

Bitton Village Residents Association



Committee Meeting Minutes 9th March 2016

Apologies: PS, SB, TB, PC, BH, MA

Present: AW, NB, MG, PB, GF, AM, BS, JB

Matters arising:

1. BS contacted the environmental agency regarding the possibility of putting planters on the bridge. They had no problems with it so BH and BS have gone ahead and ordered the planters. They are self-watering and will need to be topped up weekly if it does not rain.
2. Need to improve contact and relationship with the council officers. No officers at this meeting – carried forward.
3. Tree officer will come and prune the millennium tree.

Planning

1. Golden Valley Site – planning has now been now passed with conditions. It was discussed how we ensure these conditions do not get eroded away. JB will chase. AW will identify a single point of contact.
2. Car park on the Glebe Field. Still waiting for the district valuers report as to the viability of the business plan. It will then go back to planning where this report, the case officer report and any comments from the public will be taken into account.
3. Planning enforcement... AW has contacted enforcement about various gates and fences etc. He encouraged everyone to report instances of development not in keeping with the conservation area etc. AW will share the email contact.
4. The Alpaca farm at north stoke has gone up for sale. However it has been advertised as a residential property not in keeping with the allowable planning permission. BS has brought this up with Sharon Robbins who is in communication with planning enforcement.

History group

1. The last meeting, a "Show and Tell" evening, attracted over 50 people.
2. Next meeting - 31st March at North Common Village Hall will be the AGM, and a talk on Avon Valley Railway
3. A Community Grant Award of £280.00 has been received.

Website

1. GF has done some ground work but has no time to run with it. It was agreed to advertise in Focal point and Face Book for a volunteer. NB will ask BF to advertise in focal point and/or the Week In.

Finance

Current balance is 4K.

2K is gardening club. 2K is ring fenced for the play area.

JB suggested we think of about a small profit making venture.

Party in the Park

Committee meeting 2015 NAB

Bitton Village Residents Association



Steve Colman and Jo Saville have a plan. Ideas a picnic in the pound ground a stage. AW will keep in touch with them.

Nature Club

AW suggested a nature club - needs a champion. It was suggested to do event by events – for instance a dawn chorus, toad crossing, badgers etc. AW will kick off with a dawn chorus walk.

20mph restriction in the lanes

EW has some money earmarked to introduce this. It will go to consultation at some point. The consensus was that 20mph was a symbol of urbanisation and all those present felt it was too restrictive. We are keen to minimise street signs. NB will contact EW to find out when the consultation is.

Unnecessary street furniture

AW has emailed pictures of signs and posts which are surplus and unnecessary.

Gardening Club

Going very well there were 68 members at the start of the season.

Flicks

Continues to be very successful the 50th film will soon be shown. The film club are celebrating The Sting and a glass of fizz. Last film of season is 15th April – Cool Runnings.

AOB

The play area is stil missing a seat. MG has written to Sharon Robbins. MG will talk to Tina Rainey.

A memorial seat has gone up in the pound ground dedicated to Mike Thomas.

MG raised the issue of the proposed closure of the cut through at Cherry Gardens. It was agreed that all those interested can take individual stance.

GF suggested a fashion show in the church. This could be a fund raiser for the church and also the BVRA.

Thanks to Jon Booth for organising the latest litter pick. 30+ bags were collected.

NB will contact the Environment agency – about the litter from the flood on the river Avon.

Buses – the 37 is stopping after 7.30pm AW has contacted VM as to her opinion regarding the change to the schedule. We need an update.

Next meeting 11th May

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