

# **AG Village Shop Association Meeting**

24<sup>th</sup> January 2011

## **Present:**

Mal Young, Keren Young, Gail Brendell, Rob Ford, Jenny Reynolds, John Coates, Sarah Oatley & Amy Clayton

## **Apologies:**

Rick Clayton, John Harcus

## **Item 1: Employment Tribunal**

A conversation Keren Young held on the morning of the 24/01/11 with a lawyer, Steven Jennings highlighted that TUPE may apply to the employment situation with Sue Bain. Therefore an emergency meeting was called to discuss the situation. Options discussed were as follows

### **Option 1**

Engage lawyer Steven Jennings to act on our behalf with regard to the employment tribunal. Taking this path Steven Jennings estimated that it would cost upto £5000 if Sue were to win her case.

### **Option 2**

To go to tribunal without a solicitor – taking on the case ourselves

### **Option 3**

To use a combination of Option 1 & 2 to try and minimise solicitor costs – we were quoted a rate of £195 + VAT per hour for Steven Jennings advice.

### **Option 4**

To approach ACAS to ask advice about settling out of court. It was felt that if TUPE applied then this option could be the cheapest option available.

## **Considerations**

- Jenny Reynolds confirmed that there is currently roughly £3500 in the AGVSA bank account.
- Tim paid Sue Bain £136 per week
- If Sue had continued to work she would have had time off on statutory sick pay due to her illness – if a settlement is made this needs to be taken into consideration.
- If Sarah Oatley was enforced to employ Sue Bain this would force Sarah to re-organise the structure of the shop and ultimately could be detrimental to the continuation of the shop.

The committee decided to pursue option 4 and outlined the following steps that should be taken:

- Write a letter to ACAS asking them to initiate the procedure to investigate whether an out of court settlement is achievable.  
**ACTION: Keren Young**
- Find out exactly how much is in the AGVSA bank account.  
**ACTION: Jenny Reynolds**
- To get a second option from another lawyer  
**ACTION: John Coates**

## **Item 2: EGM**

John Coates suggested that an EGM should be held to inform shareholders of the current situation and allow them to state their opinions. The committee agreed and an EGM on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm was agreed and booked into the Memorial Hall. As it isn't a requirement to send postal letters to Shareholders following the motion passed in the previous AGM it was agreed that the following advertising should take place:

- Advert in the mAGpie (**ACTION – AMY CLAYTON**)
- Posters around the village, & in the shop (**ACTION – AMY CLAYTON**)
- Mention in the Kingsbridge Gazette in Ron Skeates column (**ACTION – KEREN YOUNG**)
- Advertisement on the shop website (**ACTION - AMY CLAYTON**)
- Notice on the village website (**ACTION – AMY CLAYTON**)
- To email shareholders if email addresses are available (**ACTION – AMY CLAYTON**)