



Minutes of meeting of Clifton Village Residents Association

**Held at The Paddocks Farriers Green Clifton Village
On Tuesday 12th January 2016 at 8 pm.**

(1) Members present:

Mrs Pat Rice (PR) Mrs Helen Huffer (HH), Mrs Glenys Blacknell (GBI) Mr James Royston (JR)
Mr K. McCormick (KM), Mr Graeme Barker (GB), Mr Ed Peterson (EP)

(2) Apologies: Mr Phil Bull (PB), Mr. Simon Massarella (SM), Mr. John Woodall (JW)

(3) Matters Arising

Village Newsletter

The question of whether to deliver the village newsletter to non-paying members was discussed. GB confirmed that the cost of print per household over the year is a few pounds, just covered by membership payment. The CVRA is therefore subsidising the cost for the benefit of non-members. It was agreed around the table that this is unreasonable and delivery should in future be to village members only. JR commented that exceptions could apply on the local patch. Equally that point was agreed upon. GB will provide a list of members for future delivery of the Village Newsletter.

Litter

This appears to be less evident in the car park. KFC & MacDonald's should be responsible for local litter. Agreed to keep a watch on the matter and raise again if necessary.

(4) Chairman's Report

Xmas Tree and Carols

KM commented that the tree was erected to everyone's satisfaction and held steady in high winds and there was a higher turn-out at the lights-on event. He wished to pass on his thanks to Keith for Bag Pipes and to Jill for her violin accompaniment in the turn around the village. A very positive outcome. KM wished to thank all who helped both raise the tree and bring it down. Thanks also to our resident chain-saw specialist who ensured the tree-trunk was dismembered in minutes and quickly disappeared to a local wood-pile. The branches were collected by the council the next day.

Xmas Party

KM passes his thanks to Glenys, Cath and team for preparing the food, to Pat for setting out the room and adding her decoration and EP for some element of co-ordination and adding his voice to the event. Positive comments were made about adding some singing and collective jollity to the occasion and new voices were discovered among James and Maggie Royston. KM and indeed everyone felt the overall occasion was a success.

The Green

KM commented that the verges and Green itself were still an issue in the sense of completing seeding and repair. He did say that Chris Gibson (Councillor to Clifton South) was doing a good job and seems to be doing his best to help, in the absence of Prairie Bryant. KM hopes for a result. GB advised that legal queries from the Clifton Family were holding up the process of getting the barriers to the green erected. GB to liaise with NCC / Chris Gibson to try and progress things.

Car Park

This is being used but not as fully as hoped and, as KM commented, certainly not by imbibers who prefer to walk rather than bring a car.

(5) Treasurer's Report

HT said that the Xmas Party made a profit and there are bottles of wine added to stock reflecting in revised figures which all agreed is heartening to make a small profit rather than a loss. Ticket prices for the event have been maintained and yet inflation is evidenced in for example the Xmas Tree, the cost of which has increased by 20% to £156.00. It was collectively agreed that a little gain by way of profit can only be healthy when inflation is a reality and ticket prices for events cannot be held at the same level for all time. HT quietly concurred with all this and was relieved as Treasurer to report that the bank balance was back to October levels and there was money available should the CVRA choose to enhance the Village in some way, for example to purchase a village sign.

October CVRA Current Acct	£1,213
Deposit Account	£1,842

November CVRA Current Acct.	£1,105
Deposit Account	£1,842

December CVRA Current Acct.	£1,278
Deposit Account	£1,842

(6) Secretary Report

GB commented that membership is stable at 264. Material is needed for the Newsletter. Requested EP add meeting minutes, when approved at the following meeting, into the Drop Box so that this could be incorporated on the Website. A vacant look on the part of EP suggested that he would have to think hard about such technical innovation.

(7) Village Planning Matters

Reading Room

It was pointed out that workmen are on site at the Reading Room. GB commented that planning was due to run out for that work and he had reminded the builders/owner of their position. Hence being started now.

The Old Rectory

KM has spoken to Anthony Trickett on the matter of the Old Rectory and can confirm that all planning issues are resolved and a workable compromise has been reached. It is hoped that work will commence by Spring but unlike the case of the Reading Room, where a time limit for planning permission was part of the negotiations, such a time-limit imposition does not exist with the Old Rectory. Mr. Nindi Kumar is working with Savilles of Nottingham to ensure an effective sales promotion is made.

Road Signage to Village

AECOM (Highways England) made themselves available at the Clifton Village Hall to discuss the Clifton Green and Village signs. A scanned copy of their report is attached. In summary AECOM have agreed to ensure Lang O'Rourke harrow and re-seed areas by the Village Hall and the verges. Such work will be carried out in the Spring when drier land will allow access.

The matter of signage to the Village will be resolved by plating over the Clifton Hall sign to show 'Clifton Village'. Possible road-painting to make the entry to the village road clearer was suggested because there is confusion for people approaching Clifton Village from Nottingham as to where to bear right. The Highways are not prepared to alter the lay-out or road-paint.

KM mentioned deep rutting at the corners to the entry road to the Village Hall/Carpark and elsewhere. This issue is one that may be resolved when the Village Green has barriers in place and is not caused by the A453 works and indeed the Rubbish Bin lorries are probably responsible.

Car Park

The Car Park is now available but there appears to be reluctance on the part of some visitors wishing for a quick 'come and go' to use it. As a consequence people still park in the front and add to the quagmire outside the Hall. The conclusion is that, reasonably, people want ease of access to the Village Hall door and until the outhouse is removed and a quick easy way is clear from the carpark to the Village Hall entrance the Car Park will not be used as fully as was hoped. Members of the committee offered sledgehammers and a few hours of work to demolish the out- building. KM latterly suggested a Karate Club would delight in offering a helping hand or foot.

GB, as resident site manager and our Health and safety representative reminded everyone to behave responsibly and perhaps consider paying for the demolition.

Holgate

Bollards have been put out to discourage people from parking. This is still an issue.

Village Signs

HT pointed out that because we do try to make a small profit from Village events that there is money available to put up a sign. GB points out that there is pressure on Chris Gibson as Councillor to agree to pay for this. Originally Prairie Bryant promised this would happen. The meeting agreed that the CVRA would arrange to pay for an attractive village sign along the lines of the entrance sign to Attenborough, for example. This would therefor take the form of a 'Heritage sign'.

(8) Village Matters

Neighbourhood Watch

Simon Massarella is the new Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator. Simon has made effective contact with the Village Beat Manager who is PC Darren White and they are co-ordinating their efforts to provide a worthwhile neighbourhood watch. Simon has only 40 email addresses of villagers and would appreciate a full list. PR suggested we ask for email addresses, when doing the rounds for membership. Perhaps village-watch benefits and village membership could be intertwined.

Burns Night

It was agreed that this should not go ahead. KM commented that this event was a little too near Christmas and perhaps this could be borne in mind for the future. KM expressed dismay that he would not be able to wear his Tartan and JR commented on the possibility of KM and GB competing in the leg department. Perhaps it was as well that the Burns night event was shelved.

Fish & Chip Supper

It was agreed to run the same format. KM suggested half price for children. GB asked if JB would again provide the Disco and what was needed. GBI replied to look into the matter. Ticket price was yet again discussed and GBI expressed considerable concern that we over-price for this or indeed any event and discourage people attending. The matter of inflation was mentioned.

EP offered to add a small event within the night, involving youngsters and oldies. On the basis of refreshing the evening, very slightly, it was quietly agreed that this could be given a chance.

Summer Garden Party

Holly house is available. The summer events were discussed in the context of KM's diary. This involved some mumbling about event clashes and preferring the Rolls Royce group event to a trip on

Cheshire/N.Wales canals with good friends. It is hoped the issue of social diaries is resolved amicably and the Llangollen Canal and hostelrys still benefit.

Late Summer Garden Party

This will probably be run with a 60's-70's theme. KM was disappointed not to be shaking the mothballs from his Sporrans for Burns night and the thought of a Spivish suit sounded a fair exchange.

(9) AOB

Village Hall

Claire Ashton is waiting for funds to accumulate in connection with the Village Hall so that demolition of the outhouse can be carried out. GB commented it would make sense to brick up the existing doorway before such demolition took place. Also to disconnect the electrics. GB suggested a cost of £1,000 for all the work and such funds may be available by the Spring.

(10) Chairman's Closing Remarks

Our current Chair, Kevin McCormack, confirmed that he would be leaving his position at the AGM owing to increased work and personal pressures. He commented, with some justification, that he has given considerable commitment on all matters related to the Village and that his involvement could more efficiently be spread around the committee and that an incoming Chairman could manage the role with less impact on personal time spent.

PR commented that he would be a hard act to follow and agreed by all. There was a spontaneous round of applause for Kevin and he commented, with some irony, that he is not spent or departed yet and that he would remain, after the AGM, involved on the periphery.

Naturally there will be a time to thank Kevin more wholeheartedly.

KM expressed a wish to create more room in his garage, as retiring Chairman, and perhaps the Marquees he has stored could be given a home elsewhere. This raised the question of a locked room to store general CVRA items in the Village Hall. PR mentioned that the room beyond the ladies toilets appears to be underused. GB suggested that this could be attended to (providing a lockable door to that room) when work was being carried out at the Hall in the Spring.

Next meeting Wednesday April 13th 8.00 pm at KM house. Farriers Green.

AGM Thursday 12th May 2016 Village Hall