

BEECHES COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of Meeting held on 15 April 2010

Present:

Malcolm Lewis (Chairman), Liza Darroch (Churn Project), Cllr Caroline Braidwood, Cllr John Burgess, Gerald Ace, Janet Broomfield, Tony Cooper, Doug Emmott, Rose Leicester, Mike Jupp, Jenny Smith, Roger Sweeting, A M Jones, Anne Beresford, Shirley & Andrew Lambert, Meryl Aldis and David.

1. **Louise Little and Sue Ponting, Cotswold District Council's Environmental Wardens - Dog Fouling**

Action: It was very disappointing that the Officer's did not attend and it was agreed to follow this up.
CB

2. **Apologies**

John Lester, Shirley Alexander and Claire Bartlett (Fosseway HA)

To Approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 11 March 2010

Item 5.2 amended to read: RS exchanged emails with Mike Barton and not met. The minutes were then approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes that are not Included on the Agenda**

Draft CNP and Chesterton and Watermoor Group Leaflets were circulated. LD explained how the leaflets had been developed. Beeches leaflet is still not available and would be in green. It was agreed to print 100 Beeches leaflets primarily for the Funday and also litter picks.

4. **Agency Reports**

Town, District and County Councillors

John Burgess (District) explained about the Beeches Road parking scheme and CDC's Parking Strategy Consultation.

Caroline Braidwood (Town) explained about Ward Grants and that support is needed to develop the Advent Market.

Housing Associations

In CIB's absence Fosseway was congratulated on the raised beds, green house, water collection system and shed at Austin Road Flats.

Police

Not available due to Panel meeting tonight.

5. **Partnership Update**

Working with Watermoor and Chesterton Community Groups, Stratton Association and developments for Whiteway and Park

It was noted that Watermoor, Chesterton and Beeches are already working together but there is no group in Park Ward although Cllr Tony Curry is intending to make contact with Berkley Court on his return from holiday.

Action:
TC

Articles for Town Guide

Articles were requested and 250 words about the Beeches Group have been submitted.

6. **Group Reports**

6.1 **Social Responsibility**

Welcome Packs

RS has written to Dobbies, Gardners and Tesco requesting contributions for the packs but has not received responses yet. CDC and Chamber of Commerce were not particularly helpful stating that all relevant information is already available on websites.

Action: Andrea Pellegram and the Town Council are supportive of the scheme and it was agreed that RS would make contact.
RS

Fun Day – the Stand and rota for help

It was agreed that the names of new members signing up to the group would be put in to a draw for a free family tree plan.

Volunteers for the stand: DE, ML, JB, RS, JS, MJ

Churn Newsletter

It was agreed that the content is getting better and better. The new issue is now out.

Junior Wardens Day Out – 13 April

CIB available to report but it was reported that everyone had had a very good time.

Unwanted Mail (DE & ML)

ML and DE reported that they had been to the Post Office about unwanted mail and had been told that it is difficult to opt out. Others reported that it is possible to do online at <http://www.mpsonline.org.uk> It was noted that a considerable amount of mail is now delivered by carriers other than Royal Mail and it was agreed to look into the scheme further.

Action:
DE

Link with Kingshill School (DE)

DE advised that he had been trying to establish a link with Kingshill School for some time to involve pupils with litter picking activities. Litter needs to be cleared on the school site. An eco group at the school have now made contact and wish to develop links.

Action:
DE

6.2 Road Safety Group

Kingshill Development Update (MJ)

MJ advised that:

- Since the concrete barrier has been down only a couple of lorries have attempted to access the site via North Home Road and those have had to turn back.
- There was concern that there will be confusion with the 'Kingshill' signage from the Tesco roundabout.
- The road markings on the roundabout are very confusing and it was agreed to write to Gloucestershire Highways.
- There is less glass on the road indicating fewer accidents.
- The speed limit on the roundabout is 30 mph.
- Construction work has begun on the Care Home but not the residential homes.
- Pavements adjacent to NHR entrance to the site have been repaired by Gloucestershire Highways.
- Residents asked if the cost is being recharged to Berkley Homes rather than ratepayers picking up the bill and JB confirmed that the original agreement required that the work would be done at Berkley Homes' expense.

Action:
JB

CDC's Parking Strategy Consultation

http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=1

Residents were asked to comment.

6.3 Clean Environment

Litter Picking

- Litter picking on City Bank with Watermoor to be repeated on 24 April – no more than 2 hours.
- Include the Old Swan Sanctuary and playing field.
- Continue to work with Watermoor on a monthly basis.
- Needs to be maintained by diligent group of volunteers.
- Trying to establish link with Community Service but litter picking is not considered to be meaningful work.

Railway Track - Mural and Bulb Planting

The pillars are covered in graffiti and it is debateable whether it is worth repainting. It was agreed to wait and see what happens in Chesterton and Watermoor before proceeding.

7. Any Other Business

Any Issues that anyone wants to raise that are not included on the Agenda

The Churn Newsletter

- MJ only requires 60 copies of The Churn instead of 70.
- RS and AL have offered to deliver but not been taken up.
- It was agreed to leave some copies at The Vaults and Beeches shop.

Saplings – MJ brought a hawthorn for everyone to see.

Watermoor Underpass – has remained graffiti-free for 6 weeks.

Beeches Group

- No meeting in August.
- 12 months old in July.
- Consider BBQ with Watermoor and Chesterton.

Watermoor Group - Walking group meeting at Ingleside at 7 pm for themed walks in Citibank –

Thursday, 8 July – The Romans

Thursday, 15 July – The Tudors

Thursday, 22 July – The Home Guard

Thursday, 29 July – Dr Beeching

Nick Bridges (Watermoor Group Chairman) is producing posters.

Community Groups

- There has been a lot more interest in community groups generally.
- LD has made contact with a group in Cheltenham and will be investigating further.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting
Thursday, 13 May 2010 starting at 7.00pm.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.00 pm