

MINUTES OF SCARF AGM

Monday 18 March 2024 at 6pm

Ashley Junior School

Present: Gary Morgan (GM), Paula Williams (PW), Geoff Walker (GW), Lucinda Dowson (LD), Debbie Morgan (DM), Katy Bailey (KB), Kate Reeve (KR), Cathy Smith (CS), Cerys Williams, Lorraine Pragnell, Lisa Harrison, Janine Adams, Nina Webb

Meeting opened at 6pm by GM.

1. Apologies: Elaine Williams (EW), Linda Cohu (LC), Nicola Timms (NT), Elina Zotova (EZ), Jacqui England from NFDC
2. Approval of Minutes 23/3/2023 AGM: LD had sent the 2023 AGM Minutes to all members and the Committee prior to this AGM. All those present had seen and read them. GM asked if there were any questions regarding the 2023 AGM Minutes. There were no questions. GM asked for the 2023 AGM Minutes to be approved. Minutes of 2023 AGM were approved.
3. Annual Report: LD had sent the Annual Report to all members and the Committee prior to the AGM. Everyone present had read the report. GM focused on the Achievements in 2023: having 106 families as members which included 26 new members, providing 6 different Holiday Programmes with 78 Activities in total, 36 Youth Club sessions, 29 Multi-Sports sessions, 33 Drama sessions, 9 Scarf 2 Activities, 8 Parent/Carer get-togethers/sessions and over £39,500 fundraised this year (grants/donations). GM said so much had been achieved for such a small charity. He added it had been a fantastic year. GM thanked LD for creating another great report and for everything she does for Scarf. Everyone present agreed and showed their appreciation.
4. Questions for the Committee: GM asked if anyone had any questions. There were no questions.
5. Treasurer's Report: GW gave all present his Financial Summary as at 31/12/23 which was also circulated to all members and the Committee prior to the AGM. GW said that the good news was we had raised £43,000 and spent £43,000. GW said the accounts that were previously circulated showed a surplus of £107 and not £257. These accounts had been filed and checked by our auditor who would normally charge us £300, but instead had only charged £150 thus increasing the surplus to £257.

GW said that the NFDC exiting Chairperson can choose a charity of their choice and they chose us. Large amounts of money were raised and given to us. We also received £1,500 from Lymington & Pennington Town Council. GW had the opportunity to thank them personally at a meeting he attended and was also able to re-connect with Jacqui England from NFDC who was very keen to support Scarf. GW said she was sorry not to be able to attend the AGM, but we could see money coming from her. GW said that every penny counts whether it's a £10 donation or £1000+. GW referenced several donations including PW's late Father's Memorial Fund.

GW said that cash in the bank is healthy at £70,000 with no deficit, unlike last year. GW predicted that we could run for one and a half years if there was no money coming in.

GM explained to non-Committee members present that GW took over as Treasurer last year. GM said that last year we thought we were ok financially, but we had made a loss. GM added that since GW has joined us everything is much better with full Accounts and full, clear explanations. LD added that since GW has been Treasurer it has made her job much easier.

GM said that the Charitable Trust expect us to have a certain amount of funds, but it is still vital that we fundraise as much as possible so that we don't dip into our funds too much. GM explained that GW also does the payroll inhouse and Caroline, the Auditor, checks the Accounts. GW said that we had also received Gift Aid on several amounts that had come in.

GM asked if anyone had any questions for GW. Janine asked if the £70,000 was in a high interest account and do we shop around for better interest rates. GW said that it was in an account at 2.6% and the Deposit Account was at 2.4% with no charges from Lloyds on Charity Accounts. GW said that this was a valid point and he could look around for better rates, but hasn't as yet. GM added that GW has had to do a huge amount of work this year to get the Accounts straight and sorted so wouldn't have had time, but it's something to think about moving forward.

6. Fundraising: PW said that we had received £28,000 in large grants and £11,000 from smaller fundraisers. PW said that Rosie Lea's Tea Rooms had chosen Scarf as their Charity this year and were fully on board with helping to raise as much money as possible for us. PW said it's important to continue to spread the word about Scarf especially if anyone feels that they're place of work might help fundraise for Scarf. PW said that places like Stewarts Garden Centre are always good to contact. Lisa said that when she previously worked at Stewarts she had put Scarf forward for their

Charity of the Year, but they chose Minstead Trust. Lisa said she's now back at Stewarts in their finance department at head office, give her 6 months to get comfortable and she will make enquiries for Scarf again.

PW said that the Children In Need grant is always a good one to try and get, but it is a hard application to do and the process is very long and time consuming. LD said she has a friend at New Milton Sand & Ballast and will make some enquiries with her. Nina said that Tesco have their 12 Days of Christmas project every year which focuses on a different local charity every day. PW pointed out that groups like the Lion's Club always seem to want something tangible with their name on the item they've donated rather than giving money.

GW & LD said that Drama Club and Youth Club are tied to other things i.e. Charles Burnett and Short Break Funding which make it difficult to fundraise for those activities.

GM said that the Mother's Day raffle, Valentine's Day raffle and the Scarf quiz winners donation of £70 had raised a good amount of money. GM added that Fundraising is always an Agenda item every month and continues to be very important.

Lorraine suggested a sponsored swim as a fundraising idea (Archie had mentioned doing a swim with Scarf). All present thought it was a good idea. Lisa thought maybe a local swimming pool would donate the use of their pool for Scarf to use. GM said that Hoburne Naish was a good sized pool and they already know us from having the Christmas party there every year. LD said you can hire a pool for an hour as a party venue so we could do that for a sponsored swim. PW said maybe we could have a party afterwards. GM said we could maybe incorporate Scarf's 30 year anniversary as well. KB thought maybe we could do a sponsored triathlon event incorporating cycling with Pedalls. Lorraine also suggested a sponsored walk to Hengistbury with an ice-cream at the end.

7. Thank You's: GM thanked LD again for everything she does, all our Keyworkers and Volunteers for all their hard work and for always doing more than is required. He also thanked the following people:

EW for all her help with Health & Safety matters.

KB for all her help with Policies and Training.

KR for all her work with Rosie Lea's and for getting them to fundraise for us this year.

CS and KR for all their work organising the Christmas Tree Fundraiser.

LC and LD for setting up and arranging the Parent Group meetings.

GW for using his vintage car for the Lymington Summer fundraiser.

GM also thanked all those listed on the Annual Report and said that Scarf couldn't operate with them.

LD thanked GM, PW and DM and said how great the Committee was now.

GW wanted to thank LD and said that she has a direct impact on receipts no matter how small so he can't take all the credit, LD makes it easier for him.

8. Election of Committee Members:

Chair: Gary Morgan – Proposed Debbie Morgan, Seconded Lisa Harrison

Vice Chair: Paula Williams – Proposed Gary Morgan, Seconded Katy Bailey

Treasurer: Geoff Walker – Proposed Paula Williams, Seconded Debbie Morgan

Secretary: Debbie Morgan – Proposed Kate Reeve, Seconded Geoff Walker

General Member/Health & Safety Officer: Elaine Williams – Proposed Gary Morgan, Seconded Paula Williams

General Member: Kate Reeve – Proposed Lisa Harrison, Seconded Lorraine Pragnell

General Member: Cathy Smith – Proposed Katy Bailey, Seconded Kate Reeve

General Member: Linda Cohu – Proposed Gary Morgan, Seconded Paula Williams

General Member: Sarah Howard – Proposed Lucinda Dowson, Seconded Nina Webb

General Member: Cerys Williams – Proposed Lisa Harrison, Seconded Kate Reeve

General Member: Lisa Harrison – Proposed Gary Morgan, Seconded Lorraine Pragnell

General Member: Nicola Timms – Not Re-elected

General Member: Elina Zotova – Not Re-elected

GM welcomed Cerys and Lisa to the Committee.

9. AOB: GW asked if he could share the Annual Report with NFDC. GM checked with everyone present who had a child/young person's photo in the Annual Report. All agreed it was fine for GW to share it. PW said that there were still Committee Members that need to give their photos and a brief write up to LD for the website as soon as possible. Cerys and Lisa also need to do this.

It was agreed our next Committee Meeting would be on Wednesday 24 April 2024 at The Rising Sun (DM will check it will be re-open and let the Committee know) at 6.15pm.

Meeting closed at 6.45pm by GM.