

Barlow Charity

Minutes of a Trustees Meeting 2.30p.m. on Friday 10th November 2023

Attendance

Richard Norton, David Piper and John Rockliff attended.

Minutes

The minutes of the trustees meeting held on 9th January 2023 were ratified and signed, having already been agreed by the Trustees via e mail.

Maintenance of Houses and Grounds

Robin English had continued to be the regular gardener. The trustees had met with him in October to review how the garden maintenance was going. It was agreed to make no changes.

One resident had reported that some of the paint had been bubbling up. These small areas had been prepared and re painted.

Claim against Serco

The paving damaged by Serco's lorry had been repaired in June 2022 but since then it has been damaged again. John had contacted Serco about this but they say it was not their lorry that did it. Due to the difficulty of being certain who had caused the damage it was agreed to take no further action. The paving would be monitored to ensure it does not become a trip hazard.

House sales

One house sale had been completed in May 2023. Another house had begun the sale process but decided not to sell for the time being.

Finance and Accounts

The bank balances as at 9th November 2023 were Current account £4,781.23, Business Money Manager account £8,093.03. This was felt to be an adequate level of reserves for near term expected costs.

£8,000 had been moved from the current account to the Business Money Manager account. It was agreed to move a further £3,000 to the BMM account.

David had prepared the BC accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023. Tony Mendham had been asked to examine them. Once this has been done the relevant details would be submitted to Companies House and the Charity Commission.

Rent

One resident was underpaying by £2.31 per month. It was agreed to send a reminder asking them to correct this.

All apart from this matter all residents were up to date with their rent.

Any Other Business

One resident had asked if he could plant a small apple tree in his front garden. The trustees had some doubts because a small tree can become a big tree. However there is nothing in the lease that prohibits trees. It was therefore decided to allow the tree but to stipulate that it must be no more than 3 metres high. Ideally it would be grown in a container.

Additional Trustee(s)

It was agreed to look to recruit one or two additional trustees. It was noted that the Parish Council appointed trustees.

Next Meeting

The next trustees meeting would be at 10.00a.m. on 20th May 2024.

The meeting ended at 3.25 p.m.