

# Godmanchester Community Association

## Minutes of Meeting 11 August 2005

**Those present were:** Stuart Bond, Nina Collier, Bridget Gaskill, Lynda Heseltine, Alan Hooker, Elwyn Hughes, Ted Malone, Jean Morgan, Alan Suter and Roy White.

**Apologies were received from:** Ann Hyams, Charlotte Oldwood, Stephen Spencer and Christine White.

SB raised some issues re the sad loss of the CA's President, Harry Foren and the positive contributions Harry had made over the years.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

### **Gala Day**

CO and AS have agreed to organise the parade next year. CO will try to engage more haulage companies to take part.

CO thought the parade should assemble a little later next year, say 12.30, so participants wouldn't be standing around waiting for so long.

AS thought a lead car was needed in case the Police were forced to leave the parade for priority requirement..

LH/NC felt that the parade needed a marching band. Any suggestions should be passed to CO/AS.

**Action: CO/MD** to email SB the amount of money raised by the collections so it can be published on the web-site and it can be published in the Bridge next year (**Peter Heseltine to note**).

It was suggested that next year's Gala Day could have a rural theme. There could be a Sheepdog or Raptor display in the arena. **Action: NC** to contact sheepdog display to check availability and price. **Action: BG** to contact Wood Green to see if they would provide a petting farm.

NC thought that there should be a relief team for selling tickets for the Duck Race. She thanked CL and his team (crew?) for stepping in at the last minute.

RW reported that the balloons had made a small loss. More of them could have been sold on the Sunday but he would need help – another relief team? – on that day. If the event were to be repeated next year, balloons and gas were left over from this year.

SB stated that there should be more stewards available throughout Gala day for public safety.

TM suggested that the stalls selling tickets for the Duck Race and Balloons should be in an enclave under the CA's banner rather than in a straight line. **Action: AN to note**

JM suggested we investigate running a horse-racing game.

SB noted suggestions from CO that the CA run the bar which would increase profits taken direct to CA. Whilst in principle this was laudable, SB noted the above problems of stewarding and staffing of CA activities and that with the present numbers this was not possible. It could be considered in future if sufficient volunteers came forward.

### **Picnic in the Park**

SB thought that all stewards should wear high vis jackets at all times and TM supported this from

public safety and Entertainment License point of view.

It would be advisable next year for someone to act as a point of contact for stewards and Police liaison from the Team rather than SB on the day (**Action: MD** to review).

It was suggested that the police should remain until the recreation field had been completely cleared. SB noted this had been requested, but total duration limits availability.

Carol Godley had received suggestions that P in the P should be held only on alternate years but it was felt that the impetus for the event would be in danger of being lost if this were to be adopted.

The next meeting of the P in the P committee will be on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 8pm in the Comrades Club.

### **The Bridge magazine**

LH said that PH had agreed to edit the magazine again this year. He needed more articles in order to fill the magazine. **Action: SB & GA** to produce more material for next year, **All please** to consider contributions and Editor for 2007.

The first meeting of the editorial team will be held at PH's house at 7.30 on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Fireworks Night**

SB stated it was highly likely he would be unavailable for the Fireworks night co-ordination of stewards, safety and Police liaison etc. **Action: A volunteer is needed at September meeting**

LH felt that more litter bins were needed.

It was decided that prices for entry should remain the same as last year.

A much larger float than last year was needed both on the gate and the bar. £1 and 50p coins would be particularly useful.

**Helen Gaylor** has agreed to run the bar. An occasional license would be required. (**Action for September meeting attendees**)

AH and Bonnie have agreed to organise the fireworks. **Action: AH** to enquire about a refresher course for members of his team. **SB** to establish availability of new member for fireworks team

**Action:** Nicola Rule to liaise with AH about insurance.

### **Friends of the Queen Elizabeth School**

SB provided the meeting with the information from David Stokes, Friends of QES, seeking a contribution towards the monies required to retain an archaeologically important find here in GMC. SB had discussed this point with Mike Westcott Rudd who confirmed that such an action was fully in agreement with the Objects of the Memorandum of Association. NC declared an interest in this item and stepped out of the meeting. SB noted his personal view that support should be offered. It was agreed that the CA make a donation of £500 towards the purchase of the pendant offered to the FQES. Some concerns were expressed however.

- a) If the FQES should dissolve some time in the future, it was felt that assurances should be given that the pendant would be passed to another Community group.
- b) Some comments were made about the limited number of occasions when the pendant would be on display. An article in The Bridge Magazine and reproduced on the web site was seen as partly addressing this point.
- c) It was suggested that a replica of the pendant could be made so that it could be used by local

schools and other groups if feasible.

**Action: AH to contact David Stokes, Friends of QES regarding support and clarification as above.**

**AOB**

The invoice from the Salvation Army for the room hire for the AGM was given to AH.

The next meeting of the CA will be held on the 8th September.

SB appealed for a high turnout. He reminded the committee that he would be unable to attend either the next meeting or, probably, Fireworks Night itself. He thought therefore that there were a number of actions that would need to be agreed at that meeting and asked that the Members progress in his absence, in particular, 1 steward per 100 members of the public are needed on the night in addition to the pyrotechnics team. The Police would require advise on event timings and point of contact by letter ASAP.