**HIGHER DENHAM COMMUNITY CIO**

**Registered Charity No. 1163577**

MINUTES OF THE

Annual General Meeting

of the Higher Denham Community CIO

**Thursday 21st March 2019 at 8.00pm**

in the Community Hall

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1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Diana Gordon, Chris Mallam & Sue Magowan.

1. **Minutes of last AGM**

These were proposed by Ed Nash-Steer, seconded by Jane Blyth as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman, Jacqui McGowan.

1. **Matters Arising**

None

1. **Chairman’s Report**

Jacqui McGowan introduced herself as the new Chairman having been elected following David Ward stepping down earlier on the year. She gave an update on the Committee’s activities over the past year:

* **The Hall and Glebe Field** – both have been well used over the past year, with several new classes started in the Hall and the Denham Rangers Youth Football and Martin Baker’s Adult Football Teams using the Field. The Youth Club, however, is finishing after several years.
* **Security of the Hall, Car Park & Field** - in the last couple of years we have been busy installing preventative measures including the bollards in the car park and the bund on the field. We have recently been discussing installing a gate of some sort on the entrance to the car park to keep travellers out and any roaming pigs and horses which have given us problems in the past. This will include a height restrictive barrier to be installed shortly.
* There have also been several break in attempts on our mower shed. One was successful and resulted in around £1000 in the loss of items and damage to equipment. Another attempt was made recently and extra locks have been installed on the shed. The shed is covered by CCTV, however we will be installing an alarm system shortly in an attempt to deter thieves. It’s not a cheap option but we feel that the cost will outweigh another potential loss and any damage to the shed and the equipment that is stored in there.
* **Community Defibrillator** – mentioned at last year’s AGM has since been installed in the Hall car park, and a training session held for local residents. Buying and installing the defib was a joint venture with the Social Club and we are grateful for their support in helping to provide this equipment within our community. Partial funding has been obtained for a second defib, that will be sited on Upper Road, to cover the houses furthest from the one in the car park.
* **The Fly-tipping** on Old Rectory Lane - rubbish the travellers left behind last year is still there, despite efforts from the Parish Council to get the landowner to clear it, and the assurances that this would start in July 2018 and be completed by July 2019. Councillor Julia Walsh, a Higher Denham resident, continues to champion the cause on our behalf.
* **Thanks**, on behalf of the Committee go to:

**Di Gordon** and the fantastic job she does collecting the Monthly Draw Subscriptions and co-ordinating the teas at Open Gardens.

**Les**, our Groundsman and his work buddy, Geoff, for all their work looking after the Field.

**Terri Urquhart** for producing the resident newsletter which keeps us all informed on what is going on in our community and for taking the minutes this evening

**Jon Senior** for printing the Newsletter.

**Graham Blyth**, for all the work he did to get the defib up and running and generally getting roped into anything that Jane needs doing in the Hall

**Des and Ryan Hall** for running the magnificent Firework display

**Cathy Bryant** for all her help at Firework night and the Christmas light switch on serving large amounts of mince pies and making litres and litres of mulled wine!

**Gordon Evans, Jon Senior, Kevin Carney, Charlie McClelland and Pete Bryant** for putting up and taking down the outside Xmas decorations.

**5. Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Dr Ron James gave an update from the audited accounts.

**Income:**

* Main income from the Hall and Field hire continues steadily as a result of the new classes in the Hall, and the Denham Rangers Youth and Martin Baker Adult football teams regular users of the Glebe Field.
* Open Gardens, the Monthly Draw and Events like Firework night all added to the funds.

**Expenses:**

* Expenditure on maintenance, rates, insurance and utilities was up, although overall costs were down. This was thanks to reduced outlay on Field maintenance and sundries, which were high the previous year due to the spend on protecting the Hall car park from trespassers.

1. **Election of Treasurer**

Dr Ron James, Moorhouse Lane

1. **Election of Minute Secretary**

Mrs Orlaith Senior, Lower Road

1. **Election of Committee Members**

Mrs Jane Blyth, Side Road Mr Peter Bryant, Upper Road

Mrs Patricia Davidson, Lower Road Mrs Sonia Harris, Middle Road

Mrs Jacqui McGowan, Middle Road Mr Edward Nash-Steer, Lower Road

1. **Election of Auditor**

Mrs Jill Dalton

1. **Any Other Business**

* **New Hall Proposal**. Ron also reported that the CIO had received a planning grant of almost £40k to take the project to the next stage. He showed an outline drawing of the new building and explained that there was still a work to be done to get to the planning approval process. There will be more details on this in a future Newsletter.
* **Neighbourhood Plan for Higher Denham** — a meeting was held on 7th March when Councillor Sharon Williams shared areas in Higher Denham that could potentially be identified for development in the future. At the AGM, residents expressed their concern and frustration with the meeting, particularly around the lack of information on how the proposed sites were selected, the criteria used and what other options had been discounted. They felt it would have been useful for the Neighbourhood Planning Consultant to be present at the meeting, and Jacqui McGowan agreed to write to the Chair of the Denham Parish Council (DPC) to raise the matter.
* **Bill Evans Cup—** this year the Cup was presented to former Chairman, David Ward who has worked tirelessly in our community over the years. He has suggested and driven a huge number of projects which have enhanced our facilities and the area we live in. There are so many to mention, including designing and building of the bus shelter, organising the clearing of all the trees, bushes and rubble along the field boundary, installing the new fence, building the mower shed, and having the foresight to install the bund and car park barriers against the occupancy by the travellers. David also had the vision for a new community building to replace the one that has served us well, and this vision is slowly becoming a reality.
* **Committee Meeting Minutes** — requests were received from residents to re-instate the publication of the minutes on the HDC website. This has already been actioned and the minutes can be found under the *Keeping you infor*med section. A printed copy is also posted on the Notice Board in the Hall car park.

Meeting ended: 9.15pm