

Burley in Wharfedale Community Trust

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at the Library, Burley in Wharfedale on Tuesday 12th October 2021

Present: Duncan Ault (DA) (Chair); Mark Elsworth (ME); Andrew Wriglesworth (AW), Jan Edwards (JE).Loraine Hughes (LH); Nick Turnbull (NT); Harvey Bosomworth (HB); Sylvia Tilford (ST); Tim Brooke (TB)

1. Welcome, apologies for absence and Trustee interests:

Apologies for absence - Niccola Swan (NS);

Bill Midgley, Shirley Moffat and Elaine Marsden from BET were also in attendance during the discussion on the Burley Educational Trust matter. Barbara Holden and Keith Dale (KD), were unable to attend this meeting

Welcome to Gill Cooper (a BWCT member who has given advice on the allotment footpath and Greenbelt requests from a legal perspective)

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2021

The previous meeting minutes were approved

3. Matters arising.

All matters arising were covered in the meeting.

4. Correspondence

There was ongoing correspondence regarding the BET matter with Wrigleys Solicitors LLP (see 9).

There was also ongoing correspondence with the Co-op concerning use of last year's funding, with the funding figure for this year expected to be in the region of £3,000.

Other correspondence from the local schools, Unique, Greenbelt would be covered during the meeting.

5. Trustee matters

It was noted that the Charity Commission had indicated a preference for up to 3 former BET trustees to become BWCT trustees.

DA confirmed that under its constitution, BWCT could have no fewer than 5 trustees and no more than 18. There are 10 trustees at present.

6. Treasurer's Report

Prior to the meeting ME had circulated the treasurers report and up to date accounts position.

It was noted that the value of cash assets for the Trust stood at £67,924.88, as of 30 September 2021, having been £80,560.65 on 1st October 2020.

Of this figure £2,859.45 was reserved for the Corn Mill Pond, £186.25 was still earmarked for the library and £543.77 for the Christmas Lights. This left £59,752.83 in the General Purposes Fund.

Existing and potential commitments of £6,898, including up to £3,500 for the village map, £3,000 for Youthquake, £300 for Plastic Free Burley and £98 for the website, reduced the 'available' general funds to £52,854.83.

The sums that may also be committed to other projects totalled £16,000. This included a further potential commitment of £6,000 for a youth support worker for Youthquake, which it had been agreed would in fact be spread over a 3-year period, £5,000 for Walking with Wheels and £5,000 for a Drinking water fountain. If these all proceed then available general funds would reduce to £36,846.11

Main receipts since last meeting were £5,109 from Greenbelt in respect of Scalebor, £1,415 from the duck race and £1,007.71 from membership fees. £100 had been received in relation to a filming event and £200 from the football summer camp.

The most significant outgoings since last meeting were: £2,700 to HGM regarding Scalebor, £3,874 on the pitches at Scalebor, £650 to Tom Sumner for the raised bed construction and £487.87 to Malcolm Fisher in connection with computer related expenses.

ME noted that the accounts would change once the BWCT/BET merger had taken place to reflect former BET assets.

7. Membership renewal

NT reported that currently 492 full members had joined equating to around 976 linked members. NT and ME were to liaise regarding gift aid. Further reminder letters were to be distributed to members who had not yet renewed.

8 Burley Relief in Need Charity

Janet Squire (JS) attended this part of the meeting to provide information about this charity. ST mentioned she was also a trustee of this charity.

JS explained that the organisation represented several charities providing relief for the poor of the village. The assets of the charity included some investments and 2 cottages. The trustees met 3 times a year. Activities included providing support at Christmas, for housing and for furnishings etc. The charity had also underwritten loans and deposits for housing and had provided financial support for shopping for Love Burley.

The charity liaises closely with the local ministers and other appropriately connected people in the village. Applicants are not means tested as such.

DECISIONS TO BE MADE

9 Burley Educational Trust (BET)

It was reported that the Charity Commission had approved the amended objects for BET to extend the age group who can benefit from the fund and to widen the geographical area to bring this into line with the area covered within BWCTs objects. BET have accordingly completed the resolution to transfer its assets to BWCT. There would now be a 60-day period before the transfer can be completed.

BWCT trustees need to confirm their acceptance of the asset transfers by separate Trustee Resolution. ME queried the wording of the template received and the meaning of the words 'restricted' and the 'current objects' referred to for BET. It was understood that BET's permanent endowment had been lifted and that, albeit BWCT would use the fund for widened educational purposes, the funds were to be otherwise unrestricted. *[ADW checked this with Wrigleys immediately after the meeting, who confirmed that the permanent endowment restriction had been lifted, so that the income and the capital of the fund could now be expended. However, the funds (income and capital) would be held by BWCT on narrower objects than its general objects. Therefore, the BET funds would form a restricted fund within BWCT, to only be used to advance education. It would not be possible to use the BET funds for any other charitable purpose than the advancement of education and that is why it would need to be treated as a restricted fund going forward.]*

The date when the merger officially takes place was also queried and how this should be shown in the accounts. It was suggested and provisionally agreed that BET's final accounts would be drawn up to their normal year end of 31 December 2021, with this being the suggested merger date.

The practicalities of transferring assets were discussed. The assets of BET at 7 October 2021 were :-

Blackrock, Schroder's and a Virgin money bank account. The BET trustees present confirmed that the information and paperwork to effect the necessary transfers would be completed/pursued.

Finally, the BET trustees present confirmed that distributions in the last 12 months comprised a payment of £500 to Unique and £2,500 to Burley Scouts.

A separate formal resolution (as worded by Wrigleys) to agree to the merger was also passed.

10. Christmas Lights (27 November)

DA asked for Trustee assistance in the various roles needed on the day. This included help with road closure supervision, collecting cash from visitors (with QR codes available for those without cash). DA is to approach Burley Parish Council for £500 toward the market. Around £500 might also be hopefully raised through the Co-op raffle.

HB has organised the poster. NS will assist with other publicity. Several performers and a celebrity (to do the switch on) had been lined up.

The market is being organized by Tess and Anna. There will also be a mixture of village and out of village community organisations. There will be a 60/40 fee sharing arrangement in relation to fees for stalls. 8 people are also interested in running craft fair stalls.

DA is to contact the bus companies to confirm the traffic route changes. A trained traffic manager will assist on a voluntary basis which will save £1,000 in expenses. Bradford Council have been given the required notice.

11 Pump Track

DA reported on a meeting he had had with Sam Newman the previous month concerning this potential project. A track had been intended for Ilkley, but the available site was unsuitable due to possible flooding. In Burley the proposed site would be at the back of the recreation ground, adjacent to the existing skateboard park.

The projected costs would be between £85k and £120k. Sam Newman has knowledge about how to raise some of the funds and the young people of the village would need to be involved in fund raising. BPC are also interested in supporting the project. Bradford council will also need to be 'on board', as would other interested parties such as the football club.

One issue is parking. Another is ownership of the site, which might as part of the overall arrangement have to be transferred to Bradford Council.

12 Youth provision

LH reported that it was now clear that Bradford Council were not interested in assisting in the project in relation to Burley.

A questionnaire had been formulated to assist in the scoping of this ongoing 'community led' youth initiative. There were questions around how to constitute the organization and allocate responsibility. Also, should it link into the community hub idea proposed by Rev Tim Perkins?

Other questions were around the required qualifications of the person needed to lead the project (and whether such a person could be identified in the village) and around longer-term funding.

13 Walkers are Welcome

DA reported that the issue around the allotment path aspect was now with the legal department at Bradford Council. Assuming the legal position is favorably decided, £4,500 of funding is available as and when the go ahead can be given or agreed, which has primarily been provided by the Co-op and Burley Parish council.

There is a proposal to purchase 5 benches for various locations including Sun Lane, Moor Lane, Eastfield Lane and in the village near the notice board. Three of these being funded by other organizations, the cost being £300 per bench. A suitable contribution (of £600) from BWCT was approved.

14 Village maps

DA confirmed (in the absence of NS) that the project was ongoing.

15. Village wellbeing

It was reported that confirmation of Love Burley's charitable status had been received.

Unique is hopefully going to be funded by the Co-op next year.

Discussions were ongoing with the schools, also involving Rev Alasdair Kirk's PA

16 Scalebor Park

It was mentioned that following a change to the hierarchy at Greenbelt a costs breakdown in respect of sums paid to BWCT had been requested. Greenbelt currently make monthly payments to BWCT who have in turn contracted with HGM to provide ongoing services around the maintenance of the pitches.

It was agreed that this was understandable in these circumstances, but that other relevant information should be supplied, to include details of all capital expenditure expended, not just by BWCT, but also the football club, on the initial work on the pitches to address the long-standing drainage problem. The not insignificant annual maintenance (sanding/slitting) of the pitches should also be mentioned. Also, BWCT should highlight the ongoing expenditure in relation to the pavilion.

17. Website

The new website – burleyinwharfedale.org is up and running. It is as a reminder, sponsored by BWCT.

Appropriate software has now been identified to enable the directory of businesses to now be properly included, distinguishing between local and out of village businesses. The website needs to be publicized so any more relevant details can be added or revised.

18. Duck race and Teas in the Park 8th August 2021

Due to unsafe river levels the race did not actually happen. However, the guides still ran 'Teas in the Park' and managed to raise over £500.

It was also reported that the ducks are to be temporarily loaned to Ilkley.

19. Herb garden

Three gardens had been made operational, one on the village green and two raised beds in Grange Park. Unfortunately, the two in the park had been vandalised, but were being restored. Burley Gardeners are assisting with advice

20. Zipwire/playground

The matting has now been laid. Unfortunately, the trampoline has broken and as the manufacturer is insolvent, there is a question mark about how to proceed.

21 Men's sheds

The initial meeting was well attended (by between 15/20). A trip to Keighley was planned for the next 'meeting'. A permanent home is still to be established, but a WhatsApp group has been formed in the meantime.

22. Marketing, communications, and social media

NS had confirmed that the next BWCT newsletter was due for publication by the end of November.

23. Litter picking and School meal funding

LH reported that the litter picking mornings continued to prove very successful.

Scott Davies attended the meeting to propose that two A frame boards be purchased to which litter picking equipment (including bags) could be attached for use by the public. One would be located near the Red Lion pub who would take on the responsibility for storing these overnight. The cost was around £168 for the two A frame boards. The BWCT trustees approved this funding request.

'Thank you', correspondence had been, received from the schools for the payments toward their hardship funds. It was agreed this needed to be publicized.

Other projects – brief updates.

24. Hanging baskets etc

Thanks were to be recorded to Tom Sumner for maintaining the Hanging Baskets and planters.

25. Corn Mill Pond

DA reported that the current occupants of the property (the Carruthers) were keen for there to be a continuing connection between ownership of the residential property and some degree of legal responsibility for the pond. This would be tied into the use by the property of part of the related parking area. It was noted the property already had a double garage, so the parking area was not essential.

26. AOB and next meetings.

Next trustees meeting and AGM – 4th January 2022