

**Minutes of the Littleham and Landcross Community Website Association  
held on Monday February 15, 2010**

**Present:** Pat Haddrell; David Hogan; Sue Beer; Ian Mitchell; John Bromhead

**Apologies:** Jacqui Poole; Morris Poole; Andrew Tregoning; Neville Jackson

**Agenda:**

1. Report on Version 5 of LLCWSA
  2. Camera Bid
  3. LCN Hosting Review
  4. Sponsorship – ways forward to share the responsibility for this role, or a volunteer to step forward and take the lead.
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1. **Version 5** – The discussion was led with a short report by DH outlining the background, and giving rise to the changes recently made. The previous version had become top heavy as a result of growth and ‘add-ons’ which had made the site unwieldy, and not as user-friendly as we would wish. The presentation needed to be sharper (faster for users). ‘Frames’ have been used to create the columns. Some remain constant when options are made, thus cutting down the time to load each page.  
After a month, when first put on, several blips were ironed out which have produced a generally agreed improved site. Some suggestions were made to modify certain aspects.
    - a) **Footer** – taking too much space from each page. Agreed to reduce the lines.
    - b) **‘Errors’** (nothing to do with the contents of the page). A technical issue which only appears to someone with the know-how to retrieve them. It was decided the work involved to resolve this is not worthwhile given that the vast majority of users are not aware of them.
    - c) There is some confusion about what lies beneath the menu buttons – DH will resolve this so that when the mouse hovers over the button, contents will appear.
    - d) **RSS Feed?** Does not appear on some browsers – this enables a shortcut to what the site will offer. DH will investigate.

It was agreed that we adopt **Version 5** and DH was thanked for all the hard work that putting this together has entailed, and congratulated for giving the site an even more professional and user friendly feel.

2. **Webcam** – DH presented a paper showing his research for purchasing the necessary equipment to set up another Spring Birdwatch for the Website. He explained that the equipment used last year was very much ‘cobbled’ together from bits and pieces. Everyone agreed that the venture was a very big success, and drew in people from all around the world, and deserved to be repeated.

The purchase of a pair of cameras immediately was agreed. This would offer two vantage points, or two separate nest sites. Also approval was given for the purchase of a solar panel kit at a later date if funds still allow. This would give the ability to set up a remote location where power is not available. PH will approach The Old Rectory to explore permission to set up a webcam to watch their Swallows. Another site discussed might be the Bats and Jackdaws in the Belfry.

3. **LCN Hosting** – Failures causing the site to be unreliable continue to occur. DH reported a recent incident over a period of a week, and found that there was no response to phone calls or emails. It was agreed that we need to find an alternative host before our annual renewal on July 20. IM has undertaken to investigate alternatives, which won't commit us to too much extra expense. He will then liaise with DH to make the change. This will demand yet more admin work by DH to get the site up and running again, so we must thank him in advance.
4. **Sponsorship** – There was general concern about keeping up the momentum of encouraging new sponsors and refreshing the existing ones as this could be the only income we can expect in the future. We may not get another grant next year, so this role does need priority. SB has offered to take on this task, which we are most grateful for. The group also thanked JP and DH for the work they did in getting our current sponsors in place.
5. **AOB – Wildlife Page.** PH proposed that the Biodiversity Group be given some space on the Wildlife Page. DH suggested that they could have their own page accessible from the Wildlife Page. This was agreed.  
**Young Peoples Page.** Discussion took place about how we could encourage young people to contribute to this page. It was felt that maybe we could approach some of the local Primary schools to use the site within their IT syllabus (giving limited access to the necessary passwords). SB has agreed to speak to a teacher she has contact with at St Mary's school.  
**Training Session.** It was agreed to offer another session to refresh and train anyone who makes a contribution to the Website on **Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 in the Village Hall.**

**The Meeting closed at 4.00**