



Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 3rd September 2009

Present: John Alexander (JA), Kate Brennan (KB), Bob Dale (BD), Grace Hampson (GH), Andy Humphries (AH), Barry Lynock (BL), Jim Parker (JP), Lorna Sage (LS), Adrian Smith (AS), Norma Yarnell (NY), Eileen McHugh (EMH), Ray Yarnell (RY), Sarah Courbet (SC), David Matthews (DM), Bob Dale (BD)

Apologies: Jill Alexander, John Sidwell, Martin & Pat Phipps

Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of Committee meeting held on 2nd July agreed with no comment or question.

Matters Arising

The plaque at the Red Lion has now been retrieved by JP and given to AH. Thanks to JP for doing this but it is not in good condition.

Acknowledgement and many thanks to BL and EMH for repairing one of the planters (the one nearest Birmingham).

Committee Issues

Sarah Courbet has agreed to take the position of Secretary. Unfortunately KB feels she has to resign as Treasurer at the end of the year; however she is willing to stay on the committee. Duties include: Membership list maintenance (270 members), subscriptions. Balancing the books etc. AH will advertise vacancy when appropriate.

DM was welcomed as the new representative of the Parish Council.

LS has now resigned from the Village Hall Committee. AVS could do with a new representative to sit on the Village Hall Committee. It sits every two months, has 10 members with good core, and is chaired by David Noakes. AH to contact David. Action to be carried forward to next meeting.

2009/10 Programme

New programme now available – AH thanked those who helped with distribution. Posters now in notice boards – church porch, Station and the Crown. AH to post one in the library. Announcement has appeared in the Village mag. Needs to get in the Grapevine – AH to send one to the Editor. Social events need to be publicised more.

Daffodil planting – Phase 2 – Letters sent out to local businesses asking for local sponsorship. Weekend 10/11th October to be the official planting weekend. Other dates/more plantings will depend on money raised. Some planting sites have already been identified. Hopwood area to be considered if money will stretch to that. DM to approach the Parish Council for a small contribution. DM agreed to 'buy a bag'. SC to provide EMH details of the florist that supports Brandwood End Cemetery. AH to approach Alvechurch Marina. EMH to provide some copies of notices for distribution two weeks before the planting weekend.

Xmas Evening – EMH attending a musical evening this weekend in the Village Hall – may be a good format for our evening with fish and chip supper. EMH to send email with feedback to the committee. Suggestion of race night to be investigated – for fundraiser next year? Barn Dance also suggested by JP. Typically 40 people attend AVS evening meetings..

Summer Outing – June 2010. Narrow boat too restrictive for chatting. EMH, due to previous commitments, can't do summer outing. Previous outings have included: Purity Brewery 25 max. Canal Boat 35 max sold out. Bletchley Park with Historical Society – coach load, sold out. Discussion to be picked up at future meeting once the Xmas evening has been sorted.

Finance

Bank Statements not available.

Outstanding membership subscriptions total approx 23 with £110 subscriptions received in last week. KB to advise of numbers of non payers to AH by end of September. SC volunteered to do a gentle ring around under the auspices of a quality audit.

Co-op Community Fund – AH to look at grant website and check re new notice board.

Marketing

Discussion took place on membership and what we should do to attract more new members. AH to talk to Richard Peach about a regular article in the Village magazine. It was suggested that we take a table outside the Co-op to talk to members of the public and promote AVS. Ask permission of the landlord to be outside the Co-op. BL volunteered to provide tables, copying etc. RY volunteered to co-ordinate. DM to provide details of the Trust to contact for permission to be in the Precinct.

Planning

Nothing significant to report.

BD to keep us apprised of CPRE policies and the planned building of 6000 new homes between Redditch and Alvechurch.

Footpath report

Potential problems with budget resolved; £500 received from the County Council. Two local paths have been obstructed recently – raised with County Council to enforce clearing. Wet weather – put the work back but this has now been overcome with many new volunteers with footpath groups back on track.

Village Issues

A441 – between Motorway and Hopwood island – this area is proving a problem with parking, litter and destruction of verges. Police and Council now involved and one company warned about lorry parking. County recognise that it is an issue but not a high priority. BL suggested barriers on verges to prevent damage – this solution worked on the A435. Comes up at every Parish Council meeting. BL to bring up at PACT meeting.

The Meadows – unfortunately the grant application failed. AH looking at other sources of funding and grants including the Lottery.

PACT

Next meeting 13th October 7pm at the Village Hall.

Any other business

JP noted dead grass on Red Lion St near the Bus Stop. DM to ask the lengthsman if he's allowed to deal with this. If not, BL to call County Council to see if they are going to clear the sprayed and dead grass.

GH noted some drains blocked causing flooding. AH asked for this to be brought up at PACT.

After his death, Jim Burton's family have passed on a box of AVS papers. AH has produced a list if anyone wants to look through / have access to. Some may go to the Historical Society.

Future Committee meetings

Next meeting – **November 5th 7pm Village Hall**

Meeting closed at 8.55pm