

Beer Village Heritage annual meeting. 25th April 2024. 7pm in The Balcony room.

Present: David Morling, Nick Jones, Adrian Mills, Henry Jaggars, Norah Jaggars, Paul Godfrey, Anna Philpot, Bryan Groves, Pat Groves, Pamela Morling, Isabella Baldwin, James Baldwin, Martin Cox, Carol Green, Alan Hanger, Christine Jones

Apologies: Liz Asbury

Report for 2023

David welcomed trustees, members and visitors. Although we did not meet in this general way last year, he confirmed that the trustees had met and had completed the necessary reports and account records which had been submitted to the Charity Commission.

The Fine Foundation Centre was cleaned and readied for the 2023 season and the tanks filled and stocked with assistance from the fishermen. The displays promoting the geology, flora and fauna and history of Beer were refreshed.

We assisted by providing a water station at "The Grizzly" annual running event and are grateful for the funds this generates.

In May, we carried out an additional beach clean to mark King Charles' Coronation.

We held our "fossil fun" event for children during Regatta Week and over the summer attended some craft fairs and coffee mornings and exhibitions to promote the work of the centre.

We also enjoyed a trip to Beer Quarry caves and a BBQ. An on-going project collecting hag stones from the beach was run throughout the season and the results of this have been displayed.

We were all devastated by the sudden death of Mike Green, friend and such an inspirational member and driving force of Beer Village Heritage. We give our thanks in his memory for everything he did.

Financial report

The current balance is strong at 26,478 pounds. This is earmarked for the planned programme of building works.

In the financial year up to October '23 we had income of 1,835 pounds of which 824 pounds was received from the aforementioned "Grizzly" run. 590 pounds was spent on insurance. Surplus was 790 pounds. Nick presented a spreadsheet copy of the accounts for examination.

Although the Charity commission has approved the CIO, HMRC does not recognise charitable status without examination of formal accounts. These have to be prepared and sent in by 31 October 2024. Nick is hoping to manage these requirements but if it proves difficult may need to employ an accountant.

Quotes are coming in for the building works. We have a healthy budget but depending on rising costs may need to look at further grant applications.

We need to aim to raise 1000 pounds annually to cover our running costs. Any ideas for fund-raising welcome.

Activities 2024

Some general maintenance work has been carried out to secure the handrails around the balcony and to incorporate some "new" cabinets acquired from Seaton Jurassic closure.

Thanks to Nick for leading this.

The outside woodwork, especially on the sea facing side is about to get some weatherproofing treatment. Norah has organised the outside balustrade photo panels to be reprinted and rehung.

The fish tanks have not been filled and are currently housing static displays as completely refitting this end wall and installing new equipment is the next scheduled building work. We need assistance with trade expertise so all contacts and offers of help gratefully received.

Trustees

We are pleased to inform that, Paul Godfrey, Fisherman, has agreed to become a Trustee. The current trustees 3-year term expires in 2024 but all have agreed to continue for a further 3-year term. Members Carol Green and Norah Jagers supported this. David, Nick, Henry, Adrian and Liz cannot continue beyond this under the rules of our Constitution, so we need to recruit further trustees to ensure succession without a crisis.

AOB

1.The geology leaflets produced by Mike Green are running low. We don't have access to the original computer-generated text and layout. A printing firm in Woodbury produced them and Norah agreed to follow-up and see if they still had a master from which new runs could be printed.

2. The Bomb shelter is being rented to stage a RNLI display and Carol Green will generously donate the hire fee to BVH.

At the conclusion of the business agenda, David gave a talk and slide presentation up-dating his work on Beer Old Cemetery, using the gravestone information to seek Beer's past family and social history.

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