

Catcott Village Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 20th February 2025 at Little Trees Manor Road Catcott

In Attendance:

Janet Holden - Chair
Anna Bradford
David Strickland
Margaret Strickland
Dee Eaton
Kay Lang
Linda Middleton
Linda Wilson
Ian Bradford

Item 1 – Apologies

Dave Parks, Andrew Thompson & Martin Melia

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

Item 2 – Formation of Committee. Please see attached list of the new committee and positions that are held.

Item 3 - Welcome - As Chair Janet welcomed all to the meeting.

Item 4 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on the 16th January 2025 were accepted as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

Item 5 - Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

Defibrillator - A quote for £950 has been received from London Hearts a charity that provides defibrillators. They have also supplied three for Cossington. Also, a quote from Air Ambulance for £1750. These defibrillators require a power source and although the Church has offered to place one and use their power source it was felt it was not quite the ideal location. It was agreed to approach the school as it is a better location. Dee agreed to look into the quote from London Hearts as the subject of training in the use of these machines needs to be taken into consideration.

Item 6 - Ongoing Matters - Not necessarily for discussion but to keep in mind

Manor Farm Development - Ongoing

Wellfield House - Ongoing

Memorial to Gerry and Lilly Wheeler - Ongoing

Village Booklet incorporating Garden Wells - Ongoing

Village Map - Linda Wilson still researching.

Item 7 - Treasurers Report

OVER £25 EXPENSES NEED PRIOR AUTHORISATION	
Balances as @ 17/02/2025	
C/A	£16.48
Bus a/c	£3784.00
Cash	£393.88
TOTAL	£4194.36
AGREED SPENDING	--
Open Gardens - Hall booking agreed 21/11/24	£52.50
Open Gardens – Ice Cream – agreed 16/01/25	£200.00
Open gardens – signage refurb – agreed 16/01/25	£100.00
Open Gardens – Chloe Aston – agreed 16/01/25	£208.00
Memorial plaque from OG car money - agreed 20/7/23	£76.00
Potatoes - agreed 21/11/24	£70.00
New tub - agreed 21/11/24	£30.00
Wreath- agreed 21/11/24	£25.00
Defibrillator – agreed 19/12/24	£2000.00
Total agreed spending	£2821.50
Total available to spend	£1372.86

AGM - Monday 10th February - Refreshments and thankyou present expenses totaled £132.85. Stock at cost price £34.75 is with David Strickland for purchase or use at other events.

Cleanup - 23rd February - Maria will do refreshments – Expenses £60 agreed.

Open Gardens - 22nd June - Expenses agreed as above, new wristbands have been purchases and Chloe Aston's deposit paid.

Treasurers Misc –

WhatsApp followers have stayed the same at 76.
Monthly PLI, instant ink and website fees paid.

Treasurers MATTERS ARISING -

I will continue to monitor the day-to-day transactions for a while but NOT indefinitely, a new treasurer does need to be found. I am more than happy to talk to anyone interested about the accounts and help the new treasurer if they need it to build their confidence.

Item 8 - Village Hall Report –

25th 26th July is likely date for a murder mystery with Polden productions.

The Defib going to be broken into using a locksmith. The Lock Battery went flat.

Should be operational soon.

VE day is Thursday 8th of May. The village hall would like to do something with the CVA but Saturday 10th May is Somerset day craft day at the village hall and film night is Friday the 9th. The village hall is currently free if we wanted to do something on the Sunday.

11 March is the next village hall meeting but I will not be able to make it. Dee agreed to attend.

Item 9 - PTA School Report – NTR. To be discussed with the school to see if there is a need for this post as we have had no contact with the PTA for the last year.

Item 10 - Future Events

Village Clean Up 23rd February – All in order, Risk Assessment carried out Refreshments being provided by Maria at Court Farm. Somerset Council Waste Service have agreed to provide Pickers, Bags, Hi Viz and to pick up rubbish from the Pound.

Pancake Day 4th March 2025 – Not happening to late, unable to speak to the school.

Safari Supper/Come Dine with Us – suggested date 14th June. Need to speak to Martin & Carol to obtain their thoughts and if they wish to organise.

Open Gardens 22nd June – Currently 16 locations have agreed to take part (includes Church School, Stalls and Gardens). It was agreed that the Black Cab to be asked if available as per last year. Piano Bike lady booked, she also does interviews regarding future locations where she will play and will include our event which would be good publicity. Ice Cream has been booked although we were promised sample for this meeting but none forthcoming Ian to check. Wristbands have been purchased we now have enough for possibly the next 3 years.

The subcommittee is still looking for other gardens and static displays at the village hall such as Somerset Wildlife Trust. If anyone has any suggestions, they would be most welcome.

Scarecrow & Potato competitions - Janet outlined the rules for the Potato competition and asked people to sign up. Basically, individuals will get a bag and a potato to grow but supply their own compost the idea is to nurture and grow the largest crop of potatoes. To incorporate with the open gardens event there will be two classes one for early potatoes judged at open gardens and one for a later variety judged in late summer. Scarecrow competition to be judged near to open gardens day with a theme of Nursery Rhymes. It was proposed by Ian Seconded by Janet that up to £50 be spent on prizes for these competitions. All present were in favour.

Booking of the Hall for an Autumn event - At the last meeting it was agreed to book the village hall for Saturday 11 October however, this date has been taken up during the day so no chance of preparing hall in advance if needed. It was agreed to book the 18th October which is free at present. Ian to book.

Item 11 - Any Other Business.

Letters of thanks to outgoing committee members - It was agreed to write letters of thanks to all outgoing committee members. It was further suggested that a £30 Gardening voucher be purchased for Jill in appreciation of her hard work over the years as CVA treasurer. Propose by Linda W Seconded by Linda M. All present were in favour.

Newsletter - This needs to be drawn up and delivered by the end of February. As a result of the formation of this year's committee we need to adjust the delivery routes. Janet handed out the proposed new routes she has drawn up for all to review with any amendments being notified to Janet or Andrew.

VE Day - After a great deal of discussion it was agreed that we should approach the village hall committee to possibly put on a joint event.

Stephen St Clair suggestions - As a result of the CVA reaching out to residents asking for their thoughts on what they would like the CVA to arrange for the village. Stephen has submitted a very comprehensive list of 4 suggestions (filed with minutes). It was decided to speak to Stephen to see how much involvement he would like to have. Stephen should be thanked for making these suggestions.

Email request - We have received a request from a musician and former resident of Catcott asking if we could post a link to his website on the CVA website. The email to be circulated to all Committee members for their thoughts.

Dave Thomas Email 20's plenty - Dave thought this might be of interest to the CVA and asked if it could be brought to our notice. The email is from a group advocating that a 20's plenty speed limit be adopted. Again, it was agreed that the email be circulated so that committee members can view and act as they wish.

Future Meetings - It was decided to keep to the current system of the 3rd Thursday of the month. Due to a lack of freely available communal space within the village it was decided to approach the school to ask if we could use the school hall for meetings.

Request from Dee - That could the meetings be shortened as they are becoming rather lengthy. It was decided that this request would be reviewed and where possible meetings would be shortened. But this depends on subject matter and discussions.

Children's items - A number of children's items (bubble wands, bracelets, chalk etc) have been left over from previous events. It was agreed that the school be asked if they could make use of them.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 09.59 pm. Anna & Ian were thanked for hosting the meeting.

Please Note - A copy of all letters and emails sent or received as mentioned in the minutes will be filed with the minutes. Minutes can be viewed by all on request to the Secretary.

Item 12 - DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - Thursday 20th March at 7.30 pm. Venue to be decided and published on the website.