

## Poringland & District Men's Shed

### Minutes

Date 30<sup>th</sup> August 2016: 10:30@ The Forge, Brooke

Attendees HG, LB, JM, SD: Apologies TR, RB

June minutes agreed

Matters arising

Les outlined plan to remove some of the existing metal shelving and replace with a workbench and storage cupboards and de-clutter redundant equipment/tools. All agreed the plan.

The new flyers & business cards were circulated and were approved. These, along with the vertical banner & stand are now stored at the Forge.

HG gave some positive feedback on the website.

H & S

All acknowledged the need to have H&S policies and documentation in place. RB & SD will produce the documentation using NMS documents as a template.

RB/SD

Discussed who may have the required skills to act as a Competent Person(s) HG will approach the individuals identified.

HG

Discussed a Responsible Person roster. This would ideally, but not have to be, a committee member.

New business

Funds are low. HG has applied for some new funding. Annual running costs are c£1000

HG explained he is pursuing PDMS gaining charitable status. The building is yet to be valued but the owner has indicated how much he believed it was worth.

A discussion on current income revealed that only 50% of members donate £1 "tea money". With current levels of usage if every member paid £2 each visit that would raise around £1500-£2000pa. This would cover our annual costs and subsidise some social events. We cannot rely on grants to cover annual costs and therefore it was agreed that from October 1<sup>st</sup> we will ask members to pay £2. This will, as before, include unlimited tea, coffee and biscuits. SD will email the membership in September with an explanation of why the increase is necessary. Additionally a notice will be posted up at the Shed.

SD

JM raised that in the future cordless tools would be far safer, if funds permitted.

LB questioned whether or not the whole forge roof should have guttering.

Building inspectorate may query why we have not done so? It was agreed to create a sufficiently large soakaway which could accommodate more guttering & downpipes if necessary.

HG needs more detail of the proposed soakaway including dimensions for the building inspectors. LB will email him the required information. It is hoped we can then progress the eco-toilet installation.

LB

#### Social

HG recommended that we visit "Weird & Wonderful" in Suffolk next year. Also we have been invited to the Stonemason Guild, Norwich. It was suggested that we combine a Big Breakfast at the Britannia Café with this visit.

The next Big Breakfast will be September 3rd at Green Pastures. SD will notify members via email and the website.

SD

#### Repair Café

Our participation in this event will be on Oct 10th. It was agreed in the future that we would host an event every 2 months at the Shed . We won't have fixed charges but will accept donations. HG will contact SNC with a list of items we can tackle.

HG

#### Video project

We are hoping to produce a short video about the Shed and what it means to members. Two members have agreed to take part & HG will provide an introduction. When complete it will be posted on our website.

HG will be attending a SNC Chairman's retirement event where he will speak about the Men Shed project.

#### Dangerous Rubbish

There is a large amount of nails & screws adjacent to the forge which is a potential danger to members and vehicle tyres. Sid has agreed to provide a large magnet so the area can be swept and cleared.

MR joined the meeting. He suggested that we consider we make a men's Shed calendar or greetings cards. It was acknowledged it was an idea worthy of consideration.

JM raised that funding may be available from the Poringland Fuel Allotment fund. HG will investigate.

HG

Meeting closed 12:30



RB/SD

HG