



MINUTES - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday 17th May 2012 - 8pm
Held at
Clifton Village Hall
Total Membership 267

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming members present.

1 **Apologies:** Mike and Claire Ashton, Simon Massarella, Linda Pickles, John Williams, Dorothy Woodall.

2 **Present:** **36 members:**
Graeme Barker, Glenys Blacknell, Irene Briggs, Jan and Francis Buck, Phil and Sandra Bull, Betty Cooke, Mr E Edwards, Jessie Elliott, Mavis Forsyth, Helen and Mike Huffer, Margaret and John Jenkins, Sally Joss, Terry and Kath Kay, Sandy and Kevin McCormick, Mr D Murphy, Ed Peterson, John Pickles, Pat and Joe Rice, Dianne Rolley, Claire Simpson, E and R Skinner, Eileen Small, Mrs D Smith, Roy Smith, Kath and John Spencer, Barry Stevens, John Woodall.

Also present: PC Darren White and CSPO Joy Davis for Neighbourhood Watch Report.

2 **Previous Minutes:**
No comment received. To be updated for re-issue on website.
The minutes were proposed for acceptance by John Woodall, seconded by Pat Rice and approved by the AGM as a true record.

3 **Neighbourhood Watch Report**

PC Darren White and PCSO Joy Davis were welcomed to the meeting. Darren acknowledged the continued hard work of John Spencer and the whole AGM joined in welcoming Kath and John back to the village after recent events.

PC Darren White reported that reported crime had reduced in the last year from 53 to 45 incidents, a reduction of 11%. It was noted that this was despite a spate of 5 burglaries on Noble Road that were registered to the village search areas.

PC Darren White stated that they continued to work with the village to try and resolve the NTU Parking issues, but that an application for further funding to police the situation had been turned down.

PC Darren White highlighted to the AGM that the recent KFC/Mcdonalds application had been withdrawn but that they expected a new application in the new future. The village should ensure its views are expressed on this new application in order to be acknowledged in the planning system. The AGM resolved to object to the application. The CVRA will issue guidance notes as to what/how best to respond to this.

PC Darren White reported that the perpetrators of the recent attacks in the area had been sentenced to 5 years in jail. Darren thanked the village for their assistance and vigilance in

ensuring these convictions were secured.

It was confirmed that it was the intention that the Police Station be moved to Southchurch Drive in July 2012.

The Chairman closed the report by expressing on behalf of the village their continued thanks for all of the hard work being invested in the area by Darren and his team. The AGM expressed their support with a round of applause.

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Village Reading Room

The Chairman advised the AGM that the council had offered the Reading Room to the village for due financial consideration, but that following various meetings there was little appetite within the village for taking on another community space. The Property Department had advised that funding had been secured to make good the room so that the fencing can be removed and that it is then their intention to sell it. The CVRA will continue to liaise with the Council to ensure the situation continues to progress.

4.2 The Old Rectory

The Chairman advised the AGM that the feedback from Mr Kumar was that the project was delay was due to the need to gain legal long term access from Village Road, as the current access requires access across a small part of the village green. This was the reason for the new planning application. The new gates being proposed would ensure that the new houses could legally have a a right of access from the public highway, unencumbered by the long term lease of the Green by the Clifton family. Again, the CVRA will continue to monitor the situation but there is little that the village can do to affect progress other than purchase the site themselves!

4.3 Nottingham Trent University Parking

The Chairman highlighted the extensive work carried out by Simon Massarella in securing the Phase 1 parking permit system as recently implemented. JW noted his concerns about the standard of the yellow lines as laid down, but MH did note that the thinnest possible lines had been requested to reduce their visual impact and that this was a possible reason why they looked less clear on the ground.

GB highlighted that the village now have a 6 month window to make general comments back to the council on the effectiveness of the new system. SM should be kept informed if possible due to his direct dialogue with the council. Mavis Forsyth expressed dismay at the 'end of zone' signs, as they simply encouraged people to park beyond them. KM noted that this had been deemed a 'legal necessity' but many of the AGM agreed that the system would be far more effective without them and they should be avoided in Phase 2 if required.

Mick Huffer expressed the general view of the AGM that things will be worse when term time starts again in September at NTU, and all parties were urged to feedback to the council at this time.

5 Chairman's Report

The Chairman began by acknowledging that it had been an eventful year for the village the CVRA, and that this was reflected by a huge increase in email traffic this year, to some 550 pieces of correspondence.

The Chairman thanked Pat Rice and Simon Massarella for the contributions they had made since joining the committee. Simon was thanked for his continued efforts on behalf of the village to negotiate a workable parking permit system. Pat's creation of the Gardening and Art groups in the village has added much to the village, as has her hard work with Clare and Mike Ashton and others to keep the planters looking so good for Jubilee year. The Chairman summarised by saying it was great for the village that both were on the committee making such a positive contribution to village life.

The Chairman also acknowledged his own personal sadness and that of the village at the passing of Glenn Rolley a previous village chairman. Glen had worked tirelessly and was highly thought of in the village.

The Chairman thanked PC Darren White and the team at the council for moving so swiftly over the year to evict the illegal traveller encampments in the village. It was agreed that the council are now very efficient at moving the travellers on but that various avenues were being explored with the council to see whether a more permanent solution can be found.

Looking back at CVRA events for the year the Chairman thanked John and Dorothy Woodall for their continued hosting of the Summer Garden Party, the catering team and also the gazebo 'erection squad' that had made the event such a success. He similarly thanked Maurice and Diva Bonney for their continued support for the Late Summer Picnic, and expressed what a success the afternoon had been, thanks in no small part to Geoff Brigg's entertainment.

The Chairman thought it appropriate that Mike and Clare Ashton were thanked for their continued extensive support for village events and also Jonathon Blacknell for his DJ'ing at yet another successful Fish and Chip Supper.

The Chairman then moved forward to outline the plans for the Jubilee Day, and advised that a number of 'features' were being explored, including a brass band, Pimms tent and Champagne Toast. No tickets are to be sold as it is an open village event organised by the CVRA. Funding had been applied for from the council to help make the day a success and feature Tea Towels and event mugs would be available on the day.

Helen Huffer expressed her thanks to the committee and various unsung villagers for the organisation behind the scenes and work being put in generally to make the village events happen.

Eileen Small thanked the CVRA for the regular newsletters. GB acknowledged that the content involved the input of wide number of people who are not on the committee but help make the newsletters a success.

6. Treasurer's Report

Helen Huffer presented the accounts for 2011-2012. The CVRA had 271 members in 2011-12. The 5 social events continued to generate a profit for the organisation, helping fund the Christmas Tree and newsletters. The CVRA held the Christmas Card as income to help support future needs. Event insurance was procured for the Summer Garden Party and Late Summer Picnic. Wine is held as 'stock' by the CVRA but not included in the accounts. Monies continued to be paid by the CVRA to the Village Hall for hire of the hall for village events. The account shows an overall deficit of £248.14 for the year, but an overall healthy balance of some £1642.18.

John Woodall queried a £3.51 cash in hand figure that continues to show each year. It was acknowledged that this is 'historic' and it was proposed by JW that this be omitted. This was seconded by John Spencer and passed by the AGM.

Other than this the accounts were straight forward and no issues were raised on the figures.

The report was proposed by John Woodall, seconded by John Spencer and accepted by the AGM.

7. **Election of Officers**

Kevin McCormick was willing to carry on as Chairman.

Helen Huffer was willing to carry on as Treasurer.

Graeme Barker was willing to carry on as Secretary.

Proposed by John Woodall – Seconded Sandy McCormick – elected by the AGM.

John Woodall thanked all of the officers for their hard work on behalf of the CVRA. The Chairman continues to put a huge amount of work, and Helen Huffer's continued commitment to the village as Treasurer has seen her hold the position for 26 years. The AGM showed their appreciation by applause.

8. **Election of Executive Committee**

The chairman advised the AGM that all members of the existing committee were willing to continue to serve. One nomination was received from Terry Kay. This was proposed by Pat Rice and Seconded by Mavis Forsyth. Terry stated that it would be a privilege to be part of the CVRA and the village generally.

All were elected en masse by the AGM. The CVRA committee is therefore made up as follows:

Officers:

Chairman: Kevin McCormick, Secretary: Graeme Barker. Treasurer: Helen Huffer,

Executive Committee:

Glenys Blacknell, John Spencer, John Woodall, Simon Massarella, Pat Rice, Terry Kay.

8. **Honorarium**

Honorarium £50 to the Secretary – Proposed by Kevin McCormick – Seconded by Glenys Blacknell.

Approved by the AGM.

9. **Social Events**

Dates and venues for coming events (will be published in the Newsletter, Website and shown on the Noticeboard):

Jubilee Street Party	-	Monday 4 th June 2012 – Village Road
Summer Garden Party	-	Sunday 22 th July 2012 - "Holly House" (The Woodalls) or Village Hall if wet
Late Summer Picnic -		Saturday 1 st September 2012 - Old Rectory Coach House or Village Hall if wet

Village input was requested generally for the Jubilee Street Party, both to volunteer to help before and on the day, as well as for general ideas for 'events' for the day. A volunteers list was left at the entrance for CVRA members to put themselves forward for the day.

11. AOB

- 11.1 It was highlighted Himalayan Balsam had been found in Nethergate Stream and that a gathering had been organised with the local park rangers on the forthcoming Sunday to try and eradicate it by pulling it up before it seeded and spread further.
- 11.2 Helen Huffer noted that the Auditors voucher had not been discussed during the Finance Report. HH thanked Helen Lander for carrying out the Audit on the accounts, and a gift voucher to the value of £20.00 was agreed by the AGM.
- 11.3 Mavis Forsyth highlighted to the AGM that NTU continue to hold lectures for the adjacent observatory on NTU Clifton Campus. It was agreed that flyers would be put in the notice-board for general information if available. The next event is from 4-6pm on the 31st May.
- 11.4 It was highlighted to the AGM by John Spencer that the Parking Permits for Phase 1 had arrived today. The implementation date for Phase 2 was queried. It was advised by GB/KM that Phase was not guaranteed to happen and that it was understood that a 'bedding in period' of 6 months was in place to see what, if any, further action needed to be taken.
- 11.5 Francis Buck queried the recent advert in the newsletter regarding the possible use of Yew Tree Grange as a tea room. Graeme Barker advised that soon after the advert had been placed Tom Laing had contact him to say could it be withdrawn as this use was not being pursued. It was also highlighted that a change of use would be required to allow this to happen.

12 Next Meeting

The Chairman closed the AGM thanking members present for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

The date of the next AGM was confirmed as the 16th May 2013, to ensure it is kept free in people's diaries.

Graeme Barker, Secretary to the Clifton Village Residents Association