



Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 February 2009

Present: Martin Phipps (MP), Pat Phipps (PP), Jim Parker (JP), Andy Humphries (AH), Lorna Sage (LS), Eileen McHugh (EMH), John Sidwell (JS), Kate Brennan (KB)

Apologies: Sylvia Cartwright, Bob Dale, Noelin Hawkins, Grace Hampson, Cllr June Griffiths.

Minutes of previous meeting – 11/12/08

Minutes approved and signed by AH, there were no minutes from the January meeting as this was not quorate..

Matters Arising

Notice board Plaque..... JS has fitted the plaque and was thanked by the Committee.

AGM / Annual report preparation

A draft of the annual report was circulated for comments....the membership list had been replaced with articles on PACT and Beating the Bounds. The Committee was happy with the layout and front cover photo.

AH will proof read and arrange printing.

Other AGM papers had been draftedthe covering letter had information to help members pay their subscriptions and attached were the nominations for next year's Committee. **All existing Committee members were included on the nominationsand will therefore be re-elected unless they contact the chairman !** AH is talking to the new PPW about joining the Committee. MP kindly agreed to copy the AGM papers.

MP / PP had arranged for indoor curling as the AGM entertainment...with wine and nibbles

Committee arrangements

The proposal to reduce the number of Committee meetings from 12 to 6 each year was agreed.....coupled with increased use of email between meetings (where possible). Dates for 2009/10 were agreed:

- May 7th Plan Summer events / early thoughts on programme
- July 2nd Finalise programme
- September 3rd Plan Autumn events
- November 5th Plan Winter events
- January 7th Work on Annual Report starts
- March 4th Preparation for AGM / Annual reports distributed
- March 24th 2010 AGM

Efforts to recruit new Committee members would continue.....AH had spoken to a number of *possibles* and would also write soon to various village organisations. It was hoped that fewer meetings and more email communications would help here.

AVS 40th Anniversary events

March 18th AGM

May 1st – 4th Village hall anniversary weekend....AVS will have a quiz team on the Friday evening and a stall on Saturday.

June 27th Summer Outing with Historical Society (Bletchley Park)

July 8th (Provisional) Buffet at The Weighbridge after evening walk

AH to check with Weighbridge licensees + speak to walk leader (Vera Hill)

AH talking to headteacher about School-based Treasure Hunt.

Suggestions for 2009/10 programme....

Magistrates Court visit) **EM to look into possible dates and options**

Concert or barn dance)

2010 summer outing.....possible repeat of fish/chip meal on canal barge.

Finance

The current account stands at £1830.79 and the PFP account stands at £1018.70. The 2008 accounts had been audited....with one change to move a sum of money from Publicity to Donations (but not affecting overall balances). Current AVS membership stands at 275.....there were 16 new members in 2008 and 2 already in 2009.

Planning

The February Parish Council Planning meeting had been cancelled at the last minute due to the weather (though MP had been waiting at the door !!).

Footpath report

Barry Lynock had now been formally appointed as Parish Paths Warden (PPW) and attended the PPW essentials training course last week. All paperwork had been handed over....and the new season was expected to start in late April.

Village Issues

Parish Plan.....AH had sent in Village Society comments on the revised plan, which had been appreciated in a written response from the Parish Council.

The Meadows.....an application for grant funding from Community Spaces to make improvements to The Meadows is being prepared by AH (on behalf of AVS), John Cypher (Parish Council) and Peter McHugh (Meadows Management Committee). The aim is to improve drainage and access, make the entrance gates safe and install a trim-track style fitness facility.....and the application is for nearly £50,000. Partnership working with the Parish Council was increasingthis was welcomed by all Committee members.

Walks and Talks

More than 30 people had been on the February walk (the Village Trail) + AH thanked MP and PP for leading an excellent winter walk in a blizzard, with bits of local history thrown in ! The walk had been well publicised (thanks to Lorna and some eye-catching advertising)....and some new members may follow.

AH will send local media email addresses to LS for future walks

Any other business

JS commented that local bus services to Redditch had deteriorated....the Committee agreed and he and MP will draft a letter to complain. AH will check with the Parish Council.

EM proposed that she and GH investigate the costs of putting planters by the road signs at the north and south ends of the village. Agreed this was a good idea.....EM to progress with the respective Councils.

Future Committee meetings

- Next Committee meeting rescheduled for **Tuesday 3rd March** 7pm at Andy Humphries' house (Sunnymead, Station Road)....annual report enveloping plus brief Committee meeting.

NOTE....This replaces the scheduled meeting on Thursday 12th March

- **AGM 18th Marchcould all Committee members be there please !**

Meeting closed at 20.25.