



## MINUTES - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – 8.00pm

Held at

Clifton Village Hall

Total Membership 251

- 1 **Apologies:** Jill Barker, Jan Buck, Sandra Bull, Betty Cooke, Linda Pickles, Maggie Royston, Lillian Young
  
- 2 **Present:** **30 members:**  
Clare Ashton, Graeme Barker, Glenys Blacknell, June Bowman, Francis Buck, Phil Bull, Dawn Gilbert, Helen Huffer, Mick Huffer, Kath Kay, Sandy McCormick, Kevin McCormick, Ed Peterson, Vendela Peterson, John Pickles, Maureen Preston, Pete Preston, Joe Rice, Pat Rice, James Royston, E Skinner, R Skinner, Stephen Spencer, Claire Spencer, John Spencer, Kath Spencer, Graeme Watson, Dorothy Woodall, John Woodall, Graham Young
  
- 3 **Previous Minutes:**  
No comment received. To be updated for re-issue on website.  
The minutes were proposed for acceptance by James Royston, seconded by Kevin McCormick and approved by the AGM as a true record. GB to place on website.
  
- 4 **Neighbourhood Watch Report**  
Pat Rice advised the committee that the police offered their apologies for not being able to attend the meeting, but that they had produced a report, which Pat then delivered. A copy of this is appended to the minutes.

Matters presented were:

An update on Travellers on village green. The police are working with other local forces to notify them of groups of travellers moving around to enable pre-emptive action to be taken to discourage their encampment.

Crime report – only three crimes were reported in the village for the 2017 to date. Only two, being theft of a cycle and damage to a dwelling were related actual village properties or residents, with the damage being theft of lead from the church roof.

Police Staffing – recent increases in staffing are due to bring police number to 3 police officers and 6 PCSO's for the Clifton area.

Neighbourhood Watch- It was highlighted that there is currently no neighbourhood watch co-ordinator in post. The CVRA had tried to identify a suitable candidate but none had yet been secured. It was stressed that the job is not particularly onerous and enquires were welcomed from the village.

The Chairwoman concluded the Report by thanking the police for their continued efforts in keeping the village safe.

## **4 Matters Arising**

### **4.1 Bollards to the Village Green**

The council have advised that NCC are still awaiting confirmation from the Clifton Family signing off the installation of bollards to the green and have therefore decided to notify them of an intent to proceed with the aim of starting the installation at the beginning of June. The bollards are to be simple timber posts with angled tops to deter people sitting on them.

### **4.2 The Old Rectory**

The Council have recently met with Mr Kumar to discuss the continued decline of the property and unsightly look of the building, notifying him that they intended to issue a Section 215 notice to him, instructing him to tidy up walls and grounds, and secure the building by boarding up windows and making good the gates. Works are due to commence on the 15<sup>th</sup> May. It is understood that Mr Kumar is seeking to re-negotiate his legal position on the property with NCC and the CVRA will continue to push for a solution to be found that places time constraints on the renovation of the property.

## **5 Chairwoman's Report**

The Chairwoman welcomed all to the AGM, and thanked all for their support in making 2016 / 17 events such a success.

The Fish and Chip supper had been one of the best attended in several years and it was good to see so many families present. Pat thanked all for their hard work for making this and all other events happen, including the committee, and all other people who support events. Jonathon Blacknell was thanked for once again providing musical entertainment for the evening, and Mel thanked for what will be the last time he is able to supply food for the event.

The chairwoman thanked John and Dorothy for once again allowing their garden to be opened up for the summer garden party, and Glenys and her 'team' for providing the catering.

Christmas events were highlighted. James Royston was acknowledged as being in fine voice for both the Christmas Carols and when leading the 'tradition' of 12 days of Christmas at the Christmas Party. Jill Barker was thanked for providing musical accompaniment for the Carol Singing.

The Wine Tasting was acknowledged as a great success once again, and Ed and Vendela and their 'skilled' wine buffs were thanked for leading and making the evening so enjoyable.

Maurice and Diva Bonney were thanked for providing their garden for the Late Summer Picnic once again, but as this had been sadly cancelled due to poor weather a decision has been made to seek an alternative event for the early autumn slot of 2017.

The Chairwoman noted that it was good to see the Reading Room finally finished, and with the Bollards on their way, attention could now turn to seeking a permanent solution to the Old Rectory.

MP Lilian Greenwood's valuable support and leadership was acknowledged in chairing two meetings held in the Village Hall to discuss the village green, and the subsequent lack of a police response to the travellers visit in summer 2016. It was noted that the police had publicly apologised for their poor response and the recent better level of support for village matters is hopefully a sign that the village is now being given due priority in the area.

Sergeant Paul Ferguson is now listed as the main Clifton Police officer contact for the village.

Alma Davies was thanked for all her hard work in getting the Postal address amended to be Clifton Village and having similar adjustments made to Ordnance Survey information. It was also noted that the Village Hall now appears correctly on Google maps.

The proposed planning application for housing on the Clifton West site adjacent to the Bluebell woods was discussed. Concern was expressed that these native flowers could be irreparably damaged by the nearby housing, and it was agreed that the Woodland Trust guidance on protection of such natural assets would be pushed for when the next round of consultation takes place. The CVRA will continue to talk to NCC about the latest position on this council led site proposal.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

Helen Huffer presented the accounts for 2016-17

In terms of events ticket sales for the Fish and Chip Disco was higher, the summer garden party slightly lower, and the Late Summer Picnic zero as it was cancelled this year. Subscriptions have risen slightly to £283.00. Advertising revenue has dropped significantly to £20 as existing advertisers subscriptions ended and have not been renewed. Donations include £44.00 from Ed Peterson for sale of village honey.

Total income from 2016-17 was £2652.40

Printing and Stationery costs were increased in 2016 to £186.47, along with food supply costs for events, which to £383.49 for the Christmas Party. The CVRA continued to make donation to the Village Hall through the Christmas card fund, with this being down slightly to £155.00 this year.

Total Expenditure from 2016-17 was £2496.98. A £45.00 float has been retained for ongoing events where a bar is run.

There was a reported profit for the year of £155.42.

The total balance of the CVRA accounts at the end of the year stands at £3,092.06

HH thanked Helen Lander for continuing to audit the accounts. The AGM agreed the presentation of a £25 gift voucher to Helen Lander.

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

## **7. Election of Officers**

Pat Rice was willing to continue as Chairwoman  
Helen Huffer was willing to carry on as Treasurer.  
Graeme Barker was willing to carry on as Secretary.

These members were duly elected en masse by the AGM.

## **8. Election of Executive Committee**

The chairwoman advised the AGM that one member of the existing committee, Viba Ellis was

standing down due to other commitments. Viba has offered to continue to sell tickets and deliver newsletters to Clifton Hall Drive and the Chairwoman thanked Viba on behalf of the village for her continued support of the CVRA and its community.

There was one proposal for joining the committee, this being Kath Kay. Kath was proposed by Glenys Blacknell and seconded by Kath Spencer. All other committee members confirmed that they were willing to continue on the committee.

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

**Officers:**

Chairperson: Pat Rice, Secretary: Graeme Barker. Treasurer: Helen Huffer

**Executive Committee:**

Glenys Blacknell, Kath Kay, Ed Peterson, John Woodall, James Royston, Phil Bull.

**9. Honorarium**

Honorarium £50 to the Secretary – Proposed by Kevin McCormick and seconded by Clare Ashton. Approved by the AGM.

**10. Social Events**

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

Summer Garden Party	-	Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> July - "Holly House" (The Woodalls) or Village Hall if wet
Village Quiz Evening		Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Christmas Party		Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> December – Village Hall

John Woodall reminded the committee that Paul Ferguson should be invited to attend the Garden Party and Christmas Party.

**11. AOB**

**11.1 Clifton Village Hall.** Clare Ashton and Graeme Barker presented a report and drawings on behalf of the Village Hall Trust (CVHSHT)

- Due to a lack of 'heritage' content, the trust have been reviewing the proposals for the new Hall Entrance, and are proposing to augment the existing scheme to include a further bookable space / catering layout area between the hall and ladies toilets, as well as a new kitchen to improve facilities for weddings and other party bookings.
- Proposals were presented by Graeme Barker and the AGM were supportive of the proposals and this feedback will be taken back to the CVHSHT AGM next week for formal agreement to proceed.
- Once agreed planning will need to be submitted for the revised scheme.

**11.2 A453 and Laing O'Rourke – making good.** Vendela Peterson noted that the edge of the green was still very rough, despite assurance being given that this would be tidied up when the A453 was complete. Pat Rice confirmed that works had been carried out but agreed it was still not presentable and agreed to raise this issue with the Laing O'Rourke / Highways England team to see what could be done to improve matters.

- 11.3 Dovecote** – The AGM expressed concern regarding the state of the Dovecote. The CVRA agreed to re-open enquires with the Council as it is thought that a condition survey had been carried out and results of this would give an idea of cost and scale of any renovation work required. It was confirmed that the Dovecote is part of the Council’s responsibility but that they had previously sought village ‘community’ input as funding was more likely to be given to a village group than a public body.
- 11.4 Fence to Nethergate** – concern was expressed regarding the new fence along Nethergate. The CVRA confirmed that this had been investigated by the Council who are of the view that the fence has been re-built to a pre-existing line and was not encroaching.
- 11.5 Village Green Signage** – The Secretary raised the proposal of placing a heritage sign on the Village Green. The AGM agreed that this was a good idea and should be supported. The AGM were advised that a total cost was likely to be in the order of £4000, although this could be reduced if a local carver / artist could produce the individual artwork. Kath Kay is to pass forward contact details of the local mason who provided the war memorial on the green to the committee for further investigation.
- 12 Next Meeting**  
The Chairwoman closed the AGM thanking members for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 9.30pm. The date of the next AGM was confirmed as the Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 8pm.

Graeme Barker, Secretary to the Clifton Village Residents Association