is £20681 in the bank. The overall position continues to be healthy, with a positive monthly balance of approximately £1000. Matched funding from the Margaret Powell Fund is expected.

Replacement for Paul Griffiths

3. Age UK have nominated a replacement for Paul Griffiths as a trustee and committee member. It was questioned, however, whether it might be possible to find a more appropriate member from another organisation. This would require a change to the constitution. **ACTION: All** to consider possible nominations and submit ideas before the next meeting

Exclusion of a member

4. The trustees considered and approved a draft exclusion letter to a member who had been caught stealing from the demijohn. The individual would be invited to make representations, accompanied, if he wished, by an advocate.

Business plan and SWOT

5. This was agreed to cover the key issues for the Shed. It was confirmed that the 'officer of the day' role would be instituted. Les was currently covering Mondays, Peter Wednesdays and Steve Fridays. Other committee members would take on the role on an ad hoc basis.
6. The whiteboard would be used as the primary means of communicating announcements unless or until the TV screen could be introduced.
7. Accidents and sudden illness were the primary risk/threat. The question of a CPR mannequin and/or a defibrillator and whether funding should be sought for these was raised again.

Date of next meeting

Monday 2 October 2017 at 16.00 (and on the first Monday every two months subsequently). Shed meetings will take place monthly on the first Wednesday at 12.00.

NMP 24.8.2017