

Aldridge Shed steering committee and trustees meeting

Tuesday 4th February 2020

Present: Alan, Ivor, Ian, Mark, Derek, Barrie, Trevor, Jude and Gail.

Apologies: Paul Wright

Matters arising from previous minutes: Health and safety sheets are no further forward than they were 2 months ago. Training in the safe use of machinery is to be completed by everyone. Ian to send out an email to all members with this in mind. Scratch cards to be organised by Mark.

Membership update: 78.

Inactive members: Approximately 17% of members were inactive over the last three months. Trevor has contacted them by telephone to obtain feedback. All those contacted gave a positive response and a number of them said they intend to return shortly. (see attached response sheet).

Finance report: See attached. People are not helping to keep the figures straight. Some are popping in for an hour and only paying £1.00, whilst others are staying all or most of the day and only paying £3.50. The charges are easy to follow and should be adhered to. The signing in book is the place to record all day to day payments in and out. The treasurer can only record what is recorded by the members. Discrepancies are constant and have to be noted in the end of year report. (the last two years have been in our favour, however this cannot always be guaranteed.

So far this financial year income from session fees, annual membership and small donations have almost covered all expenditure (including the purchase of the router table), we are approximately £150.00 short. However these figures do not include grant payments or large donations.

Garage / wood store update: We have had the okay from Housing 21 head office to proceed. Planning permission is to be obtained as these are commercial premises. Planning takes approximately 8 weeks from submission. It is envisaged that planning including fees etc. will cost around £500.00.

Stalls/Open days: We have a MCW event to attend on Wednesday 26th January 2020 from 11.00am until about 4.30pm. Ian and Mark to attend.

Barrie has organised for the shed to have 3 stalls at Morrison's, Aldridge and 2 at Santander, Sutton Coldfield. Dates to be confirmed at a later date.

Barrie was given a £25.00 gift card for the shed from Morrison's, Aldridge. This will be kept in the cash tin until it is to be used.

The next shed open days are to be Friday/Saturday 15th/16th May 2020. Can we encourage members to make items for these open days.

Garage clearance/wood donation: A big thank you to Ian for organising this and to all the members who helped on the day.

Current wood store/ bathroom: Subject to the granting of planning permission for the outside wood store the subject of the use of the current wood store was discussed with regard to its future use. A number of uses were proposed such as pyrography, a quieter working space, electronics and model making. Other ideas are to be sought from the members as to possible uses for this room.

Give as you live: This is thought to be similar to how we raised funds with the Co-Op. This works where people can choose to donate to good causes, when buying from various suppliers over the internet. Mark to investigate and email the committee with his findings.

Metal work lathe: We have been offered the long term loan of a metal working lathe, however due to lack of space we will have to kindly refuse the offer. Mark to contact the parties involved.

Saturday Mornings: It was agreed that perhaps the shed could be opened on Saturday mornings to members who wished to bring along younger grandchildren or near relatives. Obviously the member would have to remain and supervise their relatives. It was felt it was a good way to encourage another generation of woodworkers.

Faith and Belief forum: Due to space constraints and health and safety issues it was felt that no more than 5 people could be accommodated at any one time, Ivor to contact Richard Pringle and discuss the matter further.

Stage steps: Pelsall community center has asked if we can make some stage steps for them, Ian is to organise a meeting with them to discuss requirements and payments etc.

A.G.M. 2020: A date for this year's AGM was set at Tuesday 23rd June 2020 between 10.00am and noon. Ivor has agreed to organise this.

The next committee/trustees meeting is set for Tuesday 7th April 2020.