

Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields Charity

An Annual General meeting was held in the Old School Room, Mendlesham, Wednesday 8 May 2024 at 7.49pm.

Present: Cllrs H Orton (Chair), S Hyde, S Judd, D Lummis, C Orton, P Allen, D Foster, N Foster, E Ward, A Davey and A Johnson (Clerk).
No members of public.

1. Welcome, apologies for absence and filming statement.

No apologies. Filming statement not read out as no members of the public present.

2. Declarations of interest:

a) To note Councillor's declarations of interest in any of the following agenda items.

Nothing to declare

b) To agree any dispensations with regard to declarations of interest.

Not required.

3. Minutes:

To approve minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 17 May 2023.

Pages 25-27 inclusive were unanimously agreed as an accurate record, signed and dated by the Chair

4. Reports:

a) Chair's report

None

b) Financial report, to include accounts for the year ending 31.3.24 and asset register as at 31.3.24.

A Cllr queried the Asset register notes. All other financial documents approved. Action Clerk: to clarify notes with previous RFO for y.e. 31.3.24 and advise Councillors accordingly.

To note internal audit for y.e. 31.3.23 reported and all in order and no actions

Duly noted

To appoint Heelis and Lodge as auditors for y.e. 31.3.25

Cllr queried if Heelis and Lodge were auditors for Parish Council and Community Centre. Action Clerk: to check with previous RFO for y.e. 31.3.24 and confirm to Councillors by email

c) Any other reports

Clerks report:

Finance: 6.3.24 MPC provided a grant £15 to keep the bank account open and active (Bank threatening to close account).

Delegated decisions: None

Correspondence: To note merger refused with Charity Commission suggesting a way forward and Birketts to follow up and advise – also see agenda no. 8

5. Public Forum:

Minutes of Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields Charity (reg no 304794) Annual General Meeting 8.5.24

No comments received

6. To agree bank signatories.

Unanimously agreed for signatories to be the same as Parish Council - currently Cllrs Allen, Davey, H Orton and Ward plus Sharon Jones and Amy Johnson including use of online banking facility) Any two to sign

7. Safeguarding policy: to confirm Mendlesham Parish Council Safeguarding policy also applies to Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields Charity.

Unanimously agreed

8. Merger of Mendlesham Community Centre Charity and Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields Charity.

Mendlesham Community Centre (Registered charity number 304795) and Mendlesham Memorial Playingfields Charity (Registered charity number 304794)

To note Charity Commission has declined to make the requested merger due to recent changes in charity law. Instead suggests use of newly introduced power, requiring the Charity Commission's consent, to amend the objects of both of the charities so that they align and then apply for an order permitting the two charities to merge.

Birketts Solicitors to follow up and provide details for next steps.

Duly noted.

9. Any other business.

None

Meeting closed 19.49pm.