

Bitton Village Residents Association

Committee Meeting

Minutes

20th July 2011

Present: Marlene Gallop (MG) – Chair, Nicola Bebb (NB) – Minutes, Rob Grady (RG), Anne Boulton (AB), Tony Boulton (TB), John Dugay (JD) Mike Thomas (MT), John Graham (JG), Bridget Hetzel (BH), Barry Smale (BS), Christopher Gallop (CG), John Booth (JB), Peter Sayers (PS)

Apologies: Andrew Ward (AW), Tom Murphy (TM), Cheryl Wright, Becky Feather (BF), Mike Ashbee

There was a short presentation from Beatrice Pounder from the Avon Valley Railway Trust. She reported that the remit for the railway has changed to provide service amenities. They are in the process of consulting with anyone who has not only an interest in the railway, but also the riverside along the track. She has asked us to think about what services the community may benefit from. It was agreed that NAB will put it on the agenda for the September meeting, RG will add a forum box to the website. It was also discussed sending her the parish plan to further inform their consultation process. MG thanked David Cole for use of venue & facilities & congratulated the station staff on their recent recognition of the Queens Award for Voluntary Service

ACTION NB/RG

Minutes of the last meeting: approved.

Matters arising:

- Hanham Hall. MG has been in contact with the developers. It will be about a year before we can visit.
- White Hart. There is some work going on but none recently. Erica Williams has been canvassing opinions and has expressed concerns about the Pub being derelict.
- Wesleyan chapel. AW still trying to assess whether we can acquire it. It is included in the current plan at the moment. The sub committee decided that there was no point meeting yet. Quartet has agreed to allow the money to be ring fenced for a possible survey of the chapel.
- Golden Valley Concept statement. There is a new site owner. Planning request is expected to be submitted shortly.
- Logo – the new logo was approved. RG will put it on the website
- Traffic/ speed checks/ new constable: MG has chased Simon Topps and had a reply. He apologises for the delay, there have been staffing issues, he is aware of the concerns around speeding and in addition parking around the Meadows school is being looked at. JG and CG are going to speed school to learn how to use the speed cameras on 25th July.
 - Street lighting. MT reported that S Glos are considering turning off the lights between midnight and 5am on the ring road and then will look at extending that to A roads out of Bristol including the A431. There will be no consultation period so if we feel

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strongly it may be a worth a letter from the BVRA to the highways department. It was felt that turning off the lights on the side roads would be fine, however doing this on the main road through the village would add to the safety issues. CG will liase with MT and write on behalf of the BVRA. **ACTION MT/CG**

Aubery Meads:

There has been a successful meeting with Tina Rainey (landscape team leader for South Glos council). Present was MG, BF, MT, Erica Williams, George Friend and family members. MG requested approval of BVRA committee to be Grant Bidder (assisted by South Glos. Council), funding is being investigated by Tina Rainey. A Community Space Gazebo at the Church fete will canvas ideas, however there will be no action at the site until the New Year.

Erica Williams: Inviting her

There was much discussion about inviting Erica Williams to meetings. She is not resident in the village and our constitution states that we are a non-political organisation. However some members felt that she would have much to add. Consensus could not be agreed so it was agreed that BH and RG would put together a remit for inviting her this would include aims etc of her being there. **ACTION BH/RG**

Finance:

- BS reported on the finances. See appendix 1.
- The street party profit was £577.39. NB suggested that a proportion is ring fenced for next years street party. It was agreed that this was reasonable, NB will discuss BF.
- Auditing the finances. This is yet to be done. JB offered to ask investigate another contact if he would be able to do it. There was again discussion about getting an accountant to do the audit.

ACTION JB

Parish Plan:

Ongoing but coming to fruition.

Website:

RG reiterated a call for content.

Social activities:

- **Flicks in the Sticks:** License renewed
- **Open Gardens:** The weather was atrocious. The teas made a profit of £106. Many thanks to the Boultons and BH.
- JG was thanked for the beautiful tubs and flowers around the village.
- **Street Party:** NB and BF were congratulated on the success for the street party. NB gave feedback on the debrief.

Input for Focal point: NB will contact BF to include canvassing opinion for railway services, call for content for the website. **ACTION NB**

Dates for the Diary:

1. Church fete is 3rd September. The BVRA will have a Gazebo. Any help gratefully received.

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2. The next meeting date was changed to 14th September.
3. AGM 5th October NB will put up a poster in the village before the end of August to advice of AGM and call for agenda items.
4. Avon Valley railways 1940 theme weekend 2nd/3rd June 2012

AOB:

Parking around the school and the suggestion of yellow lines was very briefly discussed. Some felt the village was better without yellow lines.

Next Meetings

Wed 14th September

AGM Wed 5th October

Action Agreed	By Whom
Letter to Highways agency	CG/MT
Remit for Erica Williams	BH/RG
Auditing accounts	JB
Focal point	NAB
AGM poster	NAB

Appendix 1 Briefing note from BS

Briefing note for BVRA committee meeting Wednesday 20th July

Financials as at 19th July 2011

Bank Balance	£2547.06
Of which Garden Club balance is	£864.85
Repayable grant from quartet for Marquee	£650.00
Therefore balance for BVRA is	£1032.21

Notes:

1) Estimated expenditure for next year to end July 2012 :

Insurance £250

Web site registration £40

Flicks licence £100 balanced by income; no net expenditure

Hall Hire for committee meetings/AGM £80

Total forecast expenditure £370

Therefore on an ongoing basis, surplus funds available: £662.21 2)

Flicks evenings for last season made a small profit of £5.25 after payment of annual screening licence, hall hire, drinks licences and incidental running costs.

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- 3) Profit for the street party was £577.39
- 4) Grant from Quartet held as balance for possible other village use in Intier site development. This is in Andrew Ward's court.