

Bitton Village Residents Association

Committee Meeting Minutes 14th September July 2011

Present: Marlene Gallop (MG) – Chair, Nicola Bebb (NB) – Minutes, Rob Grady (RG), Anne Boulton (AB), Tony Boulton (TB), Mike Thomas (MT), John Graham (JG), Bridget Hetzel (BH), Christopher Gallop (CG), John Booth (JB), Peter Sayers (PS) Cheryl Wright, Becky Feather (BF), Mike Ashbee, Tom Murphy (TM)

Apologies: Barry Smale (BS), Andrew Ward (AW), John Dugay (JD), Bob Willis (BW)

Minutes of the last meeting: approved.

Matters arising:

- Avon valley railway:
 - Planning a 40's themed weekend 2-3rd June 2012 and are keen for the BVRA to get involved. They have invited us to send a rep for their next meeting to look at events – TB will go. **Action TB**
 - Still in consultation regarding how they can make a contribution to the community. Ideas can be emailed to admin@bittonvillage.com
- White Hart: There is work going on. MG has made some enquiries as to timescale. An optimistic end of October was proffered but “don't book your Christmas party” so but nothing definite.
- Golden Valley Concept statement: Colliers has sold the site to Stronach Developments. The planned BVRA meeting with Mike Luton has been postponed. JB will liase with AW to agree a rep to go to the select committee meeting on Monday 19th Sept. AW has introduced Erica Williams to the subcommittee. At this meeting it was agreed that she would:
 - arrange for us to present to the Planning and Transport Select Committee to express the sort of development that the residents of Bitton would like to see in Bitton.
 - speak to Mike Luton to see if it would be appropriate for a representative from the BVRA to attend the meeting with Colliers International.
 - keep us regularly informed about the status of the planning from S. Glos perspective.
- Speed watch: JG and CG have been to speed school and have had a session with the camera on the A431 between 6.30 and 8.45. Maximum speed recorded was 49mph. They are still waiting for comprehensive guidance regarding the best sites etc.
- Street lighting: Cg has written to the parish council they are not in favour of turning off the lights however the decision will be made by S. Glos. council without consultation.
- Aubery Meads play area: There was a good response from people filling out questionnaires at the fete and these are being analysed. The next meeting to continue the consultation is in the Church Hall 29.9.11

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3.30-8pm. It was agreed that the committee is happy to be the accountable body for any grants that are applied for. MG and BF will lead.

- Erica Williams: It was agreed that she will be invited to the committee meetings as an observer and on the basis that the constitution is respected and she will not use the meetings as a political platform. MG will give her a copy of the constitution at the AGM.

CVS: AW will invite Helen Black to come and talk to us at the next committee meeting about the CVS and what support they can offer.

Safer Stronger Community. AW attended a meeting in Doynton. MG fed back the following points on his behalf.

- Pucklechurch are raising money to have defibrillators available in the village. They have the first one and are getting others. The theory is that rapid help is what is needed with heart attacks and so on. Do we think we should have one or two in Bitton? This was discussed. It was agreed that we should find out more. NB will investigate. **Action NB**
- Wickwar believe they have largely solved their speeding problems by the use of the community operated speed check camera! The police cannot charge offenders but will send letter to the owners of speeding vehicles.
- A cannabis factory in Wick has been discovered and stopped
- Friends of Golden Valley <http://www.goldenvalley.org.uk/index.htm> have bulbs to spare. I have applied for 500 bulbs for Bitton from their stock... hope we are lucky. The police might be able to provide some young people on community service to help us plant them
- P.S. they have made great modifications to Doynton Village Hall with doors out to the garden. They also have a mini post office there.

Recreation Club: is finished and looks great. Some concern has brought to the committee about increases in the rates to hire it for a session. Keep fit has gone up from £8 to £24. MT reported that the loan to pay for the build has to be paid back. MG will reply suggesting they write to the football club to try to negotiate.

BVRA Gazebo: The gazebo at the fete was well attended and lots of questionnaires about Aubery Meads play area were completed. The website was showcased. MG thanked JG and JB for offering relief.

AGM: Notice has disappeared, NB will replace. MG called for the minutes of the last AGM as no one seems to have a copy. (These have now been found!) NB and MG will meet to discuss the format and agenda for the meeting.

Website: Another call for content from RG. He is planning to move to Wells but is willing to continue to administer the website – PHEW!

Finance:

- The audit has been done by Elaine Pool and everything is in order. BS will present the finances at the AGM.

Parish Plan:

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Nearing completion after 4 yrs. A draft will be presented to the Parish Council on Oct 11th. The final copy will be mainly available electronically with a few hardcopies.

Social activities:

- Flicks in the Sticks: starts on 17th
- JG would like to step down from doing the tubs and flowers around the village. It was suggested that BH asks for volunteers at the gardening club.

Action BH

Input for Focal point: BF agreed to write about the Fete, the AGM, and the speedwatch

AOB:

Post meeting note from MG – Many thanks to Anne & Tony Boulton for helping to put up and take down the Gazebo and Apologies from Bob Willis, who has just moved, but has asked if he may remain on the committee as the Church rep.

Next Meetings

AGM Wed 5th October

| Action Agreed | By Whom |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Avon valley meeting | TB |
| Defibs | NB |
| Flower tubs and baskets | BH |
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