

Stradbroke Sports and Community Centre
Charity No. 304823
Minutes of the 20th. Annual General Meeting held on
Tuesday, 14th. May, 2019 at 7.30 pm.
in the Webb Room

1. Welcome by the Chairman, Jane Merritt, we were pleased to see two members of the public present.

Attendance 14

2. Apologies from Mary Ellis, Jane Gemmill, Avril Major and Maria Smith.

Those present, Jane Merritt, Roger Turkington, Colin Jones, Dennis Merritt, David Merritt, Don Darling, Toni Wisbey, Tony Potts, Pam Cane, Nick Stones, Mike Moody, Margaret Streeter; Julia Nowell and Mike and Yvonne Wilkins.

3. The Minutes of the 19th. Annual General Meeting of the Stradbroke Sports and Community Centre, held on Monday, 22nd. May, 2018 were taken a read; it was proposed by Pam and seconded by Mike that these minutes were a correct record, all agreed, and they were duly signed by Jane Merritt, Chairman.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from these Minutes. We moved on to the Chairman's Report.

5. Chairman's Report - Jane,

The Community Centre has enjoyed yet another very successful year with an increase in bookings. Once again, we have had some repair bills to pay and there will of course be more expense as the building ages. It is encouraging to see a wide range of different groups and activities increase their use of the Community Centre helping it to grow and, with the 'profit share' scheme for Clubs using the Bar, increasing our turnover. The diary is still not completely full and we look forward to continued growth in 2019.

We encourage clients to use our online booking system to view the site and check availability before contacting our Bookings Manager. Online booking and invoicing make the system efficient and with over 30 different clubs and societies regularly using the Centre, this makes the role of the Bookings Manager easier. We have still had to turn away some requests through lack of space, continuing to emphasise the need for expansion in the future

The improvement works in 2018, including the heating, sound and vision have been completed and the Entrance Lobby, Main Hall and Webb Room have been decorated – not without controversy in the beginning by our choice of colour schemes but it has turned out to be a good decision in the end! The floor in the Main Hall has been resealed – all by volunteers. We have added a ceiling heating panel in the Main Kitchen and recognize that another one is needed. Also in the Main Kitchen we have installed a new industrial Oven and Warming Cupboard and, with additional

crockery, are now able to serve up to 120 people – a huge improvement for catering in the Community Centre. Our aim is to definitely install an industrial Dishwasher next when funds allow. New notice boards give you plenty of room to advertise your events held in the Community Centre

Earlier this year we took the decision to underwrite the cost of running the village website - stradbrokeonline.org.uk. It is a Community website and its 'raison d'etre' is completely consistent with the aims and ambitions of the Community Centre. We support its aim of providing an up to date source of information for both residents and visitors to our village. The site has recently been re-designed making it easier and quicker to find information. Please use it and if there is anything you would like to see on the site just let the editors know by sending an email to admin@stradbrokeonline.org.uk.

Stradbroke Cinema continues its popularity with one of our best audiences for the year being 80 for Bohemian Rhapsody – played at a greater volume than usual with an amazing effect! We have recently introduced an electronic voting system 3 times a year, where all our Cinemagoers can choose the following season's films, no matter when they attend the screenings. During the year we have also screened live Football and Rugby matches.

In July an enjoyable 'Fun Sports Day' was held on the Playing Field at Westhall – lots of silly games and laughter and something we will repeat. We held a very successful 'Pie and Mash' in November with locally sourced pies and potatoes. The traditional Christmas Walk to Battlesea Hall was held in December with the Lawson Family being our hosts. The Community Centre also helped at the Triathlon in May and the OVO Women's Cycle race.

I'd now like to record my thanks to everyone on the Committee, without whose support, the Community Centre could not succeed. The amount of time the Committee members freely give, often at the drop of a hat, is phenomenal and I am very grateful for this. As always, a very special Vote of Thanks must go to David Merritt, who continues to give an enormous amount of his time to keep the Community Centre running so smoothly.

6. Treasurer's Report - Mike Moody

Financial statement for year end 31 March 2019 has been checked and signed by Eileen Shelford. Some small expenditure has been re-allocated but the overall position remains the same. The Trustees had agreed to the Financial Statements and the information will be sent to the Charities Commission within the next month. Financial statements attached to these minutes. It was proposed by Don and seconded by Pam that our warmest thanks must go to Mike for all the work he undertakes as our Treasurer.

Bar Report - Small increase was agreed. Aim to make 60% profit this year. Stock was £793.

7. Election of Trustees/Appointment of Officers It was proposed by Jane that the members of the existing committee be elected en bloc, seconded by Margaret - they are Toni Wisbey, (Parish Council) Jane Merritt, Roger Turkington, Maria Smith, Julia Nowell, Mike Moody, Margaret Streeter, David Merritt, Don Darling (Youth Football), Mary Ellis (Football and Tennis and Bowls), Jane Gemmill (W.I., Good Neighbours), Avril Major (Over 60's) Tony Potts (Table

Tennis) Dennis Merritt, Pam Cane, Colin Jones, Nick Stones. Debbie Frost, (High Suffolk Children's Centre) and Stuart Murdy, SLM, (observers) All in favour.

It was raised and questioned that since the recent Parish Council Elections we now have four Parish Councillors as Trustees - the 3 newly elected Councillors – Don Darling, Pam Cane and Dennis Merritt plus Toni Wisbey elected as the Parish Council representative It was felt that one of the 3 newly elected Councillors would be just as capable of giving a report to the Parish Council and that it was not necessary for the Parish Council to elect another Councillor to do this and take up their valuable time

Election of officers:-

Chairman, Jane Merritt, proposed by Nick and seconded by Pam.

Vice Chairman, Don Darling, proposed by Jane and seconded by Dennis.

Treasurer, Mike Moody, proposed by Pam and seconded by Margaret .

Bookings Manager, Roger, proposed by Jane and seconded by Pam.

Bar Manager, David Merritt, proposed by Jane and seconded by Nick.

There were no other nominations so the above officers were all duly declared elected by acclamation for the ensuing year; and thanked for all their work over the past year.

All members agreed to sign that they are willing to agree to the Trust Deed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.50pm