

The Community Action: Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) committee met at the Head Shed at 7pm and via Zoom.

1. Welcome / Present/Apologies:

Pippa welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Martin Moorshead who was standing in for Alison Candlin. On behalf of the committee, Pippa welcomed the news that Richard Bean's health was improving and sent the committee's very best wishes to both him and Elizabethhe.

Present: Pippa Richardson; Lesley Sibbald; Peter Richardson; Nick Adsett; Angela Ferris; Mike Booth; Peter Harrison; Maureen Hibbott; Ann Harrison. Martin Moorshead.

Apologies: Mary Pile; Elizabethhe and Richard Bean; Joan Boorer.

2. Minutes and Actions from the meeting held on 19 October 2021:

- 2.1. (Item 5.2) Peter R to undertake more research into the most suitable source of funding for the Jubilee summer fete: Peter reported that several options had been explored but only two appeared to have potential at this time. A bid to Melksham Town Council had been rejected as the fete was not deemed to be of benefit to the residents of Melksham. A bid to MWPC was currently being progressed, closing date 31 January 2022. Peter also explained that he was aware of some other grants for arts, drama and to help communities 'come back together' that may be worth keeping in mind for later consideration.
- 2.2. (Item 6.3) Request for more volunteers for CEG: Peter H advised no new volunteers had come forward.
- 2.3. (Item 8.1) Potential winter event: Pippa confirmed that this had proved too ambitious for several reasons and had been 'parked'.
- 2.4. Other actions covered under relevant agenda item below.

3. Updates on current CAWS Activities

- 3.1. Phone Box Library Top Lane – Lesley reported that, for the first time for several months, a bag of magazines had been left on the floor where they were becoming damp and would have to be removed. Otherwise, although over stacked, the box remained reasonably tidy.
- 3.2. Information Box Corsham Rd – Nothing new to report. Peter R suggested that, pending further development, the box could be used as a seed and plant exchange location. The committee agreed to this potential idea. **Action: Peter R to explore further and discuss with the Gardening Club. Lesley to provide details of Gardening club rep.**
- 3.3. Litter Pick – Date for next litter pick agreed for Sunday 3rd April 2022

4. Finance:

Joan (in absentia) had confirmed that the 2020 accounts had been submitted to MWPC in support of our bid for funds to support the Jubilee fete and the 2021 accounts were almost ready to go to Roger Hatherley for audit. **Action: Joan.**

5. Updates on other Community Activities:

- 5.1. Speedwatch: Nothing to report due to Richard's illness.
- 5.2. MWPC News: Nothing to report.
- 5.3. Community Emergency Group: Peter H advised that the CEG met every 2 months and that both Mary Pile and Teresa Strong had been invited to attend. Peter H also advised that he is now a key holder and that there had been an incident reported on the 29th December He reiterated that the CEG very much needs further fit and able volunteers.
- 5.4. Whitley Stores: Martin introduced himself as a member of the Steering Group and explained that the business has two key measures of success:

Community Engagement: The community had responded positively so far, with more than 175 pledges and share purchases. They were also encouraged by the number of volunteers who were helping in various ways. The Grand Opening had been a great success as had been the Christmas raffle and the range of products on offer. This was exactly what the steering group had hoped for.

Finance: Over 7500 customers had visited the shop since opening and 15000 items had been purchased including £1500 worth of stamps over the Christmas period. The cash turnover was ahead of the target daily turnover. They hoped to break-even at the end of year one.

Looking to the future, Martin confirmed that they would like to run a stall at the fete and would be willing to run the bar. He also mentioned that they now had a raffle licence. In response to the question regarding opening a Post Office, he confirmed that this was not feasible due to space but that they may explore a mobile option in the future. Finally, he reminded everyone that membership of the community shop was still available at the cost of £10, which included voting rights and regular updates.

6. Planning: Nothing to report

7. Community Events:

7.1. Queen's Jubilee celebrations June 2022: Nick & Peter R explained that the spreadsheet circulated prior to the meeting would be simplified to make it easier to read and will form the basis of the work that will need to be taken forward, by whom and by when. This would be done by the end of the month.

Action – Nick and Peter R.

Nick then explained that he had been in touch with Box Steam Brewery and The White Hart re provision of a bar at the fete but that he would now discuss options with Whitley Stores too. All committee members were encouraged to submit any other suggestions for contributors, stall holders etc. who may be interested in participating. **Action – All by end of January, for consideration by sub committee.**

7.2. Peter R reported that he had approached several businesses for sponsorship / donations. Peter H suggested that the CEG may be able to lend 2-way radios. Ann reminded the committee that the church had applied for a raffle licence, as requested, by CAWS. Pippa confirmed that the church licence should be used on this occasion but that it was good to know that Whitley Stores may be able to help in the future. Mike suggested we make contact with the Red Arrows to see if it might be possible to arrange a flypast (as they transit to displays on the day). **Action – Peter R to contact the Red Arrows.**

8. 2022 AGM: The committee agreed that the AGM should be delayed until after the fete and would be held on 21 June 2022.

9. AOB:

9.1. Mike raised a suggestion that some of the proceeds from the fete be used for a commemorative plaque or bench at the Beeches. This was agreed.

9.2. Possible Campaign to improve internet connectivity across Shaw & Whitley: Pippa explained that a letter had been received from Dan Pike, a resident, regarding the poor and intermittent internet connection which was particularly affecting local businesses. It was agreed that Dan be invited to join the committee so that he could undertake a survey under the CAWS 'umbrella' and to contact IT companies. **Action Pippa**

10. Date of Next Meetings:

10.1. Jubilee sub-Committee Tuesday 1 February 2022 - 1900 at The Headshed

10.2. Full committee: Wednesday 2nd March 2022 - 1900 at The Headshed

11. Closure: Pippa thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 1950.

Lesley Sibbald

January 2022