



Extraordinary General Meeting

9th. February 2024 at 6.30pm

The Compound, Bexhill Road

Present

William Ackroyd, Polly Pauline Brookes, Yvonne Fisher, Bryan Fisher, Lindsay Fowler, Eve Montgomery, Bill Montgomery, Evelyn Murray, Anna Sabin, Virginia Vilela, Patricia Walton, Laverne Preston, Anthony Wood, Steph Drayton, and Karl Beaney.

Apologies

No apologies received.

As chair, Virginia opened the EGM and, at Yvonne's request, asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

William gave a detailed overview of development so far, and the reasons for a C.I.O. The arguments for becoming a C.I.O. were outlined in detail along with the Trustees (committee members) reasons for choosing this option.

Proposed that WSLF should apply to become a CIO

Vote Taken: -

Proposed: - Virginia Vilela. Seconded: - Bryan Fisher. Agreed: - Unanimous.

Constitution

Copies of the draft constitution for WSLN Forum were tabled. William explained that it is much longer than our existing constitution because the Charity Commission require many more safeguards than needed for our current situation.

Proposed that the draft constitution should be accepted for the proposed CIO

Vote Taken

Proposed: - Bryan Fisher. Seconded: - Bill Montgomery. Agreed: - Unanimous

Proposed Name Change

It was proposed that West St. Leonards Forum add the word Neighbourhood to become West St. Leonards Neighbourhood Forum.

Vote Taken

Proposed: - Evelyn Montgomery. Seconded: - Virginia Vilela. Agreed: - Unanimous.

William further explained that Hastings Borough Council have indicated that we will need to be re-designated if we change to C.I.O. status.

We have received advice that this is not necessarily the case. We will put our arguments to H.B.C. in due course.

However, it was acknowledged that H.B.C. are keen to ensure no questions emerge in the future about the legitimacy of the W.S.L.N Forum.?

Discussion was had about the best dates for our fiscal year, due to possible changes in the HMRC rules and processes. Contributors thanked and Committee undertaking to look into it.

A.O.B.

Bryan reminded everyone about the social event on Sunday 11th. February at The Compound. It was also hoped that help and support in the efforts of W.S.L.N. Forum in community and social events.

Suggested that the Forum has an overall statement of purpose.

Agreed to add as part of developing a new website, which is currently underway.

Virginia described some of the events we hope to offer this year, and is looking for volunteers for community events.

Discussion of upcoming planning maintenance and preservation issues in the area, together with the extent of W.S.L.N.F. influence now and in the future.

Anna outlined the issues regarding MUGA (multi use games area) in the Porters Grove housing development in the Darwell Close area. This has been changed from the original planning approval.

Keep the MUGA where it is.

Karl told the meeting he had raised the issue at the last full council meeting. He was told the developer had made this request and not the council. The developer has said the opposite occurred.

Anna has asked the developer to alert us to the new planning permission being submitted.

Essential nature of MUGA to local sports teams explained (Especially in winter).

Karl and Anna to write to developer and Karl to raise again with HBC planning department.

To be discussed further at next committee meeting.

Meeting closed 7.30pm.

Minutes approved the 8 March 2024

signed:

Virginia Vilela Chair