

# **BEECHES COMMUNITY GROUP**

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 10 November 2011**

### **Present:**

Malcolm Lewis (Chairman), Janet Broomfield (Treasurer and Social Secretary), Cllr J Burgess (CTC & CDC & GCC), Cllr Shirley Alexander, Liza Darroch (The Churn), James Totter (Bromford) Adele Lawrence, Michael Jupp, Ros Lewis, Tony Cooper, Kate Willet, Kate Dew, Doug Emmett, Jenny Smith, Meryl Aldis, Rose and John Leicester,

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Caroline Braidwood (Secretary), Roger Sweeting, Clare Bartlett (Bromfords), Claire Charlesworth (Housing 21), and Cllr Peter Braidwood (GCC)

### **2. Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

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

### **3. Matters arising:**

- Too few people living in the Beeches area to make a Post Office a viable business
- Rubbish bins will not be placed in new estates until the roads are adopted. This takes place only when all building work is completed and the roads have been surfaced – could be one or two years from now in some areas.
- Overgrown hedge – being looked into.
- Lost bench – reply awaited – notice board by entry to new estate might be a possible place for relocation when it is recovered/replaced.

### **4. Schools**

In order to accommodate anticipated additional 200+ children and better distribute schools across the town, Glos County Council is planning to take up its option to purchase some of the Town Council land next to Kingshill school. Watermoor school would close in 2013 (?) and the staff and children from the school would move to the new premises. The school is holding an open day on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November. All invited.

This development has considerable implications for the town and the Beeches

1. Many Beeches children will be much closer to their school
2. The planned skate board park will have to be moved
3. Different needs for parking etc
4. There may be possibilities of working jointly with the education authorities to create community facilities linked to/shared with the school – using the £500k Section 106 monies.
5. This could render discussions with the Baptist church irrelevant – but see below.
6. Ideally a land swap will result in CTC taking ownership of the upper half of the playing fields behind Cirencester Primary School on Victoria Road
7. This and the fencing of the school's half of the field will result in securing the footpath from the Beeches to Victoria Road.
8. Kingshill Lane will, eventually, join the Swindon road at a roundabout (also serving the new industrial units) some 100m up from the current (dangerous) Preston Toll Bar junction which will go.
9. Even more ammunition to campaign for better bus services for the Beeches- again some Section 106 monies are available to fund this.

### **5. Community Facility at Kingshill**

SA and LD reported back on the meeting held in the morning between reps of the Community Group, the Baptist Church and Town and District Councils. This group have been asked (following the presentation of the results of the Beeches survey to CTC) to explore how a joint project between the community and the Church might best proceed. The above news re the school may result in different solutions but it was agreed that a sub group (with Shirley A and Clare B representing this group) should meet with two reps from

the Church to work out some of the ways a joint building might be designed, managed and used.

**Action** Cllr S A and CB to report back to the next meeting

## 6. Social Group

29 tickets for the **Christmas dinner** sold and plans are all in hand. More members and guests welcome

**Action:** tell everyone and contact Janet B for tickets

**Queens Jubilee:** Cllr S A who is the Chair for the town reported that over £10k has already been raised and more expected.

Plans include:

**Saturday:** tea and open garden (?) – Lady Bathurst

**Sunday:** Church activities

**Monday:** Town events including:

Afternoon: Parade to Abbey Grounds ending in a Pageant, stalls and other activities

Evening: Music including from the 50s 60s, 70s provided by Deer park School (Kingshill ?)

Singing, Torch Light procession (5 community groups to lead), Fire Works and National Anthem

**Action:** Rose L to represent the group at future meetings next 3pm Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Dec Dyer Street

**ALL needed to volunteer to be stewards and marshals and/or for the torch light parade.**

## 7. Pop In

All plans going well for an opening at the Golden Farm Pub on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 10.30. Amanda (?) will do the honours. From then on the Pop in will open every Monday with activities/speaker once a month. Approx £75 spent on publicity etc.

**Action: ALL** urged to visit the pub which has been beautifully restored and deserves our business. They are planning a boule court and other new development inside and out.

**Subgroup** to increase promotion of the Pop In with posters, a banner, Churn and Bromford Newsletters, CTC and Beeches web sites etc.

## 8. Litter nothing to report.

## 9. Welcome packs items from Waitrose and Gardiners still awaited. New voucher for Leisure Centre needed current one expired Dec 2011.

**Action** for RS

## 10. Emergency Planning: Group was represented at a town training/information session by Janet B.

**Action:** Sub group of Kate W, Kate D, Janet B and Tony C to meet after the meeting and report back to next meeting.

## 11. Parking on Bridge

**Action:** Cllr J B to meet with Chris Franklin to discuss parking and path down to school playing field which is steep and, in the absence of good railings, considered dangerous.

**Footbridge:** progressing well and bulletins much appreciated.

**Kingshill North:** 100 houses now occupied so that road works can commence and footpath is to be enlarged.

**Action** Cllr J B to report back with more detail re the footpath.

## 12. Mulberry Court: Opening went well and all impressed by quality of environment and the facilities on offer. They are currently training staff with a view to taking residents after Christmas (?)

## 13. Any other Business

**1 Kingshill South** –some concerns about the closeness of new houses to back of North

Home Road has resulted in cessation of work in that area also requests not to start work before 7.30 am and to mind language used.

**Action: Michael Jupp** to report back

**2** New allotments will be sited on the Preston side, close to the pylons.

**3** Fosse Close desperately needs resurfacing

**Action:** Cllr J B to check plans.

**4** The introduction of the 20mph limit around the town centre has resulted in some changes eg Beeches road now 30mph (?)

**Action;** Cllr JB to check and to request speed checks on Beeches Road

**5** More volunteers need to distribute the Churn Newsletter.

Kate W, Ros L and Meryl A all volunteered –

**Action: ALL please help if you can**

LD to inform Churn offices

**14. Date of the next meeting Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> of January at Ingleside starting at 6.30 pm.**