

Bitton Village Residents Association

Committee Meeting Minutes 19th September 2013

Present: Nicola Bebb (NB), Andrew Ward (AW), Marlene Gallop (MG), Christopher Gallop, Erica Williams (EW) Paul Cooney (PC), Mike Ashbee (MA), Jill Gibson (JG), John Dugay, Steve Cox (SC), Barry Smale (BS) John Booth (JB), Jill Gibson

Apologies: Tony Boulton (TB), Becky Feather (BF), Peter Sayers(PS), Bridget Hetzel (BH), Ken Gibson

Minutes of the last meeting – approved

Matters arising

- Jackie Ward (Community led planning) - AW has not contacted her. It was agreed to invite her or a representative to speak at the AGM.
- Dog bins – Carried forward.
- Roundabout options – EW reported that we would have to go through the area forum for funding. It was agreed that may be worth getting designs and costings together before getting funding. PC will research options for roundabouts. EW, PC and AW will collaborate with David Coles from Avon Valley Railway.
- Funding for baskets/tubs – We would have to apply to Area Funding, South Glos will not supply or look after them. EW will put it on the next Parish Council agenda to see if they can contribute.
- Playschool – carried forward. There may be an opportunity for the playgroup to move to the Rec but this would involve some redevelopment of the Rec, and this would need to be funded. Of note if this goes ahead, the church hall will lose the revenue. AW will contact the playgroup about safety issues as planned at the last meeting.
- The Rec will be available to hold BVRA meetings at no charge. It was agreed that we would hold the November meeting there. NAB will arrange.
- Cycle path – carried forward

Aubrey Meads Play Area – MG passed around proposed designs. EW has met with Tina Rainey. There is £15000 set aside with possibility of raising more. AW has applied for a further £2000 from SSCI (Safer Stronger Community Initiative).

It is understood that they plan to start work in November. MG will write on behalf of the BVRA expressing our plans to invite the press to celebrate the start of works.

Requests to move Upton Cheyney footpath Aubrey meads to UC – The plans have been rejected by the parish council. It is unlikely for it to be passed

Bitton Village Residents Association

on appeal. It was agreed that AW could continue to object on behalf of the BVRA

Planning application pending

AW informed the meeting of a planning application to make 2 new Bridle paths on Manor farm land. Posters just about to go up. The Hawkings family have been very accommodating to local rambles and riders in the past, providing crops are not damaged and wildlife not disturbed they have given permission to access their land. They have been involved in encouraging wildlife initiatives in this area but creating a bridle path would disrupt this. The committee discussed the matter and it was decided that we would object to the planning permission and AW will follow this and keep us up to date.

There is a proposed application to develop 2 further properties in Kings Square – Planning has not been approached yet but local residents have supposedly been canvassed (they were out). Planning enforcement are going to seek out the owners to find out their intentions. No action at the moment.

AGM AW will do a review of the activities of the AGM over the past year. The invitations and announcement have gone up.

BH to email mailing group. AW invited someone from the Church to say a few words and JG confirmed that someone would do that. AW will speak to Jackie Ward for a contribution from planning.

Finance- No change. Expenses for next year will be around £400

Website - it is pretty static. NB has had contact from Rob Grady. We revisited what we want from the site. SC will review and come up with a few ideas about taking it forward.

Social activities. There was a brainstorm about possible future activities. Old Fashioned Olympiks, and a Bitton food festival were suggestions. There will be a Barn Dance at the Rec. on November 8th £8 for adult. Tickets are in aid of the Rec and are available from PC.

5th year of Flicks in the Sticks starts tomorrow showing “Quartet”

Gardening club is going from strength to strength and is now in its 4th year. There are currently 60 members.

The Annual Harvest festival for the Royal British Legion will be held on Monday 23rd at the Upton Inn.

There is a thriving mother and toddlers group in church hall on a Wednesday.

AOB –

Intier – Contracts have been exchanged unconditionally we do not know who has bought it and have no further information

Quiet Lane scheme – There is a meeting at Kingswood Civic centre on 17th October at 6pm. EW will go.

Church lane - is registered for resurfacing.

Refuse collection in Church Lane - There have been arrangements made for Sita to provide a smaller vehicle to collect bins.

Shrinking Pavements - MG and CG have written to the council about both verge and hedgerows encroaching onto the pavements. EW will follow up.

Bitton Village Residents Association

Action Agreed	B Whom
Invite to Jackie Ward to AGM	AW
AGM email to mailing list	BH
Write re dog bins	AW
Roundabout options	AW/PC/EW
Aubrey Meads	EW
Website	SC
Playschool	AW
Shrinking pavements	EW
November meeting at the Rec	NAB

Next Meeting dates – AGM 10th Oct, Nov 7th all at 8pm.

Appendix