

ELISABETH CURTIS CENTRE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Minutes of the Hundred and Twenty-Third Meeting of the Private Limited Company No 7302917

Management Committee Meeting

Thursday, 29th July 2021, at 6.30pm, by Teams

Present – V Liston (Chair), P Farr (Secretary), R Ward, K Palmer, V Bradley, D Pay, S Armstrong (guest), A Barnes (guest).

VL opened the meeting with MC members giving a short introduction and their roles, for the benefit of prospective new member, Al Barnes. AB introduced himself as a resident of Parklands and was welcomed to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting:** Approved.

3. **AGM** VL proposed the delay of AGM from Wednesday, 11th August to allow time for Accounts to be audited and LH to be provided with information she requires. New AGM date: Wednesday, 22nd September 2021, 7.30pm for 8.00pm at the Elisabeth Curtis Centre.

Action: VL to contact Charles little/LH.

4. **Finance.** Following a period of high expenditure, VL reported an approx. deficit of £8K from last year's figures. With fees from participants coming in and FR events restarting, the financial situation should improve.

VB suggested we apply to Ecclesiastical BHIB Charity; this is for a project-based grant. We were unsuccessful in the award of £1K non project-based grant.

Action: VL.

MC to discuss FR and grants at a separate meeting, **Wednesday, 4th August at 6.30pm.**

5. **Return to Sessions.** Positive comments from all sessions. Some 'no shows.' When we return in September, full t's and c's will be implemented, with full charge made for 'no shows.' Letter to be sent to carers/parents.

Action: PF.

Horses.

Conker currently on loan, pending further assessment before decision about his longer term future.

Huggy is still experiencing health issues and we are following vets advice regarding his treatment. Application to be submitted to Horses' Trust to see if they would offer him a retirement home once a vacancy arises.

Ellie is currently off work on advice of the vets due to issues with her back.

Nutritional advice obtained from Spillers' rep. Horses fed chaff + Balancer (on Spillers' advice).

In view of the current situation regarding ponies, we will need to start looking for potential replacements.

6. **Tractor Insurance.** Quote for Tractor Insurance (NFU). Cost: £324.60. Value of tractor: £10K. Accept quote, proposed by KP, seconded by VB.

7. Centre Maintenance.

Poo Picking – Sunday, 31st July, 10am-12pm.

Back Field. Needs to be mowed. To be paid out of field maintenance grant.

Action: KP.

Repairs to FR Shed.

Action: DT.

Window in Stable. Bobby's window needs replacing.

Picnic Bench. Needs attention.

Poo Ramp and External Mounting Block. DT has wood for these.

Action: DT.

Water Trough. Replace trough in Field 3.

Action: KP.

Fire Alarm. Serviced July 2021 (£102). Next service – Feb. 2022.

Action: PF.

Akita/Security. 2 x call outs recently due to insects around alarm sensors. Vacuum weekly, including around sensors.

Action: RW/PF.

Sycamore on bank behind stables. Re-growth of sycamore saplings. Spray? Do we need licence, as we are 'commercial?' **Action: GB/VB.**

Ragwort. RW to check Starvation Paddock. VB informed meeting that ragwort should not be disposed of in black bin. VB will take bags of collected ragwort and incinerate at home.

8. Fundraising.

Saturday, 14th August (11am-3pm). Coffee and Crafts at Rushey Ford, Box End, Kempston. Posters and flyers delivered. Advertise on website/Facebook. This event arranged in conjunction with Melanie Guy (Chiropractor).

Saddles. DP has assessed saddles we have for sale. Most are old and not well-known brands. DP suggested they go to Tack Sales and are sold for whatever we can get. The new Saddle, DP valued at £730 and suggested we advertise on local Facebook accounts for £630.

ECC Clothing Range. KP working with CB, to digitise clothing range, so it can be ordered and purchased online. We will increase our range of products from Hyspec, but need to agree how we can continue our current pricing arrangement which helps generate funds for the Centre.

10. AOB

- CT taken off register of Trustees, as she has left the area. CT's set of keys and any coaching notes required back at the Centre.
- DBS. PF requested help from coaches re. DBS checks. Need to know which volunteers are helping at sessions as many volunteers now have expired DBSs. Also, any new volunteers over the age of 16, that need first DBS check.
- Al Barnes added that he could support with fundraising and identifying potential improvements at the Centre.

Meeting closed at 8.13pm.

Date of Next Meetings:

Coaching Committee – Monday, 2nd August 2021 at 6.30pm by Teams.

Fundraising and Grants – Wednesday, 4th August 2021 at 6.30pm by Teams.