



Approved – at meeting on: 20th July 2017

BITTON VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NOTES OF MEETING – Thursday 20th April 2017; 20:00 – Church Hall

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/INVITEES:

PRESENT		UNAVAILABLE	
Stephanie Bailey (SB)		Mike Ashbee (MA)	
Jon Booth (JB)	Rolling Chair/ Treasurer	Nicola Bebb (NB)	Apologies
Alan Murtagh (AM)	Secretary	Paul Cooney (PC)	Apologies
Andrew Ward (AW)		Georgie Friend (GF)	
Mary Younie (MY)		Marlene Gallop (MG)	Apologies
		Mike Gates (MGa)	Apologies
		Pam Hacker (PH)	Apologies
		Bridget Hetzel (BH)	Apologies
		Pete Sayers (PS)	
		Barry Smale (BS)	Apologies
		INVITEES	
		Virginia McNab (VM)	Apologies
		Erica Williams (EW)	
		Josette Saville	Apologies

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 20th July 2017; 20:00 – Church Hall

	DISCUSSION/MAIN POINTS	ACTION
1	ADMINISTRATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous Notes (BVRA Notes 19-01-2017) - Agreed (AW proposed; JB seconded.) • Attendees and Apologies – see table above. 	
2	PLANNING	
2a	Land in New Pitt Lane VM and NB report respectively that notices have been served on the development which is ongoing. Separately, the right of lawfulness for the caravan has been declined.	
2b	Meadows Farm Caravans VM reports that notices have been served on the owners. On the separate topic of recently appearing “street furniture” on the lane to The Meadows it was noted that it was a little obtrusive against the surroundings but probably not sufficiently so to warrant an objection.	
2c	Pipley Bottom Farm (Pipley Alpaca Farm) VM reports that the application for the barn and extension to the barn have been refused. The Enforcement Team are also dealing with the barn on Beach Hill which is linked to the farming enterprise. Pipley Court NB reported that she had lodged an objection on behalf of the committee as an action of the chair from last meeting. As of the morning of this meeting a decision was still pending.	
2d	Wick Lane VM reports that there are queries from residents in the area regarding the caravans in Wick Lane. The officer has asked for confirmation that they are not lived in.	



	<p>This will ensure that a request for Certificate of Lawfulness will not be applied for at a later date. Meanwhile if anyone has definitive evidence that they are being lived in and not just used to support the keeping of horses please let Bitton Parish Council know.</p> <p>VM notes that any reports of a development without the necessary planning consents are dealt with in the strictest confidence to ensure the protection of the person reporting it.</p>	
3	Golden Valley Mill Development	
3a	<p>Salvage Items</p> <p>The top plate of the weighbridge and 3 crude columns are being preserved on site, there being no immediate rush to move them. (Until the need to build a show house and sales office at the front of the site.) AW reports that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A design is now required. AW will progress and MGa had agreed to take the topic to next meeting of the History Group. • A trainee architect (Rachel King from Upton Cheney) has kindly offered to do some drawings for construction purposes. • Hanneys would be very keen to do the construction. (Possible cost about £15k) • Linden Homes may fund as part of their development; alternatively CIL funding may be a possibility. 	<p>AW MGa</p> <p>AW</p> <p>AW</p>
3b	<p>Play Area consultation</p> <p>Excellent news that Linden Homes have responded very positively and changed the play area including a swing.</p>	
3c	<p>Other Development Progress/Liaison</p> <p>AW will progress as required.</p>	AW
4	<p>Summer Ceilidh Update</p> <p>AW had been in touch with Josette and reported everything was on track. 50% of tickets had been sold and he would ask the local shop manager (Frank) to see if tickets could be sold from there.</p>	AW
5	<p>Village Hall</p> <p>MGa's previously stated concerns were reiterated in his absence and in that context SB reported on the situation with regard to the Church development plans. Main points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DACC) is believed to feel that the plans to make the internal space more flexible and to be made available for community use are a good idea. • The Victorian Society may lodge objections to the removal of the pews. SB said that from discussions with LA planners at the Brickworks symposium their view is that the age of the church is key to whether pews should remain or not. If a church is Victorian, then there is a case for retaining them. If a church is much older, then the Victorian period represents a relatively small part of the church's timeline and its pews are not integral to the very fabric of the building. • There may be a route for compromise in the short term. I.e. it could be possible to remove some of the rear pews within the next few months. • The Church will need to raise money. Contacts made at Brickworks should be able to point in the right direction for funding. • Have consulted various architects who have been involved with excellent church conversions. E.g. Alex Coppock. 	



	<p>With regard to use of the School Hall. NB had met Becky Feather and as Becky was no longer a Governor had been referred to SB. Becky believed the hall was available for hire now. SB, still a School Governor, confirmed that the School was expected to become an Academy in September and that might change any interim arrangements made for use of the hall.</p> <p>It was agreed that the BVRA needs clarity on its preferred strategy options for a future Village Hall facility. This should be on the agenda for the next meeting with a view to presenting the approach believed to be best for the village to the AGM for agreement.</p>	<p>AM for agenda.</p>												
6	<p>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Process/Proposals.</p> <p>Sub-Group Progress/Proposals</p> <p>Unfortunately the sub group formed had not yet been able to get together but will arrange to do so soon and feedback to the next meeting. (JB will email to organise.)</p> <p>AW reported that the Parish Council had now agreed application criteria but that these were not yet published. AW has asked Sharon Robbins for a copy.</p> <p>It was noted that PC, on behalf of the Bitton Rec, was intending to apply for car park improvement funding. (£6k)</p>	<p>JB + NB, AW</p> <p>AW</p>												
7	REPORTS													
7a	<p>Finance</p> <p>JB reported and provided a summary of the financial position as at 19th January 2017:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="336 1238 1070 1462"> <tr> <td>Bank Balance</td> <td>2633.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Of Which:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> Garden Club:</td> <td>2141.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Film Club:</td> <td>19.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td> History Club:</td> <td>328.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Balance for BVRA general fund is:</td> <td>143.82</td> </tr> </table> <p>A suggestion has been made that each club should be levied to support the general fund.</p>	Bank Balance	2633.45	Of Which:		Garden Club:	2141.57	Film Club:	19.55	History Club:	328.51	Balance for BVRA general fund is:	143.82	<p>AM for agenda</p>
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7b	<p>Flicks In The Sticks</p> <p>After a successful season is now dormant until later in the year.</p>													
7c	<p>Gardening Club</p> <p>Continues to thrive with popular meetings and visits. Next major event, currently being organised, is Bitton Open Gardens, which will take place on Sunday 11th June.</p>													
7d	<p>Parish History Group</p> <p>Meetings continue to be very popular. The next, 26th April, is on the period of manufacture of automotive parts at the Intier Site and is being held at the URC, Oldland Common.</p> <p>AW's offer of a stills slide show of old graffiti etc. from the site, currently under development, for background viewing was accepted enthusiastically by SB.</p>	<p>AW</p>												



7e	<p>Litter pick Volunteers gave the village a spring clean on Saturday 25th February. Many thanks to JB for organising a successful session and of course to the volunteers.</p>	
8	<p>Counsellors' update</p> <p><i>Grateful thanks to VM</i> for providing notes to feed into the meeting. (See against relevant topics in agenda item 2.)</p> <p>Cherry Gardens Roundabout feature AW reported that something relating to Bitton Railway was agreed as appropriate and that EW had mentioned that planning was underway. AW will continue to follow up.</p> <p>Golden Valley site (Refers to Golden Valley Mill Development.) Covered in agenda item 3.</p>	AW
9	<p>Community Involvement/Communications</p> <p>Leaflet Drop</p> <p>Preparation in progress so still time to make amendments if people wish. AW has some suggestions that he will pass to BH.</p> <p>Printing costs will need to be funded and delivery organised to spread the load. (Volunteers to be sought.)</p>	AW + all BH BH
10	<p>Matters Arising/Actions Outstanding not already covered</p> <p>Mobile Library This will cease in September. No practicable replacements have been found.</p> <p>Fund Raising Ideas Please bring to next meeting or let AM know, who will list for the next agenda.</p> <p>Avon Valley Wildlife Park Tannoy This has been heard distinctly in the village on 4 occasions since the last meeting, Easter Sunday being the loudest and most intrusive. Anyone wishing to complain about occurrences should let AM know details (who, what, when, severity) and this info. Will be passed on to the Council as evidence for action.</p> <p>Pumping Station No incidents since the last meeting. However should sewage smells be detected please let AM know so they can be logged and reported for action.</p> <p>Aubrey Meads Play Area Seating South Gloucestershire Council has stated that their nominated contractor must be used to enable insurance to be valid. A formal quote is required (anticipated to be ~£250) and then funding sought. (Possibly a CIL application)</p> <p>Newcomer Welcome/Integration Premature and will be a gradual and extended process as people move in. Should be included in general thinking regarding events for <i>any</i> newcomers to the village and not treated as a specific agenda item. E.g. BVRA flyers could be left in the shop for casual pickup.</p>	All/AM All AM All/AM AW/PH BH

