



Minutes of meeting of Clifton Village Residents Association

**Held at 9 Leabrook Close Green Clifton Village
On Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 8 pm.**

(1) Members present:

Mrs Pat Rice (PR) Mrs Helen Huffer (HH), Mrs Glenys Blacknell (GBI) Mr James Royston (JR)
Mr Phil Bull (PB), Mr. John Woodall (JW) ,Mr Graeme Barker (GB), Mr Ed Peterson (EP)

(2) Apologies: none

(3) Previous Minutes:

JW raised concerns over grammatical inaccuracies that will be corrected by the Secretary prior to on line publication. Other than this the minutes were formally accepted by the committee.
Proposed by JW and seconded by JR.

(4) Matters Arising

Christmas Tree Lights – Action to remain here on minutes until seasonal cheer returns.

Christmas Card donations – it was agreed that these would be passed to the Village Hall to support their development proposals

Newsletter - GB had pursued alternative quotes and the University printers had proved to be the most cost effective for black and white printing.

(5) Chairwoman's Report

Planning Activity

PR noted that it had been a busy period with two public consultations on the Gravel Pit and Housing on the Clifton West site. Over 50 people had attended the Gravel Pit consultation. Details are discussed in the planning section. PR noted that it was really positive to see the Reading Room complete with window boarding removed, and those that had seen inside remarked on a high quality fit out. The building is available for rent.

Alma Davies was thanked for all her hard work in securing the new postal address for the village.

(6) Treasurer's Report

HH presented the Treasurers Report. There has been no income during the last reporting period. Payments of £156.00 were made for the Christmas tree and £144.47 to the Secretary for printing of newsletters and inks. The cost of the tree was thought high by some members and has significantly risen from last year though there was no resolution to consider changing supplier at this time.

HH advised that the drinks licences would be applied for prior to the accounts being submitted to Helen Lander for the annual audit ahead of the AGM. A query was raised regarding ticket shortfall and it was confirmed that no further income had been received following the last meeting. EP noted that it was important to secure all income as the 'profit' margin of all events typically equated to only a handful of tickets.

Tracking of tickets for events was discussed as it was highlighted that most misunderstanding relate to ticket being handed out to those who pay later. It was resolved by the committee not to hand out tickets to those without cash and to ask them to pay on the door. Tickets are to be taken from everyone on entry to events.

CVRA Current Acct	£1,309.19
Deposit Account	£1,845.44

The Treasurers report was proposed by GB, seconded by GBI and accepted by the committee.

(7) Secretary Report

Newsletters

Black and White copy was discussed and it was observed that no negative comments had been received on this. This will be kept under review but the B+W version is to be continued, with selective colour if necessary. GB advised that a single spread of colour raised costs from £86.00, to nearer £140.00 per print run of 20 pages.

Membership

GB handed out 2017-18 membership tickets and Fish and Chip Supper tickets. The question of 'Pie' was raised but following robust support it was resolved to continue to offer this option to those who don't include a pescetarian diet in their repertoire.

AGM

GB advised that an application to join the committee had been received from Kath Kay. This was warmly welcomed by all as Kath regularly helps with village events. GB advised that under the constitution someone would have to step down in order for Kath to join due to their being a maximum number of 9 members allowed at any time. This is to be considered by all ahead of the AGM. *Post meeting note: Viba has offered to stand down due to other commitments but has offered to continue delivering newsletters to Clifton Hall Drive.*

(8) Village Planning Matters

Old Rectory

This old favourite was discussed once more. Much subterfuge and misinformation was fed back to the committee but in the midst of it a kernel of truth emerged. The planners have advised the village that local councillors have made it plain that something firm should be done to improve the state of the building. They are not able to pursue a Compulsory Purchase but are waving a Section 215 notice at the owner requiring restoration works to be undertaken to the boundary, garden and walls (images of Neville Chamberlain's ill fated return from Munich spring to mind). It is rumoured that Mr Kumar's long suffering builder may be back on the scene to undertake this work. We will see. It was resolved for GB to contact the council to find out if the works are to be actioned and when.

Protection of Village Green

Not content with discussing just one drawn out saga, the committee went on to discuss the lack of progress on the green. GB and PR advised the committee that the Council had now made direct contact with the agents in South Africa to seek action of the legal paperwork that is holding up the start of works on site. NCC has advised the CVRA that the contractor is lined up and costs agreed so they can start as soon as possible.

Village Heritage Signage

GB handed out details of the proposed signage and advised that a budget of c. £4000 would be required to make a sign and gain erection, without legal expenses. NCC are supportive of this village initiative but it was resolved to ensure the bollard issue is fully resolved and in hand before raising this as a new query with the Clifton family.

Barton in Fabis Gravel pit

A good attendance was noted at the event on the 22nd though it was observed that the 'feedback sheets' were somewhat hard to find. The team were professional and slick, but it was noted that the site is not on the allocated list. A pre-emptive planning application is predicted. **Action:** GB will continue to liaise with Julian Coles in Barton to see whether something is lodged so that further objections can be raised. PR is to contact Lilian Greenwood to ensure she is aware of the situation. JR was thanked for attending the mirror event in Barton on the 16th, where there was a good turn out and much opposition.

Barton Green Housing (site known as Clifton West)

Concerns were raised by the committee regarding the proposals. The narrow access was thought insufficient to serve the estate, and there was concern over provision of open space and protection of the adjacent woods. GB advised that the site the allocated for housing and that the strategy documents required a buffer to the woods and over 2 hectares of open space. **Action:** All members to notify the committee if an application is lodged. GB to talk to Rob Percival about likely timescale for submittal.

(9) Neighbourhood Watch

No new Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator has been identified. Simon Massarella and Helen have another potential candidate who is to be consulted, along with the chair of the Gervase Gardens Association, but if these fail it was resolved to ask the police to speak about this role to promote it and confirm what it entailed at the forthcoming AGM. No new crime or security issues were raised.

(10) Social Events

Fish and Chip Supper

Action: PR / HH are to talk to Mel about Fish and Chip supply.

Action: GB to confirm time of access to all for set out on Saturday afternoon.

Action: JR to ensure a surfeit of claret and cabernet sauvignon is available to fuel the festivities.

Summer Garden Party

GBI confirmed that the well oiled catering team (interpret as you will) are up for another summer run. The committee are very grateful for this continued dedication to the cause. Help was offered by GB (well Jill by proxy) and others. GB confirmed the hall is booked for the Saturday.

Action: GB/JR - Pimms to be purchased when prices go below £14.00 per litre.

Quiz Evening

GB confirmed that the hall was booked for 11th November 2017. Ed has much to live up to. Expectations are high. Ticket sales will need to be limited. Touts will be barred from future events.

New Events for 2017 - candlelit ball / dinner in the Church

Further discussions with the Church team are very supportive of the idea but the diary contains many events and care needs to be taken to select a suitable date in the autumn. Catering has not advanced but a string quartet may be available. A ticket price of c. £20 was discussed.

Action: All members to forward any quotes or possible contacts for catering to GB so that this can be reported on at the next meeting.

(11) AOB

Village Hall Update

Revised plans for extension of the Village Hall will be presented at the Village Hall AGM on the 17th May.

AGM

Action: GB to check hall booking with Clare Ashton and advise committee of when we have access to set out the room. GB to ensure police are invited.

Fence Encroachment to Nethergate

It was noted by members that a new fence has been built some 10-12 feet into Nethergate at the junction with Farriers Green. This is to be investigated and raised as a query with the Council if found to be true.

Next meeting Tuesday 13th June 8.00 pm at 9 Leabrook Close