



Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 7 May 2009

Present: Martin Phipps (MP), Pat Phipps (PP) Andy Humphries (AH) Lorna Sage (LS) Eileen McHugh (EMH), Kate Brennan (KB), Adrian Smith (AS), John Alexander (JA), Ray Yarnell (RY), Barry Lynock (BL)

Apologies: Grace Hampson, Bob Dale, Norma Yarnell, Jill Alexander (JA)

AH welcomed the new committee members.

Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of the AGM held on 18th March and the Committee meeting on 12th February were agreed and signed by AH.

Matters Arising

AH thanked LS for manning the AVS stall in the Village Hall last Saturday.

Committee Issues

Noelin Hawkins has resigned as secretary. A notice seeking a new secretary has been placed in the Parish Office. Committee members were asked to suggest candidates.

Jim Parker was elected as a Vice President of the Society.

As John Alexander is now a Committee member, a new Independent Examiner is required. **AH to approach Keith Rixon or Chris Meredith.....(Keith Rixon has agreed to take on this role)**

A donation of £50 will be made to the British Lung Foundation in memory of Sylvia Cartwright who died recently. **KB to arrange.** AH has written to her family on behalf of the Committee.

2008/09 Programme

AH thanked EMH for organizing the litter pick. Eight volunteers picked up a lot of rubbish especially on the MUGA.

The May walk at Romsley was well attended, with 31 walkers, despite it being the Bank Holiday weekend.

As AH is on holiday, the May talk will be co-ordinated by MP & PP.

The June walk will now be led by LS's brother because Isla and John Davies will not be available.

Bletchley Park Saturday 27th June. – 42 tickets have been sold to date. This will start at 9.00am. **AH to send details to MP & PP.**

July 8th – AVS short walk followed by supper at Weighbridge. Walk to start at 7pm - Weighbridge at 8pm.

Ticket price agreed at £4 for buffet supper at the Weighbridge. Menu agreed.

AH will advertise this. GH, EMH & PP offered to manage ticket sales and collate names / numbers.

2009/10 Programme

LS & EMH reported on progress in drawing up next year's programme of events. More leaders are needed for walks particularly for Boxing Day. Suggestions for Christmas Revels and talks were discussed. Suggestions please to EMH & LS. **AS will give details of a contact for a racing evening to EMH.**

The Wythall Footpaths Warden has put together details of walks around the West Hills area. **BL offered to bring a copy to the next meeting. A draft of the programme will be e-mailed in June. E-mail addresses to be circulated with the minutes.**

Daffodils

There have been many positive comments and a second planting is likely this Autumn. Dates to be added to the programme. We have a planting licence from Worcs. County Council which would cover the entrances to the village. EMH is looking for suitable planters within our budget. Suggested that we work with other groups within the parish on this, London Midland to be approached re planting at the station. Dates to be agreed, avoiding Footpath dates. **AH to**

attach to minutes for info. It was suggested that a grant application be made to the CO-OP. To be discussed again in July.

Finance

KB reported a balance of £1,317.73 in the current account and £918.70 in the PFP account. The Footpaths grant has not yet been received from County for this year. **KB / BL to follow up.**

32 subscriptions are overdue, **AH will E-mail names to JA.**

Marketing

More posters to be put up advertising walks. AH has asked the website designer to add more information to the website, updates on PACT, monthly walks and footpath maintenance work.

Planning

MP reported that 3 applications for small extensions had been agreed with no objections.

Planning Applications are now dealt with on-line. Plans were previously sent to the Parish Office for inspection. Plans are now printed in A4 and decisions notified on line. No details are included in the notification as to why an application is rejected or if conditions are attached. The Parish Council has asked the District Council for written copies of decisions. Many decisions are now delegated to officers rather than decided at Committee.

Footpath report

BL explained his role to manage and maintain the footpaths in the Parish. He can be contacted on 0121 445 3917. Volunteers meet midweek and alternate Saturdays. The area and work is decided on the day depending on the number of volunteers who's able to attend.

Parish Issues

The main Item for discussion at the next Alvechurch Neighbourhood Group meeting will be road safety near the new school site and the possible provision of temporary, additional parking on the old school site.

Hopwood issues.....concerns were raised at traffic speeds on the A441.....and drainage problems at Smedley Crooke Place. A drainage survey is underway. A possible sewage leak was reported in a field off Old Rectory Lane. This appears to have been repaired by Severn Trent. Fly tipping at Lea End Lane was reported to be a growing problem. Lorries parking / café on the approach road to the M42 roundabout create a litter problem and cause damage to the verges which are very difficult to walk on. **AH will send details and photos to the Village magazine and Dr Lord.**

A planning application for affordable housing on the site by the motorway has been withdrawn pending more information on noise abatement.

PACT- nearly 80 attended the meeting, no District or County councilors were present. Litter problems at Swans Walk were discussed. Local residents are willing to help by logging incidents and car registrations. More police patrols requested.

The Meadows – **AH will e-mail the completed application to all.**

Any other business

AH will send copies of the following correspondence with the minutes:

Letter to Sylvia Cartwright's family

Complaint re speeding in Old Rectory Lane and reply

Letter to British Waterways regarding illegal moorings at the Brick Yard site.

John Puckering, former Chair of the Parish Council, died last weekend. **AH will write on behalf of AVS.**

Future Committee meetings

Next Meeting **2nd JULY 7PM @Village Hall.**

Meeting closed at 21.00