



Minutes of meeting of Clifton Village Residents Association  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 in the garden of 9, Leabrooks Close

**1. Those present:**

Pat Rice(PR), Graeme Barker(GB), Phil Bull( PB), John Woodall(JW), Kath Kay(KK), Helen Huffer(HH) Sam Ward(SW), Julie Reid (JR) James Royston(JR), Ed Peterson(EP).

**2. No apologies offered.**

**3. Previous Minutes:**

Apart from a minor alteration, the minutes were accepted as a true representation of the previous meeting by PB and seconded by JW

**4. Matters arising.**

No issues to discuss.

**5. Chairwoman's report**

Tomlinson contractors have now completed the driveway to the village hall by thoroughly compacting the sub-layer and finishing off so that it looks much improved and will hopefully stand the test of time.

Some of the properties on the Old Rectory site are now occupied. The 'Gatehouse' has residents in place and the largest of the three new houses will be occupied soon. The other two houses have expressions of interest and await sale of their own homes in a chain before being able to complete. The Rectory and the Lodge are not available to be viewed, they are not considered ready yet. By the end of June, it is hoped that all works will be completed and building-skips and temporary storage removed.

The City Council landscape people have trimmed around the bollards to the Green and other grass areas are being left long for the benefit of insect life. Some residents see this as a mess while others understand the benefit.

There have been some incidents of antisocial behaviour, with eggs being thrown at windows overnight and milk bottles scattered, probably by the same group of youths. The police have been notified so that increased patrols can be put in place. Law enforcement officers are aware of the matter.

Owing to the changes in government approach to the 'lock-down' we will be altering the date of the AGM, yet again.

## **6. Treasurer's report**

HH confirmed the balance, including funds to pay for the village sign, stand at £8,066. Membership subscriptions will add to this, being collected for the first time in two years.

The accounts, unchanged from the last meeting were accepted.

## **7. Secretary's report.**

It was reported that another ZOOM meeting, which included Alice Ullathorne who is the Heritage Officer for Nottingham City Council and Chris Gibson who is an ex-councillor, was held to discuss the Dovecote.

A survey of the Dovecote was conducted some years ago and this is shown at the end of the meeting minutes. It concluded, at the time, that £65,000 was needed to simply bring the building up to a reasonable state of repair.

Funding agencies could provide the funds for refurbishment etc. However, there is a revised national approach to providing funds these days. It is seen to be necessary to ensure that any historic building can be used within the local and broader community. Any use should be able to generate an income and this income be used to maintain the building long term.

How the building can be used is the key question. The city, with the help of Alice Ullathorne and Chris Gibson should be able to raise sufficient funds for a feasibility study through its Nottingham Historic Buildings Trust.

The feasibility study would set out to answer these questions:

- What varied uses could this building have in addition to those provided by the Village Hall or to compliment the Village Hall.
- What alterations need to be made to enhance the interior to achieve useful multiple use. Can changes be made to the exterior, for example, to let in natural light.
- Can this building receive funding from funding agencies that will allow it to be sustainable with such use. What income could be generated
- Is it possible to accumulate additional funds to support the upkeep of the fabric of the building, long-term.
- To what extent is the village committed to including this building in its remit and supporting its use.

EP reported that Alice Ullathorne would ensure that the Dovecote was on the 'buildings at risk' register which it currently is not. This would be a necessary starting point for raising funds. She asks that the CVRA show a willingness to endorse the process of seeking funds and participating in a joint effort to assess how the building can be used in the future.

A letter from the CVRA to confirm this was needed for the process to be initiated.

The question was asked as to what the remit was and the extent of village involvement expected.

It was agreed that we (the CVRA) are happy to commit our collective spirit but are wary of the extent the City would wish us to be involved. For our part:

- There is no desire to own the property
- There is no wish to be responsible for collecting of income if or when the property is rented out

There are, apparently, examples of property joint-involvement with local authorities within the county. The existence of a trust, for example, where we act in partnership with the City and we have a CVRA person on the trust board, may be a solution.

EP commented that he would respond to Alice Ullathorne with these points raised.

## **8. Planning and other matters to discuss**

### **8.1 Parking Permits**

A previous ZOOM meeting arranged by Nigel Cartwright included our two councillors and some members of the CVRA committee. Andrew Rule confirmed at this meeting that funding is now in place for work connected with parking and parking permits in the village. He reminded everyone that a large part of the costs relates to the legal work involved. The implication being that this matter needs to be fully resolved to everyone's satisfaction now, so that no unanswered questions/issues raise their heads in the future.

The survey of all village members asking the question about choice of two options confirmed that the block of between 9 am and 5 pm was preferred.

The use of the fisherman's car-park will be restricted with time limits for staying. GB drew up a map of the village, on the ZOOM screen, and there was a discussion about areas that would benefit from having yellow lines to prevent parking. Sensitive areas such as the pinch point on the village road mid-way-bend and near to the join of Holgate to Village Road were mentioned. A meeting with PR and GB and the councillors will take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>. This will seek to look at just where such yellow lines could go. There would then also be a discussion about marked out parking-bays and their locations.

### **8.2 Gravel Extraction at Barton in Fabis**

Although Clifton Village is not directly impacted by the proposed quarry at Barton they quite reasonably wish to involve us in the campaign to stop the quarry going ahead. PR has worked closely with their active members to help with their campaign, over the past few years. She met with Lilian Greenwood (MP), for example, recently when she and Julian Coles from the Barton committee walked along the pathway that will be closed off by the quarry. No alternative is being offered to walkers while the quarrying proceeds. Lilian Greenwood is

taking an active interest in the objections to the site. They, Pat, Lilian, and Julian, physically visited the area to see just where the processing plant would be, and the gravel conveyor belt to move the gravel from site to that plant. This, considering prevailing wind direction, reinforced the issues of the impact of noise and dust to the area, including Clifton Village.

Now there are new county council representatives the justification for the site is being questioned. To what extent this will have any bearing remains to be seen. It appears anomalous that the local Parish Council (Barton In Fabis) is funding action against the quarry and thereby against their own county council.

PR also commented that Ruth Edward (MP) for Rushcliffe is also taking an interest in the project. She has expressed dismay at the possible environmental damage of the quarry.

### **8.3 Barton Green development**

In her meeting with PR, Lilian Greenwood (MP) is also looking at the Hawksley Gardens entrance to the proposed housing development site at Barton Green. There is a suggestion that Fox Covert lane, which can be accessed from the Mill Hill roundabout on the A453, should be extended into the site and thereby allow for two access roads while construction is underway.

### **8.4 Bollards to the Green**

This and the topic of the 'A' frame to Nethergate is under discussion. The Clifton family have been contacted and it is now a question of time. HH wondered why there was not a blanket agreement in place that would allow bollards to the remaining areas of the Green without yet again involving the Clifton family lawyers.

The broken bollard still needs attention.

### **AGM date**

The AGM will be held at 8 pm on Monday July 26<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm.

## **9 Social Events**

### **9.1 The Summer Garden Party. Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

There were questions concerning insurance for the event which HH has in hand. Matters of safety, particularly in the Covid sense, were answered. The event will be safe, and all measures are in place to ensure so.

The bar and drinks were also discussed, and JR has this in hand although cannot be at the event itself.

## **9.2 Autumn Quiz and Curry night. Saturday October 16th**

This will be organised nearer the time.

## **10. AOB**

PB anticipated questions about the village sign and was prepared with reply-emails from the 'Village Sign People' company. They simply say that we are moving up the list. There were, as of early May, four signs be produced and then the Clifton Village sign. The company has said that it will give us ample notice to notify the council for permission to position the sign. All very positive and PB is happy with progress.

Delivery may well be early Autumn.

JR asked about a defibrillator and PR will investigate this.

### **Next Meeting for the diary.**

Tuesday September 14th, in the garden, or inside (hopefully) for 8 pm – weather dependent.