VISCOUNTESS BARRINGTON TRUST

Minutes of meeting held on 2nd April 2025 at 20.45

In the Vic Day Hall

Present: Bjorn Watson, Chair (BW), Richard Bartle (RB), Lucy Brown (LB), Lewie Hilsdon (LH), Simon Howell (SH), Julia Jones (JJ), Gerard Pearson (GP), Bob Sheldon (RS), Elaine Ware (EW), Claire Winfield (CW), Nathan Woodhouse (NW)

In Attendance: Julia Evans, Lyn Frape

Public: None

25/30	**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Stu Coffey.	
25/31	**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** None.	
25/32	**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th MARCH 2025.** The minutes were approved. Proposed: JJ, Seconded: NW. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
25/33	**MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING** a) **25/19 – Action on the track**. BW had met with VB Homes. It was agreed that the bollard should be reinstated as a matter of urgency. LH to work on this. There was no budget for work to the track but it would be considered next year. BW was obtaining some quotes.	**LH** **BW**
25/34	**PUBLIC REPRESENTATION** No public.	
25/35	**TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE PERSON PRESIDING MAY WISH TO LAY BEFORE THE MEETING** Nothing.	
25/36	**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** a) **New toilets**. BW reported that the new toilets were a vast improvement. All 5 ladies toilets would only be opened at the weekends. The two larger ones would be kept closed during the week unless there was a function.	
25/37	**FINANCIAL MATTERS** a) **Financial reports for February.** The reports had been circulated. There were no comments. The reports were approved. Proposed LB, Seconded EW. RESOLVED. There was one abstention. The reports were signed. b) **March payments.** The payments were approved. Proposed LB, Seconded NW. RESOLVED. The list was signed. There was one abstention. **c) Bookings Report.** The booking report was presented. The total for the year had significantly exceeded the budget. It was emphasised that this would not continue in 2025/6 and it was noted that this was a one-off situation. There were likely to be some conflicts with the cricket club in the coming year.	
25/38	**HALL MANAGERS REPORT** **a) Energy Project.** The work in the main hall was complete. The lighting in the Vic Day Hall would be replaced once the loggia roof work was complete. Chimney balloons and cowls were to be	

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	installed in the spring when work was carried out on the external woodwork, due to the need for a cherry picker. **b) Hall refurbishment.** The toilets were complete and the Chestnut Room was back in use. The oak frames had been installed in the loggia. The glass was due in the next couple of weeks. The roof was to be completed next week. Plumbing and electrical work was ongoing. There had been a delay on the installation of the three phase cable. It was noted that there would be power disruption when this was installed. BW noted that the kitchen work was outstanding. Quotes were being sought. LH to report on this next month. **c) Other hall matters.** There had been boiler issues. They had been shut down for plumbing work and had produced a fault when restarted. Engineers had been booked for 4th April. Quotes were being sought for a new boiler in the main kitchen as it is required to run the radiators in the loggia. Shrivenham fencing were to provide a quote for repairs to the bin store. The pavilion clock was now working. The issue had been damage due to a storm. **d) Recreation Ground matters.** The new MUGA panels were awaiting installation. They were currently inaccessible due to the scaffolding. Some fencing had been knocked over near the track. LH and AL to repair it. LH to obtain quotes for the bollards.	**LH** **LH**
25/39	**PROPOSAL FOR MEMORIAL TREE** The request for sponsorship had been unsuccessful to date. EW to seek other funding opportunities.	**EW**
25/40	**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS** **a) Centenary Celebration Group.** The next event was the Party on the Rec. Invitations had been sent out but take up was lower than last year. JJ issued a warning about the 20's evening due to the low ticket sales. LB was running an advertising campaign and she asked people to interact with the posts on social media. A theatre group was being considered for the Mad Hatters Tea Party,	**JJ**
25/41	**TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM TRUSTEES ATTENDING MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE TRUST** BW had met with the chair of the cricket club.	
25/42	**ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO BE ADDED TO NEXT MONTHS AGENDA** None but it was noted that Rain or Shine would be coming at the end of June.	
25/43	**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Wednesday 7th May at approx. 9pm.	

Meeting closed at 21.31