



## **MINUTES - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022. 7.30 pm**

**Held at**

**Clifton Village Hall**

**Total Membership 264**

### **1. Apologies:**

Joyce Wileman, Helen Huffer, James Royston, Kath Kay, Linda Richley

### **2. Present: 34 members and 3 guests**

Martin Ellis, Clare Ashton, Graeme Barker, Francis Buck, Sandra Bull, Mick Rhodes, Jane Rhodes, Dr Azar Raoof, Patrick Reid, Clare Ashton, Sandra Bull, Phill Bull (PB), John Woodall, Dorothy Woodall, Jonathan Blacknell, Glenys Blacknell, Kath Spencer, Joe Rice, Geoff Matthews, Debs Smith, Roy Smith, John Pickles, Ed Peterson, (EP) Vendela Peterson,(VP) Eileen Skinner, Bob Skinner, Francis Buck, Julie Reid, Pat Rice, (PR) Sam Ward, Mary Fessey (MF), Bob Whileman, Geoff Mills, Claire Simpson, Cllr Andrew Rule, Cllr Roger Steele, Sgt Nigel Bradbury.

Graeme Barker was able to attend towards the end of the meeting.

### **3. Previous Minutes:**

The minutes were proposed for acceptance by John Woodall, seconded by Joe Rice and approved by the AGM as a true record. As previously, this year's minutes will be forwarded to Jonathan Blacknell for placing on the website.

### **4. Police and Neighbourhood Watch Report**

Chairwoman, Pat Rice (PR), introduced Sgt. Nigel Bradbury (Sgt.NB)

Sgt.NB stated that after 4.5 years running the Clifton team, he is still able to say that Clifton Village has least crime.

Of the whole area figures show Clifton Village representing 2-3% of recorded data.

Notable incidents were:

- Gentleman knocked to the ground on Clifton Grove at 11 pm in October 2021. No-one apprehended.
- Car abandoned in Fisherman's Car park and burnt out

PR Asked if camera is still in use within that Car park. Sgt.NB confirmed it is.

- Car stolen from Parkland Close

Sgt.NB commented that post Covid stats are now on a par with pre-covid. No change. The police keep an eye on the Clifton Village as a whole and have spoken with, for example, groups of children gathering around Home Farm, also with men exercising Mastiff dogs in a 'meet' down by the river. Nothing untoward in either event.

Explained that 'Operation Reacher' has been established to be more involved with the community. With his team of 6 he has been able to be much more proactive in dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in general. This success has been replicated with three other separate teams across the Nottingham area, providing more local control.

Sgt.NB asked for questions concerning Clifton Village. The responses were:

- Speed Calming.

Sgt.NB: A flashing sign indicating speed could be used as a device to make people more aware of their speed. This has proven successful elsewhere.

PB commented that it is often delivery vans responsible for speeding

Sgt.NB suggested that his team could provide some peak-hour speeding camera checks.

- VP asked about off-road bikes.

Sgt.NB: Off -road police bikers must be requested. They cannot chase the perpetrators. It may be possible to request a police drone if the problem escalates. These are less expensive and just as effective.

PR expressed her appreciation to Sgt Bradbury for yet again making himself available.

### **Chairwoman's Report**

PR thanked all for attending and supporting the village residents' association.

A warm welcome also extended to our councillors and local police team.

It has been just 10 months since last year's AGM, which had been delayed due to Covid.

The summer garden party was held once again in John and Dorothy Woodall's Garden. They have kindly agreed to continue this regular event and this year we have arranged for the event to be on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

Last year, the summer party was seen as being a special occasion when we felt able to meet up again, owing to Covid, as it is held outdoors.

PR thanked our resident professional chef who was happy to take on the role, of looking after the catering for this event, putting his knowledge of coping with Covid in the catering world into practise.

The food was excellent, safely prepared and served so we are especially grateful to Graeme Watson for helping us celebrate this special day.

PR thanked Graeme, John and Dorothy and everyone else involved on the day, making it such a great occasion.

PR commented that we decided to go for our autumn event in the village hall. It was the first time we had tried a curry evening, owing to the limited kitchen, and we have Ed Peterson to thank for the idea. The team worked hard to make the evening a success.

PR thanked all for giving their time and efforts.

We have a new Xmas catering team led by Julie Reid and other committee members, all new to the job. Numbers attending were limited. Everyone agreed how much better it was to have more space between tables.

PR will welcome any new pairs of helping hands.

The tree lighting and carol singing went ahead. This continues to be a well-attended, popular event and all those who contributed deserve our thanks.

At last year's AGM PR commented on how great it was to see the Old Rectory transformed into a smart part of the village. At that time 3 of the homes had been occupied and by Christmas all the homes had been occupied. The Old Rectory ruins have become Rectory Mews and are a much smarter addition to the village.

The progress of planning permission for gravel extraction at Barton in Fabis has been halted. This may not be the end of the matter as London Gravel have appointed new consultants to review their approach.

Our support could well be needed again and there has already been a meeting between PR and our MP, Lilian Greenwood, to ensure that she is fully acquainted with the Barton team's ideas.

PR thanked everyone who wrote in, objecting. The Barton in Fabis team put in a tremendous amount of time, energy, and effort in getting the quarry application withdrawn.

Barton Green remains on the CVRA agenda. The housing will go ahead but it is down to us to write in to ensure that, for example, the woodland alongside is protected and that the housing is of a decent standard according to latest recommendations.

PR reminded everyone to write and comment on the proposed development.

PR drew attention to the special village sign that has appeared on the village green. The idea has been spoken about over a considerable period. We need to thank Phil Bull with help from Sandra for taking on the task and bringing this project to its conclusion. Everyone agrees how fantastic it looks. None of this would have been possible without the very generous donation of one villager, to cover the costs of manufacture, who wishes to remain anonymous.

Bollards will soon be in place around the unprotected parts of the village green.

PR believes that the previous installers have been contacted and our wait should be over before too long.

Likewise, the parking permit scheme is reaching its conclusion and hope this will be in place before the start of the new university year. We must thank our councillors and particularly Nigel and Christine Cartwright for their persistence in pushing this scheme along.

PR stated that, with above matters resolved, the committee will be able to focus on social events, with only The Dovecote needing special attention.

We hope to see many villagers at the Queen's Platinum Jubilee event on the village green next month and of course in July at the summer garden party.

PR expressed thanks to the committee on everyone's behalf for all their hard work over the past year. They voluntarily give up a lot of their time to ensure that our village remains a special place to live. Without people like them the village would just be another anonymous place where residents hardly get together, or even know one another.

#### **4. Matters Arising/Planning**

##### **Parking Permits**

PR invited Cllr Roger Steele and Cllr Andrew Rule to comment on progress made.

The process has taken a long time with several hurdles to cross. However, with the efforts of

both Councillors the CVRA, and particularly Dr Nigel Cartwright from Holgate, the matter is now resolved, helped with funding from both the City and also a significant contribution from Trent University in recognition of the problems caused by students. Lines are being drawn now to indicate where parking bays will be and yellow lines finish/end. Permits will be issued to the Village and full enforcement throughout the village will commence a time after this for everyone to get used to the scheme. It is hoped that with the yellow lines and signs in place the students (main offenders) will stay away.

PR thanked both Andrew Rule and Cllr Roger Steel for their efforts to ensure this parking problems were resolved.

PR: Double yellow lines will be placed on the road up to the car park. Not enforceable but should deter parking.

Separately, Clare Ashton (CA): Students have parked in the Village Hall car park. Notices were placed on the cars and students warned. It may be necessary to lock this car park occasionally.

### **Bollards to The Green**

Cllr Andrew Rule reminded everyone that the City Council has limited funds available, and it has taken some effort to ensure money was ring-fenced for the bollards. There have been difficulties ensuring the lawyers acting for the Clifton family carried out their due diligence without being excessive. After a few reviews success has been achieved. The bollards should be completed this financial year on all the perimeters of the remaining Green.

### **The Dovecote.**

Ed Peterson (EP) gave a summary:

The Dovecote has been placed on the 'buildings at risk' register. This is significant as it will allow applications for funding from heritage funds and the Lottery.

The hope of the City, long term, is for Clifton Village to take over responsibility for the building. It also hopes that through a feasibility study some sort of commercial use can be found. Income resulting from commercial use would then fund the continued upkeep of the building.

It would need to be brought up to a 'good standard' beforehand and in a state whereby it could be let. Hence the need for initial lottery/heritage funding.

Tom Streets from Nottingham City arranged for defective rendering to be removed. Heritage England will then determine how the gable ends will be remedied. Fencing will remain in place for the time being.

### **AGM invited to ask questions:**

Mary Fessey (MF) commented that the village appears 'shabby'. Pavements are uneven, grass on the Village Green uncut and potholes appearing everywhere. We appear to be at the bottom of the list where resources to deal with these matters is concerned.

PR replied that:

The Green is to be cut before the Platinum Jubilee party and the council, in the form of Paul Brown who manages landscaping, has less resources to cut grass as previously and is adopting an approach to reflect the need for flowers to grow providing a 'bee friendly' environment.

Claire Mc Curdy is being responsive to the needs and requests by PR for the benefit of Clifton Village. (Claire represents the interface between the City and the Clifton area as our local 'Development Officer')

PR asked the audience to vote for more cutting of the Village Green or less. The majority voted for more cutting of The Green.

There were no other questions.

### **Treasurers report.**

A copy of the report is attached. There was a reflection on:

- The need to increase subscriptions (which we have this year) to allow for significant increases in printing costs.
- An acknowledgement that inflation has eroded potential profits on social events (events are not run to make a profit, but should not make a loss)
- A very heart-felt 'thank you' by PR to the individual who donated £5,000 for the Village sign to be erected.
- Thank you to Helen and the Auditor for their conscientious work
- All agreed to the Honorarium for the Auditor of £50.00.

### **Election of Officers**

John Woodall (JW) was invited to lead the election of officers. He commented that Helen Huffer has been our Treasurer for 30 years. He expressed thanks to Helen for maintaining her presence and involvement on the committee. JW also thanked Ed as Secretary for his work and particularly to Pat for her leadership and continued hard effort on behalf of the Village.

All three are currently prepared to continue in their offices.

Pat Rice as Chairwoman  
Ed Peterson as Secretary.  
Helen Huffer as Treasurer

This proposal for the re-election of officers was put to the AGM by JW and seconded by CA. The vote was unanimous, in favour.

### **Election of the Executive Committee.**

The committee members, being:

Phil Bull, Graeme Barker, Christine Dalby, Julie Reid, James Royston, Sam Ward, John Woodall.

There were no proposals for new officers and the above agreed to continue (Graeme Barker and James Royston in their absence). Proposed by JW, seconded by Sandra Bull (SB) and

unanimously accepted by the AGM.

### **Honorarium.**

Honorarium for £50.00 to the Secretary. Proposed by JW and seconded by PR.

### **Social Events.**

PR – tickets are needed for attendees who may be village members or close relatives. Various people have offered their kind help to ensure there are drinks and cakes at the event.

CA commented that the WI, who meet in the Village Hall, have proposed to decorate inside and outside the Hall with bunting flags etc for the Jubilee celebrations.

The summer party will go ahead as described. JW asked for any offers of help/assistance.

PR. The Fish & Chip supper postponed over the past years will go ahead on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Jonathan Blacknell for all his effort to provide music and his sound system to bring life to the parties, including this event.

Xmas lunch is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> and numbers may be limited.

CA spoke on behalf of the Church saying that a performance by the 'East of England Singers' to be held in St Mary's church on 9<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm. It is also planned to hold a Ceilidh/Barn Dance at the end of September/early October – date to be announced.

**AGM for 2023 to be Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm.**

**Wine will be provided afterward for all attendees. Please stay and chat.**