

BEECHES COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 9 June 2011

Present:

Malcolm Lewis (Chairman), Janet Broomfield (Treasurer and Social Secretary), Caroline Braidwood (Secretary), 8 Residents, Cllr John Hughes (CTC and CDC) Cllr Peter Braidwood (GCC), Clare Bartlett and James Trotter (BHA), Iain Hamilton (Park Community Group) and Liza Darroch (CNP)

1. Chairman's Report

None

2. Election of Chairman – To serve until the Annual General Meeting in 2012

Malcolm Lewis was unanimously elected to serve as Chairman for the forthcoming year. However, Malcolm said that the job entails a lot more than just chairing meetings and other members are needed to take a more active role. It was agreed that Janet Broomfield would deal with all matters relating to Social Events, Doug Emmot – Litter, Adele Lawrence will cover press and website information, Clare Bartlett and James Trotter - Anti Social Behaviour. Someone is still needed to cover Traffic and Parking. It was agreed to circulate the Churn deadline dates to allow good time to prepare articles.

3. Election of Officers: Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Social Secretary - To serve until the Annual General Meeting in 2012

Vice Chairman – Tony Cooper

Treasurer – Janet Broomfield

Secretary – Caroline Braidwood –

Social Secretary – Janet Broomfield and Assistant – Rose Leicester

The Chairman thanked the Secretary for her work during the past year.

4. Election of Community Building Steering Group - To serve until the Annual General Meeting in 2012

Community Building Steering Group was confirmed as Tony Cooper, Janet Broomfield, Caroline Braidwood, Clare Bartlett, Cllr Mrs Shirley Alexander and Cllr John Hughes.

5. Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Mrs Shirley Alexander, Cllr John Burgess

6. Minutes from the Meeting held on 12 May 2011 Only 60 apartments

The minutes were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

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

None

8. Town, District and County Councillors' Reports

None

9. Cirencester Neighbourhood Partnership

Liza reminded everyone that the next joint Police meeting will take place in Stratton on Thursday, 14 July at 7.30 pm at Stratton Village Hall and will be followed by a presentation by Liza on Cirencester Neighbourhood Partnership.

10. Community Building - Update from the Steering Group

The Chairman pointed out that Ingleside House was the Beeches Community Centre but it had been closed due to lack of use.

The Steering Group showed photographs taken during their visits to Nailsworth and

Finchampstead showing 2 completely different community buildings and then showed a short video of the building of the Finchampstead Centre by the Baptist Church. It was agreed that further options should also be explored including opportunities to work with the Football Club. It was noted that there is will be a Community Room at the Care Centre on Kingshill South and other facilities around the Town that are underutilised. It was agreed that we need to consult as widely as possible using different methods to reach all groups.

Everyone was asked to talk to 10 friends and neighbours in order to take a straw poll in identifying what residents want to see on Beeches and it may be that more people will be found who want to be involved.

Clare Bartlett explained how Bromfords have supported residents in Birmingham to open a Café under a Social Enterprise scheme

It was agreed that the Steering Group should:

- Arrange to talk to Football Club
- Visit Down Ampney Village Hall
- Contact Barbara Pond (GRCC) to progress consultation.
- Write an article for the Churn.

11. Kingshill Development and New Residents

Welcome Packs

Roger Sweeting confirmed that the Waitrose offer of a hot drink for 2 in the coffee shop and a cookery book is now included in the pack together with information on Cirencester Athletics Club and Sure Start but still waiting for the new Stanbrook guide. It was also agreed to include information on the Lewis Lane Mother & Toddlers Group offering a free session.

Kingshill Footpath

- The Chairman advised that he had walked the new path through Kingshill South Estate.
- James Trotter confirmed that the path is from North Home Road and goes down the side of Kingshill. It is open for anyone to walk and will lead to the new bridge. It is a temporary arrangement and will be open until the permanent route is available.
- Cllr Braidwood advised that work on the bridge is due to be started in September when part of the roundabout coned off. Work will be done during the week and roundabout open at weekends. The roundabout will be closed for one night when the main part of the bridge is craned in. It will be fully open after February depending on weather and will be a pedestrian and cycle way with a 1:15 ramp. There will be a zebra crossing from the end of bridge to the garage and the footway will be extended slightly. It was noted that currently the only pedestrian exit from Kingshill South is across the dual carriageway which is very dangerous.
- James confirmed that 12 Bromford houses are now occupied on Kingshill South and the private properties are apparently selling well.
- James advised that he is co-ordinating with the sales office to provide welcome packs.

12. Environmental

Graffiti – Update

Booked for 4 & 5 August beginning at 8.30 am at Kingshill Bridge and will be included in CDC's Summer off the Streets scheme. Anyone can turn up and watch or take part. Graffiti will be painted on 2 main walls and the pillars painted plain. The work will cost £2,000 and this will be covered by Bromfords.

Litter Pick - Update

Doug Emmott confirmed that Highway Maintenance has cleared the overgrowth between pub and railway and that it is too much for 2 people to do on their own. Doug and Malcolm have now cleared all of the litter that can be seen and will wait for the overgrowth to die back before tackling again.

Clare Bartlett advised that this area would appear to have been left off the plans during the housing transfer and she has put it forward for consideration for clearing by Bromfords but will be a one off occasion. It was noted that the roundabout and central reservation on the by-pass was being litter picked today.

13. Community - Social Committee

Weston Super Mare Trip -Wednesday, 3 August

Coach leaves Cirencester at 8.30 am and Weston at 4 pm. Total cost is £395 = just over £6 each. Currently have 30 people booked and hoping that more will come forward by the closing date - 16 July. Alex cars will be able to change the size of the coach up to a couple of weeks beforehand and if numbers are low the group can be added to one of their own trips. James Trotter will include an article in Bromford's newsletter.

Garden Fete – Sunday, 14 August

- The object is to raise money for the Churn
- Stalls will include: Homemade cakes, Bric a brac, Bookstall, Toy stall, Raffle, Water or wine stall, Tombola, Ping pong balls.
- Donations are needed for all of the stalls as well as volunteers to man them and set up and clear up. Please contact Janet Broomfield.
- Bromfords are funding sausages and beef burgers, need a half size freezer for ice creams.
- Janet will open a wholesale account
- Will be open to anyone.

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Will need a working committee from all Wards

14. Any Other Business

None

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 28 July 2011 at Ingleside House starting at 6.30 pm.

It will finish by 7.15 pm to allow people to attend the Watermoor History Walk and concentrate on arrangements for the Fete

The meeting was closed at 8.05 pm