



Minutes of ZOOM meeting of Clifton Village Residents Association
22nd June 2020

Those present over the internet:

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

2. **No apologies**

3. **Previous Minutes:**

Minutes were proposed by JW and seconded by GB and approved by the committee as a true record of the meeting.

4. **Matters arising:**

PR sought to clarify the situation concerning the Dovecote. The contact by Chris Gibson and the involvement of the council via their historic buildings trust was purely investigative. Comments resulting from the meeting at the Village Hall were for guidance only and absolutely no funding is available.

5. **Chairwomen's report on 'Ticks Check'**

PR commented that the 'Ticks' scheme, initiated at the beginning of the Covid lock-down, had been well received and thanked Jill Barker for her efforts to organise this and Graeme Barker in printing the 'Ticks' for distribution.

JW reported that at least two people had commented on how grateful they were for the system being established and the level of comfort felt, having this in place. The feedback received by committee members was one of reassurance that the Village CVRA had the best interests of the village at heart.

HH reported that the system was particularly beneficial to people on their own, especially, she felt, the ladies.

SW commented that a single lady on Gervais needed help and this was provided. The case has long term implications and outside help is now involved.

PR stated that the scheme would carry on and the Guardians would now continue to view those single individuals thought to be most at risk.

JW commented that the colour of the ticks was fading fast. Jill Barker had suggested that we simply rely upon one tick being shown, irrespective of colour, and this was agreed upon.

PR wished to thank everyone for their involvement. All said, she commented, a brilliant job.

6. Village Sign.

PR stated that everyone in the village had received the latest Newsletter which showed the latest design-offerings concerning the village sign.

PB confirmed that in researching available sign styles and fabricators he was conscious of the decision made by the village some years ago to choose a stencil or silhouette version of a sign.



stencil type



coloured type

PB described that he had received information from a company called 'The Village Sign People' (<https://www.villagesignpeople.com>) These offer stencil type signs but also coloured versions, using cast aluminium. This coloured version had not been considered when options were put to the village some years ago. A coloured plastic type had been one of the previous choices but dismissed on the basis of colour fading easily.

PB had sent a description and various photographs of key features within and around Clifton Village to the 'Village Sign People'. Their design team had produced a few sample designs from this information, two of which were shown in the latest Newsletter.

PB described that the proposed coloured sign would be two-sided, set into a black enamelled steeled frame mounted on an Oak post. The cast aluminium, made from a carved-timber mold, would be treated and then coloured with specialist enamel paints giving a very long -lasting finish.

PR commented that following the Newsletter those villagers canvassed concerning the sign-choice now in hand stated their preference for a coloured sign.

Out of curiosity PR asked JRd about her preference for a stencilled or enamelled coloured version. JRd had not been in the village when the choice of stencilled version was made. PR asked JRd, based on current information that was not available at the time of the village vote, whether she preferred a stencilled or coloured version. JRd replied that 'coloured' was her preference.

PB stated that he needed £100.00 to pay for the mock-up coloured designs. It was agreed that the amount be made available. This sum would be recovered if the company received an order for the sign.

PB confirmed he had been in contact with Prairie Bryant, concerning the sign. She stated that there was no need for permission from the Highways Department as the sign would not be on the edge of the road but rather an agreed distance off.

PB also confirmed contact with Tom Street, the Heritage Officer for Nottingham City. He stated that he had no objection to the proposed sign although would wish to see the final proposition.

Prairie Bryant also informed PB that the city could not accept maintenance of the sign and this would remain the responsibility of Clifton Village.

PB commented that he had thanked Prairie Bryant and when touching on the subject of permission from the Clifton Family she had said that we should proceed. It was not necessary to seek permission for something that was essentially removable.

PR commented that she had asked the site manager of Tomlinson's to confirm an offer they had made to contribute to the cost of the sign. PR awaits a response.

EP confirmed he had spoken with Tony Millard from Nethergate who declared he would be happy to support the cost of the sign with a donation.

It was agreed that the CVRA would possibly have to support the cost and then ask for contributions from residents and/or seek to raise funds through social events.

7. Village Sign Plinth.

It was mentioned that some village signs have a stone or brick plinth. It was agreed that it would be sufficient to have the oak post firmly set in the ground. PB described that the company provides something similar to a 'Metpost' (This is a metal spike with casing usually used to support fencing) . This metal support is set in concrete, within the ground, and the oak post slid into it, creating a strong fitting.

8. Treasurer's report

HH reported on the accounts for 2019 to 2020 saying that, in general, income and expenditure were in line with previous years. There had been additional costs involved in the purchase of new Christmas Tree lights, but this had been offset by the saving on the

purchase of a tree. The village had been offered a Christmas Tree by Marshal and Jill from Farriers Green which had been in their garden.

The accounts for the year had been audited by Mrs HM Lander and HH suggested a payment of £50.00 as a gesture of thanks to her, as we have made in previous years.

Funds held in reserve total £3,660.80.

GB agreed the accounts, seconded by JW.

9. Secretary's report.

There is nothing to report during this unusual lock-down' period. There have been no local council meetings to attend and no added matters that have not already been covered.

10. AOB

PR. It is accepted that we will not be able to collect subscriptions this year. PR suggested we collect double next year and that to ask for £4.00 per household would be reasonable. There followed a discussion on the subscription charges.

JR commented that we have collected £1.00 per person or £2.00 per typical couple household for many years and costs are increasing all the time. People have commented to him on how this low-subscription-cost appears to undervalue the work that goes into the Newsletter in addition to the work the CVRA is involved in. JR felt the cost is underselling our cause. EP agreed on this matter arguing that people do not necessarily respect services sold too cheaply.

JW believed that we would achieve a psychological advantage by not asking for double subscriptions next year that would be repaid in 'goodwill'. By being generous over this small matter people may be more generous when asked for other financial help.

JW asked if we would be able to arrange social events if such are allowed in the Autumn.

EP suggested that it would not be a problem to arrange a 'Curry night', as previously mentioned, using a Pub style quiz-night to amuse the brain and a curry to warm the inner self. Let's hope for an early and effective release from the current situation.

The meeting closed after 40 minutes of ZOOM intensity.

No further meetings are arranged.