



Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2010

Present: Andy Humphries (AH), Kate Brennan (KB), Sarah Courbet (SC), Adrian Smith (AS), Eileen McHugh (EMH), Jim Parker (JP), Lorna Sage (LS), Norma Yarnell (NY), Ray Yarnell (RY), Dorothy Snaddon (DS), John Alexander (JA).

Apologies: Barry Lynock (BL), Jill Alexander (JA), Grace Hampson (GH), David Matthews (DM), John Sidwell (JS), Bob Dale (BD), Martin & Pat Phipps.

Welcome

Andy welcomed the members of the committee and offered a warm welcome to Dorothy Snaddon who very kindly joined us to represent the Rowney Green Association.

Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of Committee on 5th November agreed with no comment or question. Chairman duly signed with no amendments.

Committee Issues

Staying On.....If any member of the committee **doesn't** wish to stand again, please let AH know by **21st February**.

Links to Residents Associations.....Dorothy Snaddon gave a brief introduction and left a copy of their Calling Oak magazine. Spreading the AVS message in Rowney Green....could Rob (Parish caretaker) put AVS posters into their notice board? Need future liaison to see how we can work closer together perhaps by attending each other's meetings. **JP to get keys from JS.**

Xmas celebrationAH offered grateful thanks to Eileen and family for organising a great evening which was enjoyed by all. This was seconded by the committee.

AH passed over a talks programme from another local Society as potential speaker ideas to EMH.

Committee Meetings.....March 4th - annual report envelope stuffing evening at Sunnymead

March 24th AGM – could **all** Committee members attend if possible

Future meetings - April 1st, June 3rd, Sept 2nd, Nov 4th

September and November have stayed the same to allow enough time to plan a December event. All meetings (apart from March 4th) in the Village Hall at 7pm.

AGM Preparation.....AGM 24th March – as per the constitution the annual report has to go out 14 days before the AGM.

AH thanked committee for everyone's contributions to the Annual Report. AH is making good progress and is soon to agree layout and photos with Andrew Simpson. Suggestion of Dellow car for front cover – AH to consider and decide.

Entertainment – AH to talk to John and Jill about bringing the curling equipment.

2009/10 Programme

Walks programmenumbers are increasing and they seem to be gaining popularity. Looking for volunteers to share the organisation – AH may have a volunteer. SC suggested that we have a dog walk at some point.

April talkPlanned visit to the Mailbox - EMH will need numbers for the BBC visit at the March AGM. **EMH to confirm a date as soon as possible.**

Summer Outing.....Ideas for outings needed – AVS has done Purity Brewery, Needle Museum, canal boat, Bletchley Park, Ideas proposed included: Black Country Museum. Black Country Bus. Stafford Potteries & Trentham Gardens. Barn Dance. **Needs to be firmed up at April Committee.** SC to look at prices and options. Any more ideas to be sent to SC or AH. (NB. EMH away from 6/6/2010 for most of the summer).

Finance

£1516.58 current account; Footpath account – with KR.

Accounts are done and books are now with Keith Rixon for auditing. Several new memberships received this month, along with payment. Forms for new signatories have been obtained. New signatories to be Treasurer and Chairman. Outstanding payments number about 5; to be chased with a note from AH, perhaps with their Annual Report. Standing order payments have increased and slips to once again go in with Annual Report. KB has been chasing those people who are still paying at the old rate of £6.00.

Thanks were offered to KB for doing such a fantastic job as Treasurer. This was seconded by the Committee.

Footpath Report

Memorial bench for Paul Newby had previously been suggested; there was an unfinished one in his back garden. With his wife's permission the bench, along with the wood, was collected and Duncan Roberts has kindly completed the bench. It is now at Sunnymead awaiting siting. It is going to be placed at the top of Newbourne Hill near the stile when the weather is better in April/May – **date to be advised by BL and publicity to be organised**. Landowner has given permission. Plaque to be produced thanks to an anonymous donation.

Clifford Waller bench – carry forward to next meeting.

Marketing

Village Magazine – Richard Peach hopes to get our 40th anniversary article in the March issue.

Website – Martin has paid website hosting bill and needs to be re-imbursed.

SC to get GF to put link onto website for Facebook.

Planning

Policies document discussed. Talked specifically about affordable housing being on brownfield sites. AH to resend the document for final comment/amends – **these need to be submitted by the end of February**. These can be ratified on 4th March and then published. If anyone wants more details please contact AH or AS.

AH has been in communication with the District Council reference the Birmingham Road site. Several letters have been sent. Dorothy mentioned that there will be a public consultation from Bromsgrove DC on their Core Strategy. They will be presented at Rowney Green and Alvechurch Parish Council.

It is believed that the old school site and the Birmingham Road site will come up at the March Planning Committee. Progress to be monitored and AVS to try and be present at the meeting. Perhaps Bromsgrove's Strategic Housing Manager should be *nagged* to monitor those people who qualify for these houses as the needs have yet to be proven.

Tanyard Lane site.....Eileen reported on the concern in the village reference this site. The plans are in the Parish Council offices for public viewing. Density: 65 houses were originally muted; it has now gone up to 72. Roads and access have been questioned. Style is not known – what is planned? Affordable housing issues (although this will only be 35% of the total site25 properties). Eileen to let AH have the comments she has received to date.

AH will write to Bromsgrove on the issues of style, height, density, amenities, access roads etc (Committee members to send comments through to AH by Sunday). Letter has to be in before Thursday 11th February.

Village Issues

AH reported on the Open Forum held last November at the school reference anti-social behaviour in the village and the lack of youth facilities. 80-90 people attended. Several meetings have taken place since then – including residents and officials. Discussions included improvements to the MUGA area and at options for a village youth facility.

No progress with Meadows grant application. AH to explore other grant opportunities with the Parish Council..

PACT – January meeting cancelled because of snow. AH canvassing for opinion on current structure of the forum and whether it is still applicable. Residents (and Committee) views welcome.

AOB

Suggestion of making more use of the notice boards around the parish. Also consider putting an AVS flyer in the Calling Oak magazine (Rowney Green); deadline for the next issue is 17th March.

Future Committee meetings

Next meeting is 4th March at Sunnymead to help fulfil the Annual Report...the meeting was closed at 9pm.