

## **DRA trustees meeting- 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 via zoom**

Trustees Present: Will Fitzgerald (Chair), Louise Morpeth, Jinty Balch, Jan Maddick, Sarah Guest, Helen Tune, Mandy Burton, Charlotte Huish, Alan Blake, Joel Riley Lyn Williams, Ashish Ghediali, Karen Dorow, Margaret Cushen(note taker).

In attendance: Bex House

Apologies: Mark Burton, Michela Delamere, Martin Edmonson (Alan Blake- joined by phone but no sound)

Will started the meeting with a round of introductions to welcome Karen Dorow who is the Lifeworks nominated trustee. Karen is the Lead of Lifeworks College and a Dartington resident.

**Notes of the last meeting** were accepted.

Will updated trustees on the developing relationship with Dartington Trust with a working group on the Totnes- Buckfastleigh cycle track being the current focus.

**Building working party** Joel explained the dual function of the group(1) the everyday running and upkeep of the building (2) planning for a future community centre. The group are working on a feasibility brief, kindly developed for us by Chris ?? to clarify what the community needs for its future.

**Pool group** Helen told us that the volunteers have decided to employ a senior lifeguard as a pool manager. 5 of the 8 needed lifeguards have been recruited for the season and the cleaning group are working on the pool to be ready for opening. This is likely to be the last year the pool will be used.

Bex has clarified many of the early design parameters for the redevelopment of the pool, with input from Jim on renewable heat sources. The redevelopment group are currently working on access issues and fundraising to pay from preplanning and planning, which will be led by a firm of architects. This phase will need about £12,000 which we hope to raise in the next few months so that the planning process can be started by July. The redevelopment project will be £265,000 - without changing facilities.

**Bike track** Mandy reported that the build went well in January and finished on time. However two storms caused damage to trees which remain the responsibility of Dartington Trust, the track had to be closed for safety till the remedial work was completed. The track has had a soft launch but is growing in popularity with all age groups. 600 likes on its Facebook page. A compressor plate has been purchased and the grounds maintenance firm will do repairs to the track. Weekly checks are being carried out and monthly and annual checks have been commissioned from SHDC.

**Playground** Complan, the construction company have carried out repairs to the equipment under warranty. The spring bulbs are coming up, the benches acquired for the playgroup need concreting in place as folk move them about.

Bex has secured funding for weekly conservation sessions with the schools. The bird and bat boxes and the bug hotel need checking, which can be done with children from the schools.

Bex has also secured funding for cycle training sessions for females and people on adaptive bikes. There are plans to combine cycle and snorkelling training sessions, she is waiting to hear if we have been successful with this bid.

**TSAC** Margaret reported that the dive season has truly started. The extension to the boat shed and the Sports England matched funding upgrade of the mixing panel are great additions. The club is just finishing OD training with 6 students and members are engaged in skills refreshers. Dive trips to Lundy, Scapa, Scillies, Malta and the Red Sea are in the calendar.

**Football** Will informed the trustees that Meadowbrook Athletic will merge with Totnes and Dartington. The teams last game was away last weekend, which they lost 7-1. The plan is to remove the fixed goal posts on the field. There will be two adult teams playing at Foxhole and youth football will be at Meadowbrook including girls 5-11 years. Alan will update us on progress at the next meeting.

**Finance** Louise had circulated a draft of the annual financial report, which has yet to be externally examined. The DRA income in the year from the tap room and pizza parlour and Covid grants have enabled us to balance our income and expenditure. Expensive and extensive repairs to the Pavilion have been carried out. We have £58,000 in the bank. Louise plans to table a budget for 2022-20223 at the AGM and has converted the account system to zero which will hopefully make book keeping easier.

**Constitution** Will highlighted the DRA needs to recruit more active trustees and volunteers. He proposed two changes to the constitution (1) widening the area from which the DRA can draw community trustees (2) increasing the number of community trustees. He will send the current constitution and the proposed changes to all trustees by email so everyone has the opportunity to consider the proposal. He hopes these changes can be agreed by trustees before the AGM, so discussion will be by email.

**AGM** we agreed to hold the AGM on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 pm at the Community Centre. The meeting will be widely publicised and we hope local interested people will attend.

## **AOB**

**Jinty** suggested that we ask Ed to brew a DRA ale- suggestions for the name

DRAle; Deadly Real Ale; Volunteer Brew!!

**Jan** pointed out the need to open the community centre, giving access to the toilets, outside the opening hours of the tap room/pizza parlour as there is toilet paper in the woods, people are obviously needing toilets.

