

Shotley Open Spaces Minutes 11th April 2018 Bristol Arms 13.30

Apologies: Alex P, Ian P.

Attendees: Gary R, Derek G, Ian S, Marian P, Geraint P, Shane Rolin, Jane L, Casper DB, Tony LR, Andrew T.

1. Minutes of last meeting: Confirmed and signed.
2. Walkers are Welcome

Gary talked about our first birthday party for our attainment of WaW status. Snags and ideas were shared. Special thanks to all organisers, especially Shane. Discussions re. banners and stickers ensued, including costs of new WaW stickers (Bakers Arms). All new walks, coming from a variety of sources, need to be published. Health Walk co ordinator, Practice Manager at Shotley Surgery and the village in general need to be given an overall calendar of walks. Casper and Andrew have volunteered for Health Walk training. Casper is to produce “bullet points” for historical aspects of the health walks.

3. Tourism Action Group

Next meeting 19th April at Jimmys Farm. The Lawford Randalls will be our delegates to this. Electric bikes have now been funded and we can loan them to members of SOS. A World War 1 themed short walk around the village is to be researched. GP will liaise with Harwich re. their involvement with this.

4. Parish Council

They have refuted any suggestion that they should progress Phase 3 of the erosion protection project. SOS is not legally able to do so. The Council is now looking to persuade others to take responsibility. There was no representative of the PC present. None of their appointed delegates had sent apologies so we do not know where they stand regarding ongoing communications with us. We couldn't question them regarding some of their most recent pronouncements on local news media. The latest idea for a “residents association” seems yet another way of supervising Phase 3 at arms length. We await, with interest, the outcome of their promise to hold a further public meeting. Regarding the incident with the “firebreak” (which was described as only a metre over size). There are e mails that prove there is no written advice that this work should be undertaken. Both Natural England and the Fire Service confirm this. The PC did not sanction this work in any minuted meeting but it has

proven impossible to get a response to recent enquiries.

5. Ongoing Maintenance

Concreting work has been scheduled at 10.00 on Sunday 6 May and Thursday 24 May.

6. Gun Deck Working Group

Neither of our advisors, who were going to draw up plans, cost the work (and apply for change of use), is willing to carry on. We have no further interest in progressing this project ourselves and will leave it to the PC to take it further.

7. Marketing and Promotions

MP reported "Think Ink" offering a 25% promotional discount this month. Relevant figures are:

2017 Cost £951.89, 400 @ £6, all sold, Profit £1,518.11

2018 Cost £1,019.88, 400@ £7, 75 left, Profit £1003.21

2019 Cost £810.47, 300@ £7 projected profit £1,290

Ian S proposed 2019 option be pursued Gary R seconded

Carried unanimously.

MP also suggested next theme of calendars to be:

"PEOPLE, PLACES and PASTIMES in Shotley"

Marian proposed Derek G seconded

Carried unanimously.

There are still some polo shirts available for sale.

8. Treasurers Report

AONB money has been added to our account. The spreadsheet will be distributed and a formal report will be deferred to next meeting.

9. A.O.B.

GP to action amendment to e mail list to comply with forthcoming legislation.

Meeting ended 16.24

Next meeting Thursday 10th May Bristol Arms

There are a number of walks in prospect over the next few months. Please check on our web site for further details. We would love to see some of you there. Work parties are also due to re start. We will try to keep all of them to two hour sessions. Your help would be marvellous.