

Folk Camps Council Meeting 12/5/21

Meeting started 20.30.

Convened by video conference due to the Coronavirus pandemic meaning face to face meeting prohibited by government advice.

Present

Marcus de Frettes (Chair)

Patrick Self (Vice Chair)

Mel Horton

Anne Guthrie

Sue Malleson

Paul Weir

Becky Boram

Claire Mycock

Anthony Keen

Steve Porritt

Graham Clements

Jenny Hopper

Kerstin Jewell

No Apologies

Agenda

1. Minutes
2. Matters Arising
3. Financial Report
4. Summer Catered Camps
5. August Bank Holiday Weekends
6. Sites and Services
7. Health and Safety
8. AOB
9. Next Meeting

1. Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the meeting 2nd May 2021 was proposed by MdF, seconded by SM and passed unanimously.

2. Matters Arising

Minutes of Outreach Meeting 7/5/21 to be voted on next time.

Minutes of all previous Council Meetings have not yet been approved and are to be reviewed for next Council meeting

Action - MdF to provide minutes for previous meetings.

Action - MdF still to write to Karen and Andrew Robson, and Marj Hendy.

KJ said Toddington Hall committee will meet in June and will send paperwork for Reunion on Nov 20th then. We have also have Nov 19th 2022 pencilled in.

KJ reported on legacies from the past.

Action - KJ will send details to PS

Action - PS to put on website.

3. Financial Report

The current position is that FC has £135,500 of reserves.

A discussion followed about the Council having a basic financial report each meeting.

The financial working group should decide on what should be presented at each meeting.

4. Summer Catered Camps

Significant and animated discussions occurred about what the survey told us and how to move forward.

Camper survey results:

was sent out to 650 people, 196 responses (30.2%)

Summary:	Number	Percent
No camping at all	3	
No camp this year (leaves 140)	53	26%
Marquee if safe	91	65%
Hall if safe	42	30%
Self-catered W/E	72	51.4%

Staff survey results:

was sent out to 90 people, 49 responses (54.4%)

Summary:	Number	Percent
Won't staff at all this year	28	57.1%
Would staff a marquee	18	36.8%
Would staff a hall	7	14.3%
Would staff a self-catered W/E	9	18.4%

The discussion included the following points made by one or more participants:

- Given that 57% of staff felt unable to staff, it is not possible to run the full summer programme as planned. Also, 27.5% of campers indicated they would not be coming to camp this year.
- Cancelling all camps now would provide clarity for campers in making their holiday plans.
- As a significant minority wanted camps to happen it would be good to provide a limited alternative.
- After a review of the current H & S legislation relating to Covid, Council agreed it was impossible to run camps if the current restrictions were still in force.
- In considering retaining the hall camp, as still 3 months away it would be irresponsible to pull camp now.
- Concern was expressed about putting on a 1 or 2 week camp for a small number of people. Not helpful for the FC community feeling, whilst understanding the desire to run something.
- Self-catered weekends are a minimum financial risk.

Proposal:

Folk Camps Society members of Council agree that given the nature of the uncertainty of regulations, the currently unknown requirements for masking, social distancing, testing, vaccine passports, numbers of

individuals at events, notification criteria relating the corona virus and health and safety generally, all 2021 summer week-long Folk Camps are cancelled.

SM proposed. BB seconded.
8 for. 1 abstention.

5. August Bank Holiday Weekends

Discussion on keeping the possibility of running the August Bank Holiday camps open for as long as possible.

Proposal:

Folk Camps Society members of Council delay any decision on cancelling August Bank Holiday self catering weekends until as late as possible, due to minimal risk to Folk Camps of keeping them open.

PS proposed. MdF seconded.
Passed unanimously.

6. Sites and Services

SP spoke about the difference in using parkland or farmland. The situation with getting big lorries on to site with the toilets is a significant issue. Toilet blocks in general are in high demand and need booking for 2022 summer weeks ideally before the September meeting. We do not have a marquee site at the moment for next year.

The late May weekend camps in 2022 will run from 16.00 Wednesday June 1st and finish 16.00 Sunday June 5th 2022. Council agreed.

Action – MdF to set up Slack channel for discussion.

4.-6.

Action – MdF to phone Welbourn Hall to try to postpone until 2022.

Action – PW to draft email for mailing list.

Action – PS to prepare the email

Action – KJ to send email out

Action – AK to get on with publishing Extent

Action – PS to update website.

7. Health and Safety

Discussions about health and safety. As it stands, our health and safety policy is ok, but we note that we will need to revisit it in the light of the covid situation.

8. AOB

None

9. Next Meeting

Action – MdF to set up Doodle Poll for next meeting for 2nd, 3rd or 4th July 2021.

Meeting closed 22.30