

VPERA MEETING 11/06/24

Held at 86 Combe Avenue 7.30pm

Present

Alex Wheeler
Gill Fairbanks
Laura Cade
Hannah Mugenyi
Virginia Clements
Rob Biden

Apologies

Michael Gallagher
Emily Gunsell
Lisa Turner
Mick Cooke

FINANCES

1. Money set aside for specific areas
 - LC and VC looked through finances
 - Money is set apart for specific purposes as follows:
 - o VEOLA grant for gardening
 - o community contributions (shared between residents' association & gardening)
 - o Residents' association
 - o All Emily Wilding Davison money has been spent
2. Money available for 60th Party
 - With the Estate share of the Community Contributions and a top up from Estate funds we can provide £300 for the 60th anniversary celebrations
3. Account management
 - To help account management, the following measures were agreed upon:
 - o Those who want to spend money need to seek permission first from the committee
 - o Once spent, an invoice must be created and submitted to VC
 - o Invoices must be agreed in committee meetings before being paid
 - o **VC** to make a list of regular payments (e.g. Mycenae house rent)
 - o There's an Order Form which may need to be sent out to suppliers
 - o Keep finances as an early agenda item in meetings going forward

4. Fundraising

- Not going to use 60th party as fundraising event
- However, some funds may be raised from, volunteer run Tombola, selling cards & having card machine out for donations
- Joanne wants to sell sweet cones, she should buy the sweets, sell them and donate profits

ESTATE COMMUNICATIONS

1. New estate email – access & management

- Pete has set up new Gmail inboxes so that all the emails will go to one central place. People should still email hello@... But they will go into the Gmail inbox
- Gmail account also allows for central storage of files to store poster designs, minutes etc.
- **HM** to share log in with VC & meet with LC to set up account
- Same system for gardening club

ESTATE MANAGEMENT UPDATES

1. Westcombe Court

- Further communication from council to all residents stated that a darker colour for external cladding is being considered
- Start date still unsure, previously stated as August/ September

2. Combe Mews

- A resident has contacted a charity who supports people with damp problems who are sending a surveyor. See what comes out of that and what means for other residents

GARDENING/ OUTDOOR AREAS

1. Emily Wilding Davison memorial update

- No money left from previous grants
- Resume plans for this after 60th celebration

2. Gardening Group

- LC met with Carey Gay (RGB caretaking manager) after wildflowers outside Combe Mews mowed down. The following was agreed...
 - o Wildflower strip will be widened and logs added

- Carey will supply more bulbs
- A plan will be made by gardening club for zoning the grass to allow some areas to be longer and some to be shorter
- Gardens looking great – visitors in the wrong place for the open garden event commented on how nice they were! Perhaps we could take part in this or similar event in the future

60TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

1. Running Order

- **4:00 – 4:30** 60's music
- **4:30 – 5:00** Morris dancers
- **5:00 – 5:45** Fancy dress comp & Children's games
- **5:45 – 6:00** Morris dancers 2nd set
- **6:00-8:00** Live music
- **7:00-8:00** Dancing

2. Volunteers & event plans for following areas

- **Decorations**

- A good time was had by those who attended the workshop on Sunday to create bunting. Not as many people as we would have hoped
- 2 Gazebos available from Blackheath High
- May need more tents if forecast is bad

- **Food**

- Some discussion around the best way to do food. In the end it was decided to have bring and share food. Committee to provide some food & drink to add to the table
- Helen & will volunteered to help with food – ask them to purchase food & drinks to start off
- Need plates and cups – some in store
- In past has felt like the committee is doing things for others rather than residents are a part of it. Want to encourage people to be involved rather than do things too them

- **Entertainment**

- John Roan Jazz band can't play
- Morris Dancers to do 2 20min slots (with beer break), LC in contact
- Isobel to play
- Sam Smith to play
- Chris Difford said he was attending on social media

- **Children's activities**

- Equipment from Pointers – tug of war, parachute, sack race,

- Laura has rope for skipping
- Karaoke machine?
- Emma will do facepainting
- Fancy dress judged by original residents?

3. Invites/ posters/ other communication

- Flyer with more info on, to look like an invitation rather than flyer
- Knock and speak to people rather than just post
- Deliver flyers w/c 17th July

60th party jobs & actions

- **LC** – Ask Morris dancers if they could teach the children some moves
- **LC** – write invitation flyer, **HM** to design
- **LC** – invite Andy Eglington, Carey Gay, Tony Bigwood
- **VC** – check how many plates & cups are in store
- **AW** – contact Helen & Will to ask them to purchase food and drink for the committee to add to the bring and share
- **AW** – contact other volunteer who could help with food to see what they can/ would like to do
- **AW** – borrow equipment for children's games equipment from Pointers
- **AW** – organize Spotify play list
- **AW** – organize Gazebos from Blackheath High with Ray
- **GF** – invite Danielle and Caretaking staff
- **GF** – ask Isobel about payment and length of set
- **HM** – borrow drinks dispensers from St. Johns
- **HM** – contact Hannah Mills to say yes to offers of help with bunting and card models

Meetings before the 60th Party

- **Sunday 16th June @ 5:30pm** - Walk around to plan locations for party
- **Monday 24th June @7:30** – additional meeting to finalise party plans
- **Saturday 6th July @12:30** – meet to set up

AOB

1. Book hub

- Book hub ready. **GF** to pick up
- Question about payment/ donation. Material Costs = £25. Agreed to give additional £15 (Money Alex made from selling unwanted item from store cupboard)

2. BBQ

- Foodbank requested use of the BBQ. Last time it was returned in bad condition and no donation given to cover gas.
- Form to ensure people agree to clean and return it has been created to avoid this in the future. Those wanting to borrow the BBQ must give prior notice, fill in form, pay returnable deposit & give donation to cover gas costs
- Unsure of who has the current gas cylinder

3. Roller skating

- Emma has offered roller skating tutorials for children in the summer
- **HM** to contact to arrange

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 9th July, 7:30 at 68 Combe Avenue