

Record of Meeting

DATE OF MEETING	Thursday 22 nd July 2021	DATE ISSUED	Friday 30 th July 2021
PURPOSE OF MEETING	Annual General Meeting	PLACE OF MEETING	The Oval bandstand & Lawns
DISTRIBUTION			
Simon Bell Jeremy Richardson Stephen Darrer Peter Davis Betty Ward		Helen Pitman Anthony-John Walker Tony Ward GRASS Website Social Media	

ITEM		ACTION
1.0	APOLOGIES FOR ABSCENCE	
1.1	The following people sent their apologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helen Pitman – Director, GRASS Cliftonville CIC 	
2.0	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM	
2.1	The previously approved minutes were made available, and members of the existing GRASS committee once again confirmed their accuracy by a show of hands.	
3.0	CHAIR'S REPORT	
3.1	Current GRASS Secretary Stephen Darrer welcomed attendees to the 2021 GRASS AGM and then handed over to Simon Bell to deliver the Chair's report as follows:	
3.2	Dear Members, We hope you and your loved ones are keeping safe and well during these turbulent times. We recognise that this is an immensely frustrating and potentially difficult time for community groups and associations, but we also know the importance of these groups in keeping people connected, and as things get back to something like normality, our groups will have an especially important role to play. The last 16 months has proven to be an extraordinary time for all of us. And whilst nothing GRASS has endured compares to the loss of a loved one, there have been disappointments for our community group. The Cliftonville Games, the Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema, and the GRASS Children's Christmas Party all had to be cancelled last year. However, during these most trying times, the GRASS community group has also shown its worth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We delivered several food voucher schemes and supported over 300 families We continued to produce and deliver the GRASS ROOTS newsletter to Cliftonville and helped promote other local community groups and organisations. We applied for funding as part of the Margate Town Deal and £500,000 has been allocated, and we are about to embark on writing our business case so that we can be one of the first community projects to start work. <p>And through the worst months of the pandemic, the GRASS committee were busy working on the community asset transfer of The Oval – from submitting our bid document at the end of March 2020, to being notified June last year that we had been successful, to appointing solicitors at the start of January 2021, to spending the last six months negotiating contracts and finalising all the legal work for the purchase of</p>	

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the site, and then finally completing two weeks ago on 8th July. It's been quite a ride, filled with lots of emotional highs, and some disappointing lows, but we got there in the end through sheer hard work, positivity, and perseverance.

Now we find ourselves here today celebrating GRASS's 18th birthday as the new owners of The Oval Bandstand and Lawns. I couldn't be more proud of the achievements of our fantastic committee and band of wonderful volunteers.

And the future is even more exciting, as we are now throwing ourselves with gusto into site improvement works; already we have created the largest new wildflower garden in Cliftonville (over 120m²), planted up 18 hanging baskets for The Oval's lampposts, and we'll be installing festoon lights & multi-coloured bunting over the next few days. Then in early August we will be opening the newly refurbished kiosk to sell hot & cold drinks and a variety of food. We'll also be reopening The Oval's public toilets so that beach users and walkers have access to much needed facilities on the Cliftonville coastline. And last, but certainly not least, we'll also be repairing and repainting the iconic bandstand structure, so it's protected from the harsh coastal weather.

On top of the site upgrade works, we are also planning a full programme of entertainment during August and September, with free live music returning to The Oval Bandstand as part of our Summer Sunday's concerts. Don't forget to follow us on social media for announcements. We also have two more outdoor cinemas planned, as well as the Cliftonville Games, and we are also hosting Margate Pride at The Oval on 14th August. We are certainly going to make the most of what remains of the summer.

Looking back the year has been particularly satisfying because we started a membership drive so we can better connect with the community we serve. We now have 86 members, which compares to zero at this time last year. We must now embark on a process of consultation with our members, whilst also providing the opportunity for people to meet other residents at our members social events. I want to express my thanks for the support of the Committee. It is a very effective team and I hope that the forthcoming year will see us getting back in gear to really deliver for Cliftonville.

Lastly, I want to thank all our wonderful volunteers who make our community events a wonderfully vibrant addition to life here in Cliftonville. Thank you from myself, and the GRASS committee, for all your efforts, you really are all brilliant.

Simon Bell
Chair – Gordon Road Area Street Scheme (GRASS)

4.0 TREASURER'S REPORT

4.1 Simon Bell, the acting Treasurer following Judi McCartney's resignation in March 2021, presented details of the GRASS financial statement for 2020-2021.

4.2 Stephen Darrer remains primary fundraiser for GRASS, however additional support from GRASS committee members would be welcome.

5.0 ELECTION OF THE GRASS COMMITTEE FOR 2020-21

5.1 Simon Bell and Stephen Darrer oversaw the election of the GRASS Committee for the forthcoming year.

5.2 The result of the 2021 election of GRASS Committee Members is as follows:

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Role	Nominee	Proposed By	Seconded By
Chairperson	Simon Bell	Jeremy Richardson	Anthony-John Walker
Vice-Chairperson			
Secretary	Stephen Darrer	Jeremy Richardson	Betty Ward
Treasurer	Anthony-John Walker	Simon Bell	Jeremy Richardson
Membership Secretary			
Social Secretary			
Events Secretary			
Committee Member	Peter Davis-Gardner	Simon Bell	Stephen Darrer
Committee Member	Jeremy Richardson	Stephen Darrer	Simon Bell
Co-opted Committee Members	Betty Ward	GRASS Committee	GRASS Committee
Co-opted Committee Members	Tony Ward	GRASS Committee	GRASS Committee

5.3 Post meeting note: there are four vacant main committee roles, if you have some spare time and the desire to help to GRASS, please do get in touch. We are particularly keen to fill the Membership Secretary role, which involves welcoming new members and helping to organise members social events.

5.4 Post Meeting Note: Proposed dates for 2021/22 GRASS meetings as follows:

- 5th August 2021 – Committee Meeting
- 4th November 2021 – Committee Meeting
- 25th November 2021 – GRASS Special General Meeting (SGM) & Members Christmas Party
- 3rd February 2022 – Committee Meeting
- 5th May 2022 – GRASS AGM

All Committee Members

6.0 GRASS EVENTS

6.1 **Cliftonville in Bloom** - In March Judith McCartney resigned as event organiser, and as the remaining committee members were unable to take on the role, SB once again delivered the competition. For the 2022 competition SB proposes that GRASS employ an event organiser, SD will investigate possible funding options. It takes approximately 80 hours to organise the competition just for Cliftonville West.

SB & SD

6.2 **Cliftonville Games** - There was no Cliftonville Games in 2020.

6.3 **GRASS Children's Christmas Party** - There was no Children's Christmas Party in 2020.

6.4 **Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema** - There were no Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema events in 2020.

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6.5	Spooktonville – A smaller event than originally planned was delivered because of COVID restrictions. It is proposed that Spooktonville will be held at The Oval this year. It is going to be epic fun for the whole family! If you would like to volunteer, please contact GRASS HERE .	
6.6	Post meeting note: Proposed GRASS event dates for 2021/22 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema - Saturday 19th June **POSTPONED** • Cliftonville in Bloom Judging - Thursday 8th July • Cliftonville in Bloom Prize Giving - Sunday 11th July • Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema - Saturday 17th July • Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema - Saturday 7th August • Cliftonville Games - Saturday 28th August • Cliftonville Outdoor Cinema - Saturday 11th September • Spooktonville - Sunday 31st October • Children's Christmas Party - Sunday 12th December • Cliftonville in Bloom Launch - Sunday 25th April 2022 	All Committee Members
7.0	GRASS PROJECTS	
7.1	Santa Post Box & Little Library - Post meeting note: Nearly 100 letters were received and just over 70 Santa letters were delivered to children who gave their addresses. The post box was converted back into a Little Library after Christmas, and this continues to be a huge success with lots of people swapping books. SB & SD are exploring the possibility of installing another Little Library at The Oval Bandstand.	SB & SD
7.2	Gordon Road Community Garden - A successful garden tidy took place early in 2021, thank you to all the volunteers. Residents have started to help with planting, which is excellent. SB will investigate the creation of a community gardening club (perhaps linked to The Oval)	All
7.3	Parklets – SB explained what the proposed 'parklets' project is, and asked people to visit Parklets project page at the GRASS website for further details and design work. SB to put a call out for volunteers to help develop and deliver the project.	SB
7.4	Heritage Lamp Posts - SB explained what the proposed 'heritage lamp posts' project is, and asked people to visit the Heritage Lamp Posts project page at the GRASS website for further details and design work. SB to put a call out for volunteers to help develop and deliver the project.	SB
7.5	Heritage Street Signs - Jerry suggested that GRASS should develop a project to repaint all the heritage street signs in Cliftonville and install new signage to inform residents and visitors they are in a conservation area. Post meeting note: we have created a Heritage Street Signs project page at the GRASS website. SB proposes that the first task should be to identify locations of the existing signage and produce a photographic condition survey to help everyone understand the scope of works.	SB
8.0	THE OVAL BANDSTAND & LAWNS	
8.1	SD & SB provided an short update on the recently concluded Community Asset Transfer of The Oval Bandstand & Lawns from TDC to GRASS Cliftonville CIC, details of which can be found on our Summer GRASS ROOTS newsletter HERE .	
8.2	Site Hire & Performing – the following events will take place at The Oval during 2021, for further details please click HERE : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Sunday's Concerts • Cliftonville Games 	

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- Cliftonville Dog Show
- Spooktonville
- Cliftonville Christmas Market / Fair
- Margate Pride
- Cliftonville Farmer's Market
- 5k Colour Run (TDC's double booking with the Farmer's Market is yet to be resolved)

8.3 **Projects** – we are currently delivering the following regeneration projects at The Oval, for further details please click [HERE](#):

- Wildflower meadow
- Hanging baskets, festoon lighting, and bunting to lamp posts
- Kiosk upgrade works
- Bandstand renovation
- Toilet block renovation

8.4 **Crowdfunder** – SB presented the current outline budget for projects at The Oval that are to be funded by the successful Crowdfunder campaign. The following is a breakdown of various project expenditure (including costs already incurred and estimated costs):

CROWDFUNDER CAMPAIGN

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
1	Donations	£20,081.83
2	Match Funding	£10,000.00
3	Crowdfunder Fees	£1,390.17
TOTAL		£31,472.00

CROWDFUNDER PROJECTS BUDGET

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL (INC VAT)	
1	*TDC Legal Fees	£3,306.00	
2	*TDC Estate Management Fees	£3,600.00	
3	*GRASS Legal Fees	£1,716.00	
4	*Disbursements	£836.00	
5	Pre-planning Advice & Planning Application	£800.00	Provisional Cost Sum
6	*Urgent Electrical works	£2,000.00	Provisional Cost Sum
7	*CCTV / security lighting installation	£4,000.00	Provisional Cost Sum
8	Hanging baskets, wildflower meadow	£2,856.00	
9	Dog Poo Bins / Waste Bins / Notice Boards	£3,000.00	Provisional Cost Sum
10	*Repaint Bandstand	£3,000.00	Provisional Cost Sum
11	Insurance (buildings, contents, stock and liability, employers & public liability, land liability, etc.)	£2,082.90	
12	Consultants Fees	£3,000.00	Provisional Cost Sum
TOTAL		£30,196.90	

*Costs identified in Crowdfunder description

8.5 **Margate Town Deal** – SD confirmed that GRASS Cliftonville CIC will start writing its MTD business case for The Oval, which has been allocated £500,000 in funding, and is part of the 'Coastal Wellbeing' cluster in Cliftonville. We expect to submit our completed business case early next year and hope to secure the funding Q3 or Q4 2022, although this is totally dependent on TDC's project delivery timescale.

SB & SD

9.0 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS / QUESTIONS**

9.1 The following items were raised by attendees:

- Sanjay suggested that The Oval should be a plastic free site. SB confirmed that we would endeavour to make sure that it is, and that robust recycling regime would be place at The Oval by mid-August 2021.

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- Sanjay asked if we would have beehives on the site, SB said we had investigated the idea, but no decision had been made as we were worried about vandalism. Sanjay suggested the roof of the toilet block. SB said the GRASS committee would investigate it.
- Betty asked if we were still going to install an outdoor gym. SD said we were waiting for further information from the Margate Town Deal as there were proposals to locate it elsewhere on the Cliftonville coastline. SD confirmed that GRASS would be happy for an outdoor gym to be located at The Oval.
- Tony Ward provided a brief history of how GRASS came about in 2003 (GRASS is 18 this year!)

9.2

Next GRASS Committee Meeting

Thursday 5th August, 18:30-20:00, at The Oval Bandstand & Lawns.

All Committee Members