

## **SWANLAND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION**

### **Committee meeting, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January at Mere House Swanland**

The meeting started at 7:30pm

**OPEN FORUM:** Graham Latter attended to update the SVA committee about the progress on retaining the letter box in the wall of the old post office as a permanent feature for the village. The representative of the property has indicated to Graham that they would be happy to remove the internal steel box from the property once the Royal Mail has agreed to relinquish ownership of the box, leaving the external facade intact as a feature. Correspondence has been received which seems to indicate that this will be possible. Graham mentioned that once ownership has been relinquished the box will not be allowed to be painted "post office red".

**APOLOGIES:** There were no apologies

**PRESENT:** Jan Rogerson, Yvonne Dumsday, Belinda Jones, Angela Carpenter, Marion Escreet, Val Anderson, Richard Fowler, Julie Swift, Linda Mitchelson, Karen Cowing, Louise Macfarlane.

**377. Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting 2.10.2014 were approved.

#### **378. Matters arising:**

ITEM 366: The new Swanland sign in Dale Road is now in place.

Yvonne has obtained a quote for a "do not feed the ducks sign"; she will discuss this at the Pond partnership meeting.

ITEM 372: Several volunteers attended the pond maintenance day.

**The SVA committee extend their thanks to these volunteers for their hard work in cleaning out the pond.**

ITEM 376: A notice is to be included in the next newsletter advising that the 25 large white linen tablecloths may be used by any SVA member as long as they are returned fully laundered.

**379. Correspondence:** Marion reported on correspondence from Mal Cracknell regarding a quote of £1650 + VAT to re lay York paving and install a ramp for disabled access outside the Institute. It was noted that the Institute is owned by Christ Church. After a discussion it was felt that that this project was outside the remit of the SVA. Marion agreed to relay this back to Mal.

FOLLOWING THE MEETING FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE WAS RECEIVED FROM MAL ABOUT USING MONIES RAISED FROM "OPEN GARDENS "TO FUND THE PAVING. FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THIS PROJECT ARE CURRENTLY AWAITED.

Jan agreed to send a formal note of **thanks to Swanland garden Centre for their support of the SVA over many years.**

**380. Treasurer's report:** Current balance is **£10,121**, which includes monies held for History Group and Wildlife Group. It does not include recently obtained money for membership and duck grain.

Fifty printed "badges" for 2015 business membership have been purchased at a cost of £24.

### **381. Membership report**

**Jan welcomed Louise as the new membership secretary**

**a) Membership:** Louise has received monies for 39 memberships to date BUT is awaiting the January statement for direct debit payments.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding increasing membership uptake. It was decided to obtain a quote for printing an insert on coloured paper to be included in the next SVA newsletter.

**b) Business membership:** Julie and Val will follow up on local businesses re: 2015 membership.

**382. Reports from other committee members:** Linda reported that a new litter picking device was needed. Yvonne agreed to order a new one along with a new broom.

**383. Swanland festival:** The next festival will be held in summer 2016.

**384. Swanland screen / LIVE:** On 28.02.15 there will be a live show about Sherlock Holmes. The film to be shown in April 2015 has been changed to *Philomena*. An extra film is to be shown in May 2015 called *Black Fish* (a documentary about killer whales in captivity). Horace Dobbs, who is a worldwide authority on dolphins, has agreed to attend and contribute to the evening.

**385. SWG and pond:** The pond clean up day was a success. The large net is still missing.

**386. Swanland in bloom:** Marion read out correspondence from Mal; there was little to report gardening wise currently .He commented that the pond winter pansies were being damaged by the ducks and that the rat population was a problem. As Swanland garden centre is closing, Mal is costing the filling of the summer hay racks from alternative nurseries.

**387. Newsletter:** The deadline for articles is 31<sup>st</sup> January; the newsletter is planned for distribution in mid March.

**388. Heritage centre:** The Heritage centre is closed throughout January and February.

**389. A.O.B.:**

Yvonne reported that the welcome packs now need updating. As there is no longer a committee member responsible for identifying new residents and delivering them a welcome pack; it was agreed that initially each committee member would try and fulfil this role in their immediate neighbourhood.

Dates were discussed and agreed for future meetings:

MARCH: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> at Christ Church

JUNE: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> upstairs room at the Village hall

OCTOBER: Thursday 1st upstairs room at the Village Hall

NOVEMBER: THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> **AGM** upstairs rooms at the Village hall

The meeting finished at 9: 14 pm