

Minutes

Friends of West Barnes Library Committee Meeting

Tuesday 22nd August 2017 at 7.15pm

1. Present

- Toby Ewin (Chair)
- Rachel Taylor (Vice-Chair)
- Penny Price (Treasurer)
- Dan Griffiths (Secretary)
- Karren McCarthy (Library Manager)
- Anthony Hopkins (Head of Library & Heritage Services)
- Theresa Clarke (Committee Member)
- Alison Honor (Committee Member)
- Mary-Jane Jeanes (West Barnes Ward Councillor)
- Brian Lewis-Lavender (West Barnes Ward Councillor)

2. Apologies

- Gilli Lewis-Lavender (West Barnes Ward Councillor)

3. Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of June AGM were approved.

4. Library Manager's Report

KMcC reported visitor numbers were 2,226 for July which is down on previous month and year on year. Borrowing figure was 2,909. Issues declined 3% which is disappointing but particularly so given 1% growth earlier in the year.

Self service usage was also down and volunteers are reminded to direct library users to the self service kiosks. eBook figures were up 37% year on year which is strong growth and perhaps reflects people taking tablets and eReaders on summer holidays with them rather than books.

The Summer Reading Challenge figures across all of Merton were slightly down on previous years. No figures for WBL available yet. AH noted that the Summer Reading Challenge is now 20 years old and needs reviewing and refreshing. The theme in 2018 will be the *Beano* which celebrates its 75th anniversary.

Recruitment of a new staff member is proceeding and hopefully a name can be announced in September.

5. Head of Libraries & Heritage Services Report

Merton focus has been embedding the new structure following significant changes

and a 1/3 reduction in workforce. Despite this challenge Merton has maintained hours and kept all library sites open.

Five Arts Council projects are being organized across Merton. Library redevelopment remains on hold pending the next round of Crossrail 2 consultation and a new print kiosk will be installed in the library on 4th September.

6. Officers' Reports

Treasurer (PP) reported that total funds stand at £1,1917.72. The Quiz Night in June generated £98.38 net income and £10 membership subs were received.

7. Matters Arising

Gavin Cambridge of Crossrail 2 has asked to meet the Friends on 30th August as part of efforts to consult local groups about the proposals:

"As you may be aware, we've submitted a Strategic Outline Business Case which is currently with the Secretary of State for consideration. Subject to a positive response, we're hoping to consult on a proposal sometime in the near future. In advance of that, we're getting in touch with local community groups and residents associations along the route to introduce our team, and the project where there's a lack of awareness.

You'd be welcome to invite a couple of the committee members if they're interested. From our side, it would be myself and my manager, Maddy Williams, who would be attending."

TE will attend for the Friends plus any other committee members who can make the afternoon meeting.

New folding tables were purchased for £150 and are being stored in the library for use at Friends events. This will mean we do not need to borrow from the Scouts.

Following a kind suggestion by a Friends member, TE will approach a local author to explore the possibility of her giving a talk on the topic of writing books and getting published and will try to find another local author to participate. The suggested author has written books on religion and on local aviation history.

8. Update on Events

- Next fair will be held 2-4pm on 30th September. MM has kindly volunteered to organise the tombola and donations of bottles (not just alcohol) will be requested as prizes.
- Another Board Games night is penciled in for 20th October. DG to follow-up with SK to see if this date can be confirmed.
- TE to approach MM about organizing a quiz night perhaps in January.

9. Any Other Business

KMcC thanked DG and family for donation of crayons and pencils for Childrens' Craft.

TC will not be leaving the West Barnes area in the foreseeable future and has graciously agreed to serve again as Events Coordinator though she will rely on others to lead the running of events. Thanks to Theresa.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Halloween special on Tuesday 31st October.

Income & Expenditure Report at 30th June 2017

Income & Expenditure Report as at		30.06.17		
	Income	Expenses	Net Income	
	£	£	£	
Membership Subscriptions	10.00		10.00	
Donations	-5.00		-5.00 Part of unk	
Spring Fair 08.04.17	91.40	12.00	79.40	
25.04.17 Donation from Knit & Natter	50.00		50.00	
25.04.17 Leaving Gift for Julie Willcox		12.00	12.00	
13.05.17 Flowers		40.00	40.00	
17.06.17 Domain renewal 18/06/17-17/06/2018		14.38	14.38	
30.06.17 Quiz Night	177.00	78.62	98.38	
			0.00	
	<u>323.40</u>	<u>157.00</u>	<u>166.40</u>	
Cash at Bank @17.06.2017			1836.3	
Cash in hand 17.06.2017			81.42	
			<u>1,917.72</u>	
Cash reserves b/fwd at 01.04.17			1751.32	
Net expenditure 2017/18			166.40	
Cash reserves c/fwd			<u>1917.72</u>	