

Dartington Recreation Association Trustees meeting notes

30th January 2024 by zoom

Present Joel Riley (chair), Louise Morpeth, Jan Maddick, Margaret Cushen, Mark Burton, Mandy Burton, Jim Brittain, Ashish Ghadiali, Miles Davies, Mark Alford, Bex House, Michael Campbell, Jody Fendrick

Apologies: Helen Tune, Harry Welch(Wave)

Margaret explained that Harry Welch has withdrawn as the Wave representative on the DRA. He has been asked if another member of staff would take on the role.

Joel asked everyone to introduce themselves and their interest. Miles introduced himself as the new TSAC representative; Micheal Campbell has volunteered to revamp the DRA website and to help in any other way needed; Jody Fendrick represents the Dartington Playgoers who are hoping to use Meadowbrook as a rehearsal and performance space. Joel welcomed them

Notes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Matters arising

MUGA Adrian has secured funding and obtained a quote to paint the cycle track on the tarmac, the work may be waiting till the weather improves. Bex will get an update.

DHT Ash had a meeting on another matter with the CO. They are focused on a “hyper local” offer and are anxious to engage as partners tenants who can meet the overheads costs. He advised that the approach to DHT would need to have a very clear agenda.

Air Ambulance many of the key people have change roles. Ash will gather all the information needed to take to the Parish Council, as they would initiate a planning application if the project was to go ahead. Louise pointed out that she will need to go to the PC with the pool project too, suggesting that she and Ash do this together.

Report

<https://d.docs.live.net/d40a4eb4677bb861/Documents/DRA/Trustees%5eMAGM/trustees%20meetings/reports%20Jan24/Ashish%20update-%20jan2024.docx>

Finance Louise had circulated accounts against the budget. We are in the 9th month of our financial year. She will present the budget for next year at the next trustees meeting in March. Trustees will need to consider how much the DRA should hold in reserves, how much we wish to ring fence for current (pool) and future (building) projects. Louise commented that the underspend in the budget for fundraising for the pool and for the building can be carried forward to next year. Mandy asked if the expenditure incurred for the cancelled Extravaganza is lost? Bex said most of it was to buy materials that will be used in May. Mandy also asked whether, for accounting purposes, the insurance claim and the spend against it should be a separate line in the accounts. Ash asked if DRA would guarantee matched funding against projects,

Louise pointed out that S106 money is used for matched funding purposes when the DRA has submitted bids to large funders in the past.

Ashish volunteered to investigate responsibility for the access road repair in the lease and to obtain some quotes for repair/ resurfacing.

Report <https://d.docs.live.net/d40a4eb4677bb861/Documents/DRA/Trustees%5eMAGM/trustees%20meetings/reports%20Jan24/Finance%20report%20for%20trustees%20Jan%2024.pdf>

Energy Strategy update

Papers

here <https://d.docs.live.net/d40a4eb4677bb861/Documents/DRA/Trustees%5eMAGM/trustees%20meetings/reports%20Jan24/Trustees%20energy%20strategy%20update%20PDF%2030Jan24.pdf>

The Community Energy fund is likely to be open for bids again in March. Jim has been in contact with SW Net zero hub and they are keen for the DRA to apply for this funding, which would enable us get professional feasibility studies developed. Some of this work would be more detailed surveys of the energy needs and generation for the PV's and heat pumps for the pool and could include use of surplus and/ or investment in generating energy off site, on one of the schools.

Louise asked for Jim's recommendation of which option we should focus on. He option A- developing a community of practice. The feasibility studies would give us options with stage 1 being high level feasibility and level 2 being more practical. Jim is as yet unclear about their definition of "site", however we may be able to define as the pool compound and go back for further stage 1 funding for a different site in the 11 acres.

Mark Burton offered to help Jim as he is working with the county net zero group. The time scale if we get an application in that is successful, is that the feasibility studies could be carried out in the summer. Bex asked if this would be too late for procurement for the pool, Jim did not think this would be the case.

Pool redevelopment

report <https://d.docs.live.net/d40a4eb4677bb861/Documents/DRA/Trustees%5eMAGM/trustees%20meetings/reports%20Jan24/Bex%20pool%5eJ%20track%5eJ%20playpark%20update%2030.1.24.docx>

The flood survey and the lighting survey need to be completed for the planning application, however Bex is confident the application will be made in February as planned. Urzula is finishing the brief and Jon is finishing the business plan and projected use/cost/income.

Building group

Bookings are up, P and THH seem happy to continue. Micaela put forward a proposal for a shaded area/outside cover, the proposal was not acceptable, but Mark is meeting with P to discuss alternatives.

Football

The weather has been terrible! The foundation football continues but does not have enough playing time. The girls' football is going from strength to strength.

Margaret asked Mark about the Council funding to improve pitches. Mark suggested that Charlie Stephens is the person to be involved in the assessment. Margaret asked about tag rugby, as Dartington PS have booked the field. Mark commented that young children rarely damage the ground- the issues to check on the day are flooded areas and frozen areas. Bex said she will be on the bike track so can discuss with the teachers if there are any concerns.

Dive club

The weather has been terrible! The club meet on Wednesday evenings continues and training is starting again for new Ocean Divers

Bike track

Routine repairs and maintenance continue, the track will need resurfacing as a result of the rain. Some trees were damaged in the storms and DT staff have been and done the necessary work.

AOB

Ash raised the issue of whether we are keeping to our constitution or whether the clauses around terms of office as trustees need changing. Mandy suggested that the phrase was 3 terms not 3 years. Bex felt it was not feasible to change trustees routinely as there are so few active, with large projects to oversee. We agreed to give this more time for discussion in the agenda for the next trustees meeting.

Margaret informed the trustees that the Charity Commission are recommending that every charity adds conflict of interest as a standing item for trustee meetings. Margaret will add to the agenda from now onwards.

Next meeting Tuesday 2th March by zoom