

BVRA AGM 5TH OCTOBER 2011

The Bitton Village Residents Association

1. **WELCOME MG** - invite those present to complete the attendance list. Advise that minutes of meetings are available on our website details later.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE MG** – Bob Willis, Cheryl Wright, Rob Grady Erica Williams(others to be added at meeting)

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** – NB to read minutes of meeting held 13th October 2010 & request agreement that these should be signed as correct record was

4. **FINANCIAL REPORT** – MG to introduce Barry Smale as the new Treasurer/
Thank Pete Sayer for his term of office

5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** –No written questions have been received.

MG to outline 7 objectives of the BVRA as outlined in the constitution (On AW Power Point)

The constitution was revised on the 21st April 2010 the aim being to allow members who live and work in the geographical areas and surrounding areas to be members and take part in the activities by the Association. Copies of the constitution are available on line (hard copy if requested)

Although this is my report the BVRA work as a team and I have asked various members to contribute on specific topics. Please feel free to ask questions/.make comments as we go along.

Brewery Hill (the old Nursery site)MG – there are no further developments to report.

Intier Site/Golden Valley Mill AW will address this as he has continued with his previous commitment (by committee request)

Parish Plan MG Cheryl Wright and John Graham represented BVRA on the Parish Plan Committee. The Intier site and the proposed Aubrey Aubrey Meads Play Project have been fed into this plan. A business survey, achieving 66% completion, was carried out in February 2011. The plan is now nearly complete after 4 years and a draft will be presented to the Parish Council on the 11th October. The final copy will be mainly available electronically, with a few hand copies. Thanks must go to Cheryl & John for their dedicated involvement in this.

Recreation Club MG – The Recreation Club has been re-built and it is good to see it back in action. Some concerns from local users re hire charges were brought to BVRA. The advised response was for the users to contact the management and request for this to be negotiated.

Website MG - RG is our “webmaster” who has been responsible for its setup/modification/rebuild/ installation of locally designed BVRA logo. Thanks to be recorded for this and for his ongoing work in updating the website.

White Hart MG - There have been ongoing concerns in the village over the general deterioration and safety issues. Contact has been made with the S. Glos Council who followed this up with the current executors and remedial work was carried out. As you can see work is now in progress, with a projected completion date of late October 2011. We look forward to seeing it up & running.

Avon Valley Railway MG - BVRA have had ongoing liaison throughout the year with David Cole, the Development Manager. The organization has recently been recognized with the Queens Award for Voluntary Service. They are now in the process of consulting with anyone who has not only an interest in the railway, but in the riverside along the track. There is a forum box on the BVRA website for your suggestions as to how the railway can make a contribution to the village. David will be very grateful for your comments.

A 40's Themed weekend is planned for the weekend of the 2nd/3rd June 2012 linking with the Queens Silver Jubilee. A representative from BVRA is to attend a pre-planning meeting in the near future.

Social activities :-

Flicks BH

Gardening Club/Open Garden Event BH

Street Party NB/BF

)

) I have asked if they have

) any photos to send them to

) AW to put on presentation

MG We hope you have partaken and enjoyed some of these activities/events, they are for you to enjoy and become involved in as much or as little as you want.

Marquee MG - Proposals were made for BVRA to purchase a marquee which could also be let out for local use, funded by Quartet. Following research into cost/storage/management etc it was deemed impractical. AW advised Quartet of same and they have agreed that this funding be held available for possible assessment of the Wesleyan building on the Intier site should this be a viable project for the BVRA to undertake in the future. (AW may like to comment more)

Traffic/Speeding /Training MG This is an ongoing situation in Bitton., Simon Topps, the new PC, was invited to attend a meeting however, he later apologised for non-attendance due to staffing issues. He is aware of residents' concerns and in addition is looking into the parking issues around the Meadows school. 2 BVRA members have attended a Community Speed Watch training course along with another Bitton resident. They are still awaiting further comprehensive guidance from the police. The maximum speed between 6.30 pm -8.45 pm on training day was 49 mph.

Street Lighting MG It was brought to our attention by Bitton Parish Council that there are proposals for a Part Night Lighting Scheme for the A431 Bitton. It was agreed that BVRA should express our concerns and object to any change in the current full lit condition that exists. (Raising awareness to recent serious night time accident/ speeding and safety issues). A reply has been received noting same and requesting an opportunity to visit BVRA to explain the rationale behind the scheme. Final plans for the scheme are to be available after officers have visited the Parish Council.

Aubrey Meads Play Project MG - Earlier this year a local teenager (George) wrote to Focal Point magazine with a complaint about the Play area and a plea for some action from the BVRA for the youth in the village. Following a liaison with Tina Rainey, the Landscape Project Manager for South Glos. Council, a meeting was set up with representatives from Bitton Parish Council, (Mike Thomas) BVRA, (BF/MG), South Glos District Council (Erica Williams) George & family members. George's proposals for possible layout/equipment and ideas he had sought from other young people in the area were received by Tina as a base for further consultation.

BVRA members presented a display and questionnaires provided by Tina during the Village Fete on 3rd Sept., utilizing a Community Space Gazebo (foc from S.Glos Council). The analyses of the completed questionnaires have been made available at a planned Public Consultation Event held in the Church Hall last week, led by Tina Rainey, to which Bitton residents were invited to attend. Further Questionnaires available tonight if people have not had chance/wish to do so.

The BVRA committee have agreed to be the Accountable Body for any Grants (assisted by S Glos Council) for fund raising for the project.

There are various "housekeeping" jobs to the site/and investigations to be carried out, apart from funding and consultation, therefore there is not likely to be any development until the New Year (I have asked Becky if she has any photos to send them to AW. Tina Rainey is to provide Questionnaires to put on display)

Village Flower Displays MG - John Graham must be thanked for all his hard work in planting the tubs & hanging baskets, maintaining & watering. He has carried out this task for a number of years. However, he is now standing down and we will be pleased to have contact details from any willing volunteers to take this over.

Hopefully the village will be benefiting from 500 bulbs which AW has applied for from the Friends of Golden Valley.

Focal point BF (Circulation continues to increase/ does BF want to advertise it more?)

6.INTRODUCTION & WELCOME TO THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE ON S.GLOS DISTRICT COUNCIL MG- I would like to welcome Erica Williams who has been invited to our committee meetings as a non-voting observer in accordance with one of our constitution aims "to liaise with Councils and other bodies as appropriate, concerning planning and other related matters of importance to the village".

Similar to Mike Thomas who has been our guide/advisor, in a non-political capacity, throughout his residency here in Bitton and continues to serve as a committee member in an observer role in addition to his Bitton Parish Council duties (Chairman), we are grateful for both for their expertise thus enabling us to further the welfare of Bitton

MT is not aware of the following:-

This is an appropriate point for me to take the opportunity to thank Mike for his valued years of service, & I would like to make a presentation on behalf of the BVRA as we continue to appreciate his dedication to Bitton and hope he will continue to contribute strongly to our meetings in the future.

7. FUTURE PLANS FOR BVRA

The BVRA represent you. We would like to hear your ideas for “Helping to make Bitton even better”

Here are ours:

Defibrillators NB is investigating

Street Party NB/BF

Cycle Path safer access from Bitton village.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

New Nominations for the Committee

All existing members of the committee are willing to continue, request for proposal and second from those present that the committee stand en block for the next 12 months

NB It may be necessary at our next meeting to ask who is willing to stand as officers/members /observers in order to comply with the constitution.

Existing members are:

Marlene Gallop – Chairman

Andrew Ward – Vice-Chairman

Nicola Bebb – Secretary

Barry Smale – Treasurer

John Graham

Christopher Gallop

Bob Willis (moved from village wishes to remain as Church rep.)

Mike Ashbee

Tony Boulton

Cheryl Wright

John Dugay

Becky Feather

Nicola Bebb

Jon Booth

Tom Murphy

Rob Grady

Pete Sayers

Bridget Hetzel

Angela Dudley-Warde (if not at meeting will not be standing for re-election)

Observers

Mike Thomas

Anne Boulton

9. AOB

10. Date of next meeting :- 2nd November 2011 Church Hall 8.15 pm tbc