

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

When: Tuesday, 25th August 2020 - 6:30pm

Where: Carmelita Centre & Virtually via Microsoft Teams

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

* Present: Steve (virtually), Chrys (virtually), AJ (Virtually), Pam, Carroll, Amanda, Alison, Jerome, Jean and Karina
* Apologies: Clare, Cllr Jon Davies, Cllr Joanne Simpson & Yvonne

**2. Minutes of committee meeting held on 20.06.20**

Minute were agreed by all committee members present.

**3. Matters Arising**

Steve was surprised that the previous meeting was agreed upon as a VGERTA committee meeting when the chair, treasurer and secretary had voted against it.

It was explained named officers have no more voting power than any other committee member. Whilst Jen attended the meeting and voted against the other committee members present (numbering 5) voted for, and; therefore, the motion was passed.

Steve hung up and left the meeting following this discussion.

**4. Elections to Vacant Officer Posts (including co-options if necessary)**

All positions were stated as being fulfilled as temporary until the next AGM

* Chair: Jean - proposed by Carroll, seconded by Alison
* Secretary: Alison - proposed Carroll, seconded by Pam
* Treasurer: Carroll - proposed by Jean, seconded by Alison
* Vice Chair: Jerome - proposed by Alison, seconded by Jean

Comms is already assigned to Chrys (was agreed in a previous meeting)

**5. Carmelita Centre Management**

Alison stated that management should include bookings which are now online and also coming in via emails but we also need to be offering an in person option. All hirers need to do a fire walk through the centre. Alison also stated it is hard to do bookings for the different rooms online because of different usages i.e you wouldn’t want to do Yoga with a Party in the next room hence suggested in person bookings would be better to be able to check other usage.

When we are allowed to reopen Jean asked about the need to have both doors open to enable a one way system to be Covid-19 ready building-wise. The “Front Door” is hard to open as it has dropped so this would be problematic but as the fire door could be used if necessary.

Comms: New Section on Website for Comms, some things need to be added to website such as procedures and hire charges. AJ mentioned Instagram needs updating - all the social media needs updating but it needs content to do so.

Action: Chrys to update website, Alison to update procedures - everyone could help with content for Social Media

Bookings: A lot was covered under management discussion, but it was suggested bookings to be done by Alison and Carroll on the premises

Key/Fob Holders: Currently certain users have keys for their space etc only certain committee members have keys to office to ensure its safety. Resigning committee members will need to give keys back

Action: Alison to collect Steve’s key up

New Lease Agreement: Jerome was given the paper copy, Karina to email rest of committee the lease agreement. Lease to be signed at next meeting. There is no rent however VGERTA are responsible for the utility bills and running costs. Lease will be for 6yrs and 364 days so doesn’t have to be added to Land registry and will automatically renewed for a further 6yrs 364 days thereafter.

Action: Karina to email lease, committee to read it before signing at next meeting

Planned New Centre Update: Committee not overly happy with some of the plans for new development as don’t know much about the Orsett Street development which it is tied to.

Committee members raised concerns about being seen as being bribed by the new community centre into accepting the Orsett Street site which is more contentious. Members were also concerned about the lack of consultation with the adjacent residents of both proposed sites. VGERTA will object as a committee and as individual residents to the development until there is clarity on plans.

Action: Chase up leaflet from developers and convey committee concerns at the next consultation meeting.

**6. Financial Report and Nine Night**

Ex-committee members aren’t signatories on account so not a problem about having to change.

Savings account has made small amount of interest - £22.26

Current account had £64.49 spent on a phone bill and £394 for a seed project to be run by Jerome who will supply receipts VGERTA also owes £80 on a deposit to be reimbursed.

Alison has asked to buy a 50m hose which was agreed.

Jerome asked about the £7500 in savings, Alison stated it some of this is ear marked for the Wynynard and Sedley courtyard project. This has been going on for a while - since 2015 as Lambeth need to check the flooring of the area before anything else can be progressed.

AJ said it is the worst bit of the estate - kids need a playground but also disabled parking plus the lifts aren’t in good order.

Lambeth will need to consult the residents beore anything can happen but VGERTA’s plan is murals, planting and playground equipment

Action: Buy a longer hose. Jean to chase what progress, if any have been made by Lambeth on Wynyard and Sedley proposals.

Nine Night was a success within reason - there were 300 attending, 300 had also attended the funeral. VGERTA donated 2 days of the Carmelita Centre for free. Carroll spent £273.28 on soft drinks, balloons and gas - this is unlikely to be reimbursed by the family because of unforeseen circumstances. It was agreed Carroll should be reimbursed.

Action: VGERTA to reimburse Carroll

**7. Comms/information Report**

Chrys stated that he had regained access to social media accounts, latest newsletter was sent to 500 people 60% of which opened it. No longer using mail chimp because of risk of safety.

First week of September draft of newsletter to be circulated

Website has been redesigned, Chrys and Alison have seen 1st draft.

Flyer logos have been recovered so good to go on flyer front.

**8. Gardening Project Update**

Seed sharing workshop to be held at Carmelita Centre or on Estate, Chrys asked for date and Jean asked Jerome to create a flyer. Waiting for Lambeth to come back - Jerome stated second half of grant would be therapeutic planting (trees) community healing over grief over Jahreau’s death.

There are plans for “Jahreau’s Corner” in Bromfield Playground - plant box, memorial bench and artwork to be put on wall by artists.

Action: Jean, Karina & Rahul to have a site meeting re: memorial

**9. Cancelled Community Programme**

It was suggested that it reflected poorly on VGERTA to not hold anything when an alternative had been planned and Jerome’s sister had been doing Summer activities in Brixton.

It was noted that opening under Covid-19 would be problematic to do in such a short time frame which is why nothing was done.

**10.Future Projects for our Youth and Community**

It would be good to get in contact with Jide (Nu-Breed) to rerun things for primary school aged children. Ramona (on the Committee) has a bouncy castle)

Action: Ask Tom (Lambeth Youth and Play) and Karina (Lambeth Resident Participation Officer) for a list of Youth providers

**11. Police Issues**

Jerome stated he did not want to be included in emails to police, nor have a meeting. Pam commented on the 20 unmarked police cars continuously on the estate - young people know about them they won’t want to come to a police talk. Alison and Jean suggested engagement/talks need to be done but would not include individual cases. Karina suggested the man who saved the guy being attacked in the BLM protests as he does outreach

Action: Karina to look into person she suggested - more though needed around how to do police engagement

**12 . AOB**

Are there too many keys? Does it create a safety issue? - general consensus was no because office have limited access.

Someone has ripped the Alarm out over lockdown - in new building aim is to have key fobs which will let VGERTA know who accessed the centre and when.

Gardening at Jameson and Kennedy House should be nominated for “Lambeth in Bloom”

Alison stated there need to be a meeting with Pinnacle about walkways/pavements and saplings.

It was asked what is happening with Shanks Pony as the plant islands along Vauxhall Walk are looking neglected. Vauxhall One has stopped the contract but he as an individual business is still doing best to maintain them.

Action: Jean will contact Vauxhall One.

Young at ‘Art still not sure when they can reopen - waiting to hear on when Carmelita Centre plans to reopen to plan accordingly

Meetings to be held on 4th Tuesdays of the month

**13. Date and Time of next meeting**

6:30 22nd September, 2020