

Save Our Stute Monthly Meeting - 13th April 2022

Attendees: Sue Clarke, Kelly Ambrosini (minutes), John Raw, Trevor Horner, Dave Reynolds (chair), Hazel Johnson
Apologies: Colin White, Jane Hackworth Young, Lisa Knight, Anth Knight, Dene Clarke, Lisa Turnbull

Minutes review - accepted

Financial update

Current balance in bank account £3011.00 with some cash yet to be banked (£570).

SC – quote from the accountant for this year's final accounts = £1050.00. Accounts currently with accountants, there has been some movement back and forth between accountant and SC, mainly around PayPal account.

ACTIONS – C34 form needs to be submitted. DR to put this together to show how we have benefitted our community.

Discussion took place again about finding an alternative accountant. Group said they'd look into this for the next meeting.

Volunteer hours update

Hours logged for March – 50.5

Hours so far logged for April – 6

Please remember to log any outstanding hours

Upcoming events

April Quingo – Quiz is written, packs just need assembling. MA suggested asking Stute Women to help at next week's meeting.

Race Night – moved from April 29th to May 27th. Group agreed to look for people to sponsor races. Brusselton Incline Group agreed to sponsor a race and will pay £10.

Hank and the Hot Dogs – tickets now on sale, fliers to be distributed and posters put out asap. **ACTION** – KA will post ads in Northern Echo What's On (FOC) and will see Archie from the Crier to see if he can help us to advertise the event.

Breakfast Club – tickets now on sale, leaflets and posters to be distributed asap.

After event review – The Moobs

Discussion took place about the disappointment of having to cancel due to low ticket sales. This in part was due to cost of living crisis, unknown band from out of the area, slightly higher ticket price, no posters outside of the Stute and possibly leaving it late to advertise. All points taken on board for future events.

Future Events

DR discussed the possibility of booking the Darlington Big Band after attending one of their rehearsals last week. Looking at end of Sept / early Oct. Price £320.

MA said that herself and CW would look to book Peter McCormick and Stephen Wales to put on a Northern Soul / Motown Disco and a Rock Disco. Both would be low cost and low risk.

KA/DR will look to DJ another 80s night. One of these could be a fundraiser for the Ukraine appeal. (Suggestion by HJ)

Heritage Compass update

DR continuing to attend meetings, next one is tomorrow (14.4.22) with our 'critical friend' to advise / guide us on our bid. DR asked for volunteers for meetings on 26th and 28th April as he can't attend due to work commitments / travelling to Birmingham for work. **ACTION – DO WE HAVE ANY VOLUNTEERS TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS IN PLACE OF DAVE? PLEASE CONTACT HIM FOR MORE DETAILS IF YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP.**

Learning points from Heritage Compass to try and carry out:

- Carry out surveys in the local area, either through a door knocking exercise or through simple questionnaires / feedback forms
- Put an electronic counter on the door of the Stute to find out what the footfall is
- Do a thorough count of membership – how many members do we have?
- Rewrite the constitution

ACTION – DR to attend the next committee meeting to feedback on what has been learnt so far and to get them on board to help with some of the above tasks.

Committee update

SC and MA reported that the committee have reverted back to Monday night meetings. A laptop has been purchased to hopefully help with the membership details. EZ Tech solutions have suggested programmes to help keep adequate membership records.

AOB

Stairwell project – Darren Blood to start work on redecorating the stairwell on Sat 14th May

Next Fundraising Ventures – Discussions took place around possible fundraising ideas which included:

- Looking to replace tables / chairs in the function room to make them easier to store / stack.
- Looking to ensure the stage is safe as flood damage has made some of the back area of the stage noticeably weaker. **ACTIONS – ask Selwyn to oversee taking flooring off the stage and investigating damage. TH to ask Paul Harle and other joiners to suggest ideas for repairs. THIS WILL NEED TO BE DONE ON A QUIET WEEKEND WHERE WE HAVE NO EVENTS / BOOKINGS.**

As a group, we need to decide on a course of action once the extent of the damage has been seen.

- DR reminded the group about the conversation he'd had with Shaun Thompson about getting the car park levelled. MA and SC said they'd raise the issue at the next committee meeting
- SC discussed the idea of turning the upstairs shower room into a food prep area / kitchen. Would need significant funds but might be worth keeping the idea in mind for the future.

New Sildon Residents Association are folding and want to distribute their funds to local groups, ours being one of them. We need to think of what project of ours the money can be spent on.

Next meeting Wednesday 11th May 7.15pm, middle room, first floor, SRI