

Minutes of Meeting 2nd April 2025 – 7pm

Present: Brian Fell, Colin Knight, Bob Finch, Dave Marriott, Matthew Whyte.

Apologies: Calvin Joslin, Mark Sadler.

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March were approved.

Finance.

Treasurer's Report. Colin reported that the balance at the end of March was £10,600, including £2,882 of grant funding. Surplus for the year to date is £1,707. A payment of £400 brings rent up to 2nd March.

SCF Grant Application. Our application has been acknowledged but there is no news so far.

IT/Media. Matthew is trying to keep the website up to date and would like topical photos and articles.

Equipment. Matthew and Stuart have tried using a donated table saw but have concerns that it is unsafe to be used by members. They suggest that we purchase a new one from "Evolution" at a cost of around £450 as a table saw would be a useful addition to the workshop. Matthew suggested that we pay for it from the money donated by The Oddfellows and publicise it on our website. Dave suggested that we purchase a lock to prevent it being used by The Centre during the week. This was unanimously agreed leaving Matthew to arrange the purchase.

Administration.

Insurance. Our insurance is due for renewal on 20th April. Brian has submitted a detailed response regarding the Shed and it's operation and we are awaiting a quote.

Members. Dave tabled an up to date members list which includes two new applicants.

Ronseal. Brian has submitted our application which has been acknowledged. Delivery is expected soon.

Sealey Tools. Dave has contacted Matthew Grant, (Head of Marketing), regarding his offer of support and has secured a promise of 40 sets of PPE, to a retail value of over £650, free of charge.

Events. Even though Mark has been unwell and unable to attend the Shed he has continued to plan for upcoming events.

South Suffolk Show. We will be permitted to run a Tombola as long as we don't leave discarded tickets around the site. Helen will not be available on show day and we will need someone else to take on and run the tombola. Bob will ask for volunteers. We will be allowed some additional parking permits for volunteers manning the stall and need to firm up on arrangements. Matthew has a stock of old tools, largely from donations, and based on past experience these would be of general interest to show goers.

Elmswell. Mark is trying to get details of this year's show.

Projects.

West Suffolk Sands. Jessica will collect 15 birdboxes on 12th April. Costs have been kept at £5 per box and Colin has sent an invoice. Stephan has managed to make 3 extra boxes for sale.

Theatre Royal. Stuart has delivered the prototype storage rack and it was well received and the remaining two units are under construction. The Theatre have suggested a free tour for Shed Members as a thank you and this has been arranged for Friday 9th May. So far there are about 12 members interested. Matthew is making a plaque to be affixed to each storage rack to acknowledge the Shed and also West Suffolk Council.

The Hub. Bob continues to work at the Hub assisted by his son Matt and also Harry. Bob has purchased 500 grams, (about 400), "Tiger Worms" to assist in breaking compost material down. Brian has collected the wood from Jewson to complete the remaining veg. beds and begged two scaffold boards from the adjoining building site to widen the access for wheel chairs.

Bungalow 25. Giles has made the railway themed items for this years Bury in Bloom which have been collected. Matthew suggested we waive any charge as the wood came from our stock. This was agreed but we would like photos of the finished display.

Date of next Meeting 7th May.