

BADLESMERE LEES AND HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30 pm, 3 MARCH 2015

Those present: Ian Earl, (Chair); Jane Austin (Secretary); Rick Blackman (Treasurer); Katie Bennett; Jane Gregory; Kate Linforth; Ben Pullen.

Apologies for absence: Adrian Atkins; Fred Gregory; Charlie Kirby; Kim/Rosie Sharrock; Madelene Wilkinson.

1 Minutes of January Meeting and Matters Arising

- 1.1.2 Trustees: see item 6.
- 1.1.3 Bank accounts: RB, IE, MW are signatories (any two required).
- 1.1.4 Village Hall: Work on the toilets is still continuing; the guttering has been repaired; a list of works is still to be drawn up. The Leylandii are still to be trimmed (IE to chase Mark Taylor). The Water Company has replaced their stop tap.
- 1.1.6 Sycamores: Strutt and Parker (S&P) have written to say they are awaiting the Estate's arboriculturalist's report and schedule of work concerning these and the fallen and diseased trees (in the avenue), and the relocation of the Amelanchier and the Checker Tree. IE has supplied S&P with detailed plans and proposal for the southern lay-by.
- 1.1.9 Gas account: awaiting response from the company.
- 1.2 Winter Clear-up #2: was very productive with twelve volunteers turning up. More of the North track was tidied, potholes filled, and the holly at the entrance of the Village Hall cut to about 8 feet high.
- 1.4 Posts: IE has approached the Lees Court Estate via S&P with details of the type and extent of the proposed post-and-rail fence, and requesting help with the costs.
- 1.6 Tree: a Braeburn apple tree has been planted just outside the Village Hall fence.
- 1.7 Fund-raising: The Hundred Club has now 96 members. The winners of the January draw are R Blackman (£15) and M Moore (£10), and for February G Horan (£15) and K Euridge (£10).

2 Constitution/Terms of Reference

- 2.1 IE has written a five-page constitution, which committee members are expected to have read by the next meeting.

3 Winter Clear-up No 3

- 3.1 The next clear-up has been scheduled for 22 March. IE will oversee the burning of the debris from this and the previous sessions.

4 Village Signs update

- 4.1 FG has drawn some designs for the village sign (to be considered at a later date) and a detailed site plan (the triangle at the entrance to the North track). The committee agreed that the sign should have 'Badlesmere Lees', rather than 'Badlesmere and Leaveland' or just 'Badlesmere', as its purpose is to celebrate this hamlet, not either or both villages. A preliminary meeting with the Highways Department of KCC took place on 2 March at the proposed location. The final permission will come in due course after road safety, etc., have been considered. The village will be involved in the final decision regarding the design of the sign.
- 4.2 The Highway Department have yet to approve the proposed gates under the 'Badlesmere and Leaveland' village entry signs. It was reiterated that, for practical reasons, there would be no tubs containing flowers.

5 Medieval Fayre

- 5.1 Following a discussion about the pros and cons of holding a Medieval Fayre, it was decided that it would not take place this year (reversing the decision of the last meeting), as it was felt that there was insufficient time to prepare for it. IE will liaise with Badger Rampant to find out if they will be able to come for two days in 2016, specifically on 21-22 May. KL and JA agreed to set up a working party to prepare for it.
- 5.2 In place of the Medieval Fayre, JA is to organise a Summer Quiz, the name and type to be confirmed. This will be held on 27 June 2015.

6 Village Hall Convention

- 6.1 On 21 March, the Kent Community Halls Advisory Group will hold a convention at Etchinghill Village Hall which will include workshops on such matters as finding new trustees. IE is to attend. BP may also go. If the Parish Council has paid for membership, the cost to the village hall committee will be less than the £60 quoted.

7 Any Other Business

- 7.1 Mark Taylor (Colley's Cottage) has requested that the problem of cars turning round by his gate be considered. It was agreed that the area opposite the Village Hall would be examined during the forthcoming winter clear-up with view to providing better parking and a turning place. Decisions are to be made regarding what kind of material could be put down to give some kind of hard-standing and whether there should be a post-and-rail fence. KL suggested reflectors for the latter.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 5 May at 7.30 pm.