

# **BADLESMERE LEES AND HALL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday, 14 January 2025**

Committee members present: Chris Moore (Chair, taking notes), Rick Blackman (Treasurer), Steve Burt, Fred Gregory, Charlie Kirby, Ben Pullen, Tom Sisley.

**1 Apologies** received from: Dave Austin, Ian Earl, Sue Earl, Gareth Fulton.

## **2 Approval of minutes**

2.1 The minutes of the November meeting were approved though it was agreed the matter of the maintenance of the tracks should be revisited (see below).

## **3 Matters arising** (numbers in parentheses refer to entries in the November minutes)

3.1 (3.1) Footpaths cabinet: IE received a proposed design for the Footpaths map from the Ramblers' Association. Slight changes have been suggested following consultations between IE, SE DA and JA.

3.2 (3.2) Northern layby post(s): GF is still to coordinate its(their) erection.

3.3 (3.3) Speed calming signage on the north track is yet to be progressed.

3.4 (3.4) Posts. No actions or results yet.

3.5 (3.6) EK0GG have said they are going ahead with their AGM in February.

## **4 Accounts**

4.1 The current balances in the four accounts as at the year-end, 31 Dec 2024, were:  
BPH: current = £12 473.44, reserve = £7 709.77;  
BLPC: current = £1 032.34, reserve = £7 402.19.

4.2 IE has produced a spreadsheet of the year's transaction, a summary of the accounts and the bank reconciliation for 2024. RB and CM are in receipt of copies of these. Following internal checking these will be forwarded to committee members. They will then be sent for independent checking before publication at the AGM.

4.2 RB thanked CM for the donation raised at the Halloween party, and acknowledged the funds raised by FG from the Wine & Wisdom event. RB also confirmed the receipt of a grant from Swale Borough Council for the hall works.

4.3 RB gave an update on the 100 Club, noting that additional marketing will be needed in 2025 as membership numbers have declined. The winners of the December prizes, drawn at the Winer & Wisdom, were: Olivia Lawrence (£100), Fred Gregory (£50), and Janet Treasure (£30).

4.4 RB reported on insurance cover, stating that subsidence cover is no longer included. However, this change has reduced the overall insurance costs for the coming year.

## **5 North Track and Car Park**

5.1 As IE and GF were absent, it was agreed to defer discussions on the North Track to the next meeting.

5.2 The committee emphasized the urgency of completing the car park project. TS will gather cost estimates for materials, with the plan to use local labour and hired

equipment for the work. IE will supply Ts with the agreed plan, including dimensions, from which TS will compile costs and report back to the next meeting..

## **6 Hall Refurbishment**

- 6.1 CM emphasised the importance of commencing the proposed hall refurbishment at the earliest opportunity. SB presented and discussed his drawings, which the committee subsequently approved.
- 6.2 CM will collect the approved drawings from SB and issue them to local contractors for tendering, with the aim of completing the refurbishment before May.
- 6.3 SB confirmed that his team could handle the demolition and stripping-out work to keep costs down.
- 6.4 Ideally, the hall should close for four weeks, to facilitate the works. CM will liaise with IE to co-ordinate scheduling. IE to inform the regular users of the hall as soon as possible.

## **7 Community Events**

- 7.1 SB discussed the upcoming 10k Run, his personal circumstances, and the tasks planned for 2025. Both SB and RB expressed the view that preparations for the 2025 Run are now too late. CM called a vote, and the majority voted to postpone the event to 2026. CM asked SB to confirm that no planning needed to be undone as a result of this decision, which SB confirmed was the case. It was agreed that planning for the 2026 Run would commence in September 2025, with the same sub-committee overseeing the arrangements.
- 7.2 2025 Events. CM confirmed the following events are planned for 2025:  
**VE Day 80:** 8 May (remembering VE Day and to include lighting of the beacon)  
**Lecture by Dr James Wright:** 12 June (on Historic Building Myth-busting)  
**Open-Air Cinema:** August  
**Chris & Emily's Halloween Party:** October  
**Fred's Wine and Wisdom:** November
- 7.3 Additional events, including 'Race Nights' (horse racing with afternoon tea in the village hall), a village cricket match, and treasure hunts, were discussed. CM will follow up on these ideas.

## **8/9 Governance / Safety and Crime**

8/9.1 Nothing to report.

## **10 AOB**

- 10.1 CK proposed clearing a large portion of the brambles and a general clean-up of the woods. This was seconded by BP. It was agreed to incorporate this task into the annual Spring Clean-Up. CK will contact Katie Potter about borrowing machinery to assist with the work, after which the date for this will be chosen.

**The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.**

**The next committee meeting is scheduled for 6.30 pm, on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, in the village hall.**