

DRAFT

Dartington Recreation Association
Thursday 26th January, 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Minutes

1. Present

Trustees: Carole Tudor (Treasurer), Louise Morpeth (Secretary), Steve Mackay, Will Fitzgerald, Peggy Prout (Vice Chair), David Prout, Bex House, Allan Tudor, Laura Hayton, Lynne Williams

Guests: David Irish, Sarah Jane Lawson

2. Apologies: Mandy Burton (Chair), Judy Findlay, Elaine Hopkins, David Coleman, Jacqui Hodgson, Jo Talling, Jane Bleack,

3. Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising.

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

Update on actions & matters arising

- Cllr Hogdson has formally raised an enquiry with the planning officers at SHDC about the drainage on the Dorothy Elmhirst sports field.
- EH has arranged the swimming pool AGM for **Thursday 23rd February at 7pm.**
- CT has not been in touch with the Skittle Club about the storage of the temporary skittle alley in the pavilion but will follow up with them.
- DHT arranging a meeting with Dave Chapman in February (date to be confirmed) about looking at options for Meadowbrook Community Centre.
- LM sent a thank you card to the Guardians of Meadowbrook on behalf of the DRA.
- LM had not organised another tidy up day.
- All other matters arising were on the meeting agenda.

4. Treasurer's report

Current balance is £4000.

5. Chairs/secretary report

LM had met with Jill Mahon, Head Teacher at Dartington Primary School. The school are keen to make use of the DRA facilities and to help with their upkeep. The students have been asked to come up with ideas to help design the new play area.

Decision: it was agreed that the school could make use of the playing field. The schools offer to become Guardians of the Nature Trail was gratefully accepted.

LM & PP attended the Neighbourhood Planning meeting and provided an update on the DRA's plans.

Decision: LM to share the final version of the DRA vision with Kate Wilson

6. DRA vision

LM presented a revised version of the vision incorporating comments from the previous meeting.

Decision: the revised version was accepted with one clarification – an explanation of the the area included in the Meadowbrook area.

7. Update on coppicing

AT is making good progress with coppicing. A donation of £50 has been received for wood. Signs are to be put up to discourage people helping themselves to the cut wood.

Decision: it was agreed that there should be an event on the playing field around Easter to publicise the facilities of the DRA and to sell the products of AT's coppicing work.

8. Update on the lease

An assurance had been provided by Jo Talling that the draft lease will be ready for review by early February. DHT have sent a letter confirming that the old lease remains in effect until the new lease is finalised. Nothing had been received regarding the side letter for the Meadowbrook Community Centre.

Action: it was agreed that Carole would clarify with the DRA solicitor where liability currently sits with regard to the lease since the old lease was held by the old incarnation of the DRA and the trustees of the new CIO are not responsible for the old association.

9. Next steps for the play area and MUGA

Playdale have provided quotes for the play area (£111,000) and MUGA (£90,000). The trustees agreed that these provided a helpful start in terms of cost and possibilities. WF and LM were due to meet with a specialist provider of MUGAs on Friday 27th Jan to invite a quote.

10. Proposal from Lifeworks

Sarah Jane Lowson and David Irish explained their proposal for a feasibility project.

Lifeworks are requesting the DRA consider setting aside a parcel of land roughly the size of two tennis courts for the construction of an inclusive, enclosed adventure play area. The play area would be designed to be accessible for children with disabilities as well as those without disabilities but would always require adult supervisors to be on site. At other times the facility would be closed.

Decision: the DRA were supportive of Sarah Jane and David refining the proposal with a request to state how much land was wanted and where they think would be an optimal site. This decision was made without commitment of money or a guarantee of progressing the project.

11. AOB

LM to contact Dave Prout to organise a day to take down the final part of the fence at the nature trail.

DHT has confirmed that the sports field was not deemed to be a suitable site for the proposed mobile phone mast.

Dates for future meetings

Thursday 2nd March, Thursday 30th March, Thursday 4th May, Thursday 8th June