

## Beare Green Community Association Trustees' Meeting



# Beare Green Community Association

Held Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025 – 7:00pm

### Welcome & Apologies

Present: Paul Mott, Chairman and Meeting Secretary, Laura Mott, Trustee/Treasurer and Bookings Secretary, Steve Campbell, Trustee, Alan Smallwood, Trustee, James Stuart, Trustee, Steve Killick, Trustee, John Roche, appointed at this meeting as Trustee

### 2. Minutes of Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June meeting

Approved

#### Actions :

>> Alan will organise a pruning party in relation to the dead or fallen trees that allow rats and squirrels, direct access to the island – carried forward, Alan has been very busy with another group he is involved with

>> Paul to discover if a third reserve account is feasible, or convert the second, that has notice to withdrawals but with a higher interest rate – Paul hasn't had time yet, did try via the "Cora" robotised chat function of Natwest but, the robot didn't help – he needs to make time telephone them.

### 3. Treasurer's report

- Current Account £2,573 as at 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025
- 2nd Account £34,440 as at 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025
- Total across the two bank accounts £37,014
- Petty Cash : Events £565.65 Cinema £295, Treasurer £277.60

Outstanding action on Paul : check if can get more interest on reserve account if convert to a notice account.

• Regarding the Chairman's query to Mole Valley of their unusually large rent charge of £1952.33 last August : the 2016 lease revision does specify inflation, somewhat away from where the £400/month figure (as at 2016) is specified, at para 10; the Chairman had overlooked it. Andrew Heard of MVDC was apologetic that the Chairman hadn't received a reply to his original enquiry as to what the bill was. He explained that the inflation had been only applied up to the first year, so the £400 was inflated to £414, after that inflation wasn't charged, so in following years we were undercharged, then the system, or the clerk, accidentally overcharged us in August 2024 when the error was realised and they tried to catch up. He gave a full breakdown :

	Passing Rent £	RPI (relative index)	Actual Rent Charged	Overcharges show as -ve. Undercharge +ve
• Year				

2014	0	256	0	0
2015	0	258.6	0	0
2016	400	263.4	400	0
2017	414.43	272.9	414.43	0
2018	427.79	281.7	414.43	13.360433
2019	439.64	289.5	414.43	25.205535
2020	446.77	294.2	414.43	32.342969
2021	463.93	305.5	414.43	49.503181
2022	521.18	343.2	414.43	106.75451
2023	568.26	374.2	414.43	153.8312
2024	588.46	387.5	<b>1952.33</b>	-1363.871

<b>CUMULATIVE</b>	£4270.46	£5253.34	<b><u>-£982.88 over-charge</u></b>
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The net result of the error appears to mean MVDC will need to credit BGCA with the difference of £982.88 to the BGCA account (we've written to confirm and accept). So our Chairman's enquiries have gained us back £982 of erroneous billing (which we would never have been able to spot or work out for ourselves to be honest – see above!).

#### **Access to Bank Account:**

At the moment the only two trustees with access to the bank account are Alan Smallwood and Paul Mott. It was proposed by Steve Campbell, seconded by Steve Killick and **agreed** unanimously that Laura as Treasurer should also have access, with the same ability to act independently to pay bills, view and download records of transactions etc as Paul and Alan both have, so she doesn't have to keep asking Paul for transactions details or to pay bills.

#### **4. Bookings report**

Bookings secretary update :

Wrestling July 19<sup>th</sup> was cancelled/deferred due to poor advance bookings. Next one will be on, on November 15<sup>th</sup> (we run bar). Next band nights : Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of September and December 6<sup>th</sup> after fun day, BGCA bar both times. The December 6<sup>th</sup> cinema booking was overlooked by the Chairman who was covering for Laura when the band enquiry came in; we are moving that cinema back a week to Sat 29<sup>th</sup> November (so there are two cinema events in November, and none in December), which also avoids over-using trustees on two events in one day.

Chair exercise class in small hall : the details were agreed. Laura to communicate and see if they want to go ahead.

Next **KAPOW!** Wrestling : November 15<sup>th</sup>. (we run bar).

Next Milestone Big Band nights : Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of September and December 6<sup>th</sup> after fun day, BGCA bar both times.

Vaccinations start again on weekends from 1<sup>st</sup> October. The usual pattern is to book as many Saturdays and Sundays as are not booked already by other users, nearer the time, to the end

of the campaign, and then in fact cancel the Sundays part way through the campaign and at that time also curtail the time of the Saturday sessions, as they are only busy for full days for the first 2 or 3 weeks. So it will probably be like that again.

Slimming World is looking for someone to run it on Fridays at our hall, which if it comes to pass (main hall) might be 2pm to 9pm. Steve has given Tracey Mullett of Slimming World, Laura's number. Note : this may take some time to play out. Small possibility they even want Saturday too, [07:00] to [13:00].

## 5. Cinema report

Steve has sent Paul the moviola bill for the July film – paid.

New films : Sat 6th Sept : "Mr Burton". 4th Oct : "The Penguin lessons", 1st Nov : "The Salt Path", 29th November : "The Ballad of Wallis Island". All of this batch of films are 12A.

Note that the last film of the year will be Saturday 29th November, out of the usual pattern of the first Saturday of the month, because Saturday 6th December is both the Christmas Fair 12-4, and then in the evening, the amazing Milestone band. Paul will pop this on the BGCA.ORG.UK website in the usual three places (home page, cinema dedicated page, and the events page).

## 6. Health and safety

Nothing to report. Concrete slope down from fire exit currently nice and clear of moss so no slip hazard when wet. Fire alarms and extinguishers service due by before about May 2026 (our policy is deliberately not exact on frequency, given that it usually costs £700).

## 7. Maintenance

Paul will arrange a "one-off" external window clean of village hall (*it won't actually be one off, but don't want to get on the treadmill of having it done every 8 weeks, or having to manually cancel every 8 weeks; that's not necessary*).

Paul is chasing Ed Blake for a quote for replacement of weather damaged fascia boarding on 2 sides of main hall roof and all 4 sides of small hall roof, replacement will be plastic not wood – costs more but should last. He also asked a Dorking carpentry firm for a quote; they went up and looked but never sent a quote.

## 8. Events

BGCA AGM was Sunday 6th July 2025; went well with 2 villagers coming along thanks to our advertising.

Fun day 2025 – weather was excellent, but attendance was modest. It's so hard to get people out. We advertised it well with banners up for weeks and the band playing from the start to get people out, upon hearing it, if they'd forgotten it was on. Failure of the two face painters to turn up at short notice 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025, was noted. Amazing that James got the fire service to bring an engine !

Planning for Fun day 2026 - will get Jamies' Castles to our next meeting re : the bouncy-castle-fest idea. We need to see their insurance. Alan offered once we have it to check with Mole Valley District Council in October that the event would be able to get their consent, and run Jamies' insurance by them, as if it can't get their consent we need to hear that well within 2025 and have time to re-plan. The only date that suits Jamies' Castles in 2026 given how busy they are with regular clients later on, would be **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May (bank holiday)**, so if the idea works, it will be then this year. There would still be space for our usual stalls but we

think, with 8 dogs entering in 2025 and 3 dogs in 2024, to cancel the dog show going forward. This also releases some space.

Laura is in liaison with the “Rampant Rooster” Morris Dancers re : 2026. Perhaps we might use a different sort of music-maker instead of the band, to ring the changes ? Some of our regulars say the usual band is a little loud for them.

Planning for Christmas Fair 6<sup>th</sup> December 2026 : 15 stalls about our max plus Laura’s games and in small hall, once again the grotto / Santa. Stalls £15 each indoors or £5 outdoors.

Jumble sale 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 3:00 to 15:00

6<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Market 12:00 to 15:30

## **Any Other Business**

### **New Trustee**

John Roche offered his service as a new trustee. He was proposed by Steve Killick, seconded by Paul Mott, and unanimously voted in. All welcomed John. **Action** on Paul to upload this to the Charity Commission website.

Alan discussed trees around the pond; he would like to see more of them. Steve Killick had concerns about obscuration of fishing casting lines were there to be more trees around the edge of the pond, and they seem to end up leaning into it due to poor root support pond-side. Paul noted that he has planted a very small (16 inch) scots pine and two other trees, one a 7 foot high specimen so far, including a small (20 inches so far) hornbeam that the green party donated at 2024 fun day, in a small clear area opposite the island duckhouse. Paul noted that mole valley’s contractor pruned the top off a very large ash tree (*the top of it, the part above 30 feet up – they left the rest; it’s easy to spot where the work was done*) abutting small kids’ play area and all the small trees’ branches that were growing across footpath into the small kids’ play area, 3 weeks back; they gave him all of the wood that arose from this.

Alan has a concern that the willow near where the phone box used to be, is or may be dieing.

Alan noted there is a consultation soon to open on a potential new “unitary authority”; in case anyone wanted to respond. Laura is about to receive by post an A3 poster on this consultation (closes in October), and 4 or so A4 ones from MVDC: one will go up in external noticeboard (the A3 one), one will be laminated and go on pond noticeboard and bus stop, and 2 will go inside village hall. (since the meeting they have arrived and are all up).

Alan noted that the old Horsham road has lost 1 metre in width other side to hall to silting and the new yellow edge-of-road lines have been painted in the wrong place as a result of this, not far from Brakspear’s Farm.

## **9. Date of next meeting**

We did set 21<sup>st</sup> September small hall for next trustee meeting. However, we now need to change that as two trustees are away – it is to be Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. A primary business item is to organise practicalities ahead of 11<sup>th</sup> October jumble sale - but we also wish to discuss the bounce-fest with Jamies’ Castles – they are being invited to our next meeting, to bring their insurance and discuss the bounce-fest idea. *(NB Paul has a 45 metre 13 amp extension reel and will check how far up-field that reaches. More of the same would be about £50 each. 9 metres of anti-trip cable cover to take several cables inside its void is £50.*

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/325168666773> - Jamies' may have a generator? Total power requirements will be something to discuss)

SUMMARY OF OTHER FORWARD DATES :

- Jumble sale is set for 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 3:00 to 15:00
- 6th December Christmas Market 12:00 to 15:30
- Fun day tentatively Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May (bank holiday)
- Next *KAPOW!* Wrestling : November 15th. (BGCA bar).
- Next Milestone Big Band nights : Friday 26th of September and December 6th after fun day, BGCA bar both times.