

Notes from SBVCOA AGM – Sunday 1st October 2023

Chair: Kevan Barton (KB), Derek Kilner (DK)

Over 60 people attended.

Matters Arising from previous AGM

None

Treasurers Report

The report can be found on the SBVCOA website. No queries from the floor.

The bank balance stands at £6083.84. KB suggested some could be used for owners events in spring and autumn. Anyone wishing to volunteer to arrange events to contact KB.

Site Fees – RPI is at 8% at the moment but will hopefully come down before the end of the year. VAT is back up to 20%.

Electricity – we are still on a low rate but it is thought that contract runs out in February.

Membership Update

There are about 200 pitches in the Association, approx. 65% of the park.

Please keep an eye out for new owners and let them know about the Association.

Derek and area reps have orange Association membership stickers for van windows.

There is no legal requirement for Away Resorts to recognise the Association but a large membership will put us in good stead in case of any legal issues.

Bluebell needs an area rep. Anyone wishing to volunteer to contact Kevan or Derek.

Park Maintenance

The park is much better maintained at the moment. It is thought that gardening contractors are being employed. An owner reported that he and his neighbours had recently cleared the banks by their vans as the park had not done it. It was agreed that this should not be necessary as it is covered in our site fees.

Communication

The park is informed about planned electricity and water outages and it is their duty to pass that information on to owners.

Facebook posts are of no use to those who don't use it.

Some owners reported that the park have replaced gas pipes/pigtails without their consent and they have been given an invoice after the event. Another reported that the park had done the same to their van free of charge. KB/DK to add to the list of items to be discussed with Penny.

DK to create a private Owners Facebook page to improve communication between owners.

Use of Contractors

There are inconsistencies here. Some owners say that they have booked Purbeck Heating directly and others that Purbeck Heating have advised them that they can't take direct bookings and that we must book via the park.

For other works such as replacing decking, why should works arranged with a site-approved contractor have to go through the park? Presumably for the park to add on their "commission" even though they haven't done anything.

Caravan Security

There have been 2 reports of people camping out in empty vans. Advice is to change the key safe code regularly. Also be aware of people charging electric vehicles from neighbouring caravans.

Be vigilant and report suspicious activity to the office.

Are keys kept securely in the office? An owner had been given the wrong key in the past as it been stored/labelled incorrectly KB/DK to follow up with Penny.

Owner Van Rentals Through Away Resorts

Invoices don't show a breakdown of costs. Owners have to request clarification.

An owner reported that Away Resorts are charging 10%. Cleaning has gone up from £55 to £120.

All agreed that they were satisfied with the service.

Site Owned Vans

These are the ones that they can't sell. We don't know how many there are.

Vista/Bar

It is understood that the new Food & Beverage manager, Di, is only at the park part time. She still works on the Isle of Wight but spends time here and at another park in Cornwall trying to standardise the offerings in line with other Away Resort parks.

It is a shame that the park isn't taking part in the Swanage Blues, or any other, Festival. Local people feel excluded.

It was acknowledged that owners need to support events run by the park. Upcoming events are:

21st Oct - Soup & Salt. Bookings taken from 7th Oct. Free event.

4th Nov - End of Season Owners Party. Bookings taken from 14th Oct. Tickets £5.

Other Items to be Discussed with Penny

These include:

Charging points for electric vehicles. Grants are available to fund this.

CCTV on the gate to improve security

Lit up number pad on the gate

Better lighting and footpath on the path between Poppy and Bluebell

Meeting with Penny

Kevan is meeting with Penny this coming Friday and we will report back in due course.

Next Meetings

There will be Spring meeting in March and the next AGM will be next October/November.

These could be combined with an owners social event.

Contacts

Chairman: Kevan Barton kbarton747@gmail.com

Membership and queries and Honeysuckle: Derek Kilner webmaster@bayviewowners.co.uk

Treasurer and Tulip: Rhoda Goodwin rhoda26@hotmail.co.uk

Sunflower: Dave Jones davestokejones@aol.com

Buttercup: Sandy Blakeborough flow2me@btinternet.com

Sweetpea: Sue Langford sweetpea276a@gmail.com

Rose: Heather Ransley h.j.ransley@outlook.com

Daisy: Ian Hills ian.hills@ntlworld.com

Poppy: Jen Taylor jenbar50@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/283842727792048>