

Report – Robertsbridge Community Association - Committee Meeting 31st August 2023

The turnout for the meeting was low but quorate, but we all know what low attendance feels like.

- Christmas Market
Not sure if the Market will be happening in line with Christmas Capers. Sarah Brown is not willing to organise again because of the treatment handed out by the Capers committee last year. So if Capers want the market again they need to do some negotiations.
- Flower and Dog Show
This is a joint venture between the hall and Bonfire Society and will take place this coming Sunday
- AGM Set for 28th September at 1900 at the village Hall. Everyone is welcome.
- New committee
Phil Underwood has resigned and will leave post early next year so a new Secretary will be required. Neil (Chairman) and Anne (Bookings Secretary) Barden are showing signs of declining and there is a distinct lack of youth on the committee. They will resurrect the original premise and ask each of the regular hall users to put forward one of their own committee to serve on the Hall committee. We will see what the response is.
- Robertsbridge Junior Football Club
Ammy Jupp (Secretary) and James Barret (Chair) attended to introduce themselves and their intent. At present the Juniors use the Community College facilities for playing and training, but they want to move back to the sports field by the allotments next year. They are bringing the field under control this year so it will be fit for purpose for next year's training. Their target is to run 9 teams, but only the Under 13 and 16 Teams will play registered league games.
Their budget requirement is £11K per year so they are stretched and need to raise more money to pay these costs. The Hall supply the field and a Kit Store for them at present.
Their issues going forward are, Toilet and Changing Rooms, Parking, Dog Poo, Advertising and Communications.
At present the Robertsbridge Club and Community College are their main sponsor.
- Wet Floors They will re-instate the mats at the Patio Door entrances to prevent water being walked into the Hall onto the new floor.
- The Hearing Loop has been reinstated and will be tested in due course by some deaf volunteers.
- Allotments There is one allotment still available should anyone wish to take it on.
- Treasury There is approximately £25K in the bank at present and if they are successful in obtaining a grant for the solar panels they will be required to pay for the panels before the grant is paid. Weird system but that is the way Rother operate.
- Bookings There are activities almost every day of September, even with the price increase. The Youth Club, although booked has very poor attendance. The only evening available is Monday or Tuesday for the Hall but those are the evenings for Cricket and Football practice. This may change in the winter.

Sorry if this report centres around the Junior Football Club but it is a partner of the Hall and it is encouraging to see the Juniors coming back into the village with positive plans. They may well be asking the Parish for some financial support

Roger Palamarczuk