

HALLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee

16 April 2007

Present:

Andy Ballantyne	HA Chair, Halling Parish Council
Lynne Overett	Lafarge Cement UK
Peter Wyatt	Halling Parish Council
Shirley Boards	Trenport
Ian Stuart	Halling Primary School
PC Tony Horn	Kent Police
PCSO Sarah Aspey	Kent Police
Richard Cottee	Medway Council
Catherine Smith	Medway Council
Ray Maisey	Medway Council

Representatives from the Police were welcomed to the meeting. TH covered the Strood area, and was the nearest PC to Halling.

1. Election of chair

- 1.1 CS took the chair of the meeting to hold elections for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Halling Association. The following were elected by the committee to serve for the next year:

Chair: Peter Wyatt
Proposed by A Ballantyne, seconded by R Maisey

Vice Chair: Shirley Boards
Proposed by A Ballantyne, seconded by L Overett

2. Apologies for absence

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Maurice Claydon, Cemex; Roy Underdown, Halling Parish Council; and Alan Beech, Kent Police.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the last meeting of the management committee were agreed as a true record.
- 3.2 Under matters arising from the minutes, the committee discussed the installation of the basketball post. **MC and AB to liaise on the arrangements for the groundworks to be carried out later this Spring.**

4. Forge Green project

- 4.1 AB informed the committee that he had contacted further contractors about a potential CCTV system to cover the Forge Green area. Due to the difficulties in establishing links to other systems, a stand alone operation was being considered. The quotes were much higher than the budget set by the HA. Arrangements would still have to be made to supply power to a CCTV system. The committee was not convinced that the options presented offered value for money. The security situation at Forge Green would be kept under review and options that would allow linkage to other systems that would offer better monitoring and response facilities. TH suggested that contact be made with the council's detached youth work team who may be able to visit the area.
- 4.2 CS reported that she had received a request from Groundwork for payment of additional fees incurred in the management of the project. The committee agreed that these could be paid, if the budget stayed within the upper limit originally set for the project.
- 4.3 CS pointed out maintenance issues at the site, concerning the planting and litter clearance. Complaints about the condition of the site had been received. Halling Parish Council would consider the cleaning schedule, and CS to investigate the terms of the landscaping contract.

5. New projects

Valley of Visions Landscape Programme

- 5.1 CS reported that the Valley of Visions bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund had been successful. The HA had committed £25,000 to this programme, and would make a contribution of £15,000 this financial year. This would go towards work at Bishops Palace. The first stages of the work were likely to start in October 2007. LO reported that the Valley of Visions team were to be based at Lafarge's offices at Holborough.

Ball court

- 5.2 Following a suggestion made at the last committee meeting, the proposal to develop a caged ball games court in the village was discussed. IS reported on the costs and experience of the facility installed at Halling Primary School. This cost £53,000. Halling Parish Council had met with Medway Council's youth officer working on the Youth Opportunity Fund about a proposal for an outdoor games area in the village. The committee felt that the village could benefit from a good quality outdoor games facility, but the cost meant that the HA could only provide part funding. **It was agreed to liaise with other interested groups to see if a joint project could be developed and a suitable site found.**

Summer Scheme

- 5.3 Halling Youth Club had approached the HA requesting that the summer scheme held last year in the village be repeated. The committee did not wish to allocate funding in the same way on an annual basis, as it felt that there were other ways of supporting young people in Halling. IS suggested that contact be made with Medway Council's Education directorate that was organising summer schemes. The timetable was too late for this year, but there could be scope for work in 2008. The committee also suggested that if the Halling Youth Club wanted to organise special activities during the summer holidays, then a smaller grant could be made from the HA.

Road safety scheme

- 5.4 IS suggested that a road safety scheme could be developed around the school. A scheme had been previously designed, but not implemented, due to changes in a funding scheme. The committee agreed that this project would be followed up with Medway Council.

Small projects

- 5.5 RC reported that the handrails at the Jubilee Hall and installation of window grilles at Halling church had been completed. Halling bell ringers had approached the HA with an application for help with replacement of the bell ropes. The committee felt that the CoE church had just benefited from a large grant to help with the windows, and it was inappropriate to support another church based project so soon. This was decided in the context that the full costs of the window grilles had been supported by the HA.
- 5.6 RC presented an application from Bo Peeps pre-school group seeking help with the costs of securing the outdoor play area that had been damaged. The committee asked for further information on what costs were being met by the applicant, before a decision could be made.

6. Budget position

- 6.1 The committee considered the budget available for the current year and projected income for the coming financial year.

7. Publicity

- 7.1 Items on the HA had been placed in the latest editions of Halling View and Town Talk.
- 7.2 PW had noted that the Universities in Medway were organising a Medway boat race in May. The starting point was to be in Halling. He wondered if the HA could be involved in any way. The committee felt that the timescale was too short to arrange for its own activities to

support the event. It agreed to assess the outcome of the event and consider possible involvement in subsequent years, if appropriate. *(Following the meeting, it was confirmed that the race would start in Cuxton).*

- 7.3 The organisers of the Halling Fun Day had contacted the Halling Association to invite members to attend the event, and also request potential sponsorship of the raffle prize. **The committee agreed to fund the first prize for the raffle up to a value of £100.** This was to be a single item, not cash. The HA needed to be acknowledged on the raffle tickets. The committee also agreed to have a stall at the Fun Day. CS and SB to plan a stall with information on the HA, as well as wider interest. LO suggested that it could include details on the Valley of Visions programme.

8. Date of next meeting

- 8.1 The date of the next management committee meeting was arranged for **Monday 16 July at 4.00 pm at Cemex offices, Halling.**

9. Any other business

- 9.1 IS reported that he had supplied copies of old photographs of Halling to PW for development of the parish map.
- 9.2 It was noted that there were continuing problems with motorbikes and illegal access in the parish.