

BEECHES COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of Meeting held on 12 January 2012

Present:

Malcolm Lewis (Chairman), Janet Broomfield (Treasurer and Social Secretary), Caroline Braidwood (Secretary), 13 Residents, Cllr Mrs Shirley Alexander (CTC), Cllr P Braidwood (GCC), Cllr J Burgess (CTC & CDC & GCC), Liza Darroch (The Churn), Clare Bartlett (Bromfords), James Trotter (Bromfords), PC Stu Plant and PCSO Renee Morgan, Marilyn Cox (GRCC) and Stephen Wright (CDP), Jamie Walton (CTC)

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed Marilyn Cox and Stephen Wright to the meeting.
Apologies: Keith Handley and Hannah Sturman

2. To Approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 10 November 2011

It was agreed to amend the Minutes at Item 6 to indicate that music would be provided by 'local Bands'. They were then approved as an accurate record.
Proposed by Tony Cooper and Seconded by Cllr Shirley Alexander and signed by the Chairman.

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

Parking on Bridge – Cllr John Burgess

Cllr Burgess had met with Chris Franklin of Gloucestershire Highways and had been informed that parking is not detrimental to the bridge itself but does cause obstruction to traffic on the roundabout. A white line now in place to deter parking so close to the roundabout. They had also discussed the state of the fence on the path down to the School playing field which is dangerous.

Kings Meadow Footpath – Cllr John Burgess

The temporary link will remain for the time being from the end of North Home Road and will continue on to the bridge. The bridge span goes in this weekend
The roads in Cirencester are likely to be a bit chaotic with this bridge work, 5 ways traffic light junction on Lewis Lane closed for resurfacing and Lewis Lane also closed for re-surfacing.

Fosse Close resurfacing – Cllr John Burgess

Highways have acknowledged that it does need resurfacing and it has been put in the diary for next year but there is no exact date yet.

20 mph speed limit – Cllr John Burgess

Highways have also acknowledged that there is a problem between the roundabout on the by-pass and Beeches Road as the sign was in the wrong place but has now been moved.

Churn Distribution – Liza Darroch

Liza advised that she has surveyed the delivery rota and some areas are not receiving the Churn. She asked for new people to come forward and for existing deliveries to take on more.

Bench from London Road

Jamie Walton confirmed that the bench is being refurbished.

4. Chairman's Report

New Year's Eve at the Golden Farm had been heaving and it was good to see so many people who also attend the Pop Inn.

It was agreed to move future meetings to the Golden Farm Inn and to start at 6.30 pm.

Malcolm also advised that the pub is planning to develop 6 Pentanque / Boules courts and came up with : **"The hub is the pub"**.

5. Community Building - Report from the Kingshill Facilities Sub Group and the Report to the Town Council Meeting on 10 February 2012

Jamie Walton (CTC)

Jamie confirmed that the Sub Group had presented a report (previously circulated to BCG) to the Town Council and raised some questions although these were largely superficial.

Cirencester Baptist Church (CBC) is now consulting its members. Unless there is a negative response from CBC the sub group will resume to look at design issues. It has already been established by the sub group that the building must be open at all times in some way to the community including Sundays and this may be restricted to the café. It was noted that plans to develop a primary school on the site are still to be developed. It was also acknowledged that partnership with the CBC is too good an opportunity to miss in order to have a first class community facility.

6. Social Committee

Easter Bonnet Competition at The Golden Farm Inn

- This is to take place on the Easter Bank Holiday Monday, 9 April.
- Andy Brown has agreed to provide prizes.
- Sections will be: Male, Female and Children with a Prize for every child – possibly an Easter egg ?
- We have £49 available in kitty plus other funds in the bank

Summer Fete – The Golden Farm Inn on Sunday, 5 August 2012 from 1 – 4pm

Janet advised that we need more people to come forward to take responsibility for running each stall.

Christmas Party

Mike Jupp advised that he had brought friends from outside of Cirencester to the party and that they had thoroughly enjoyed their evening.

Everyone joined the Chairman in thanking Janet Broomfield for all the work she does for the Group and wished her well on her forthcoming stay in hospital.

7. Reports

Pop Inn Progress at the Golden Farm – Malcolm Lewis (Chairman)

Malcolm advised that the success has been overwhelming even though attendees have now dropped to around 30 people of all age groups. A good low cost lunch is available to residents attending the Pop Inn. The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Andy Brown for his help and providing a sign.

Litter Picking – Doug Emmott

Winter is fairly quietly with litter pickers keeping on top of it.

The Ditch is the next big job and it is hoped to start at new group at Mulberry Court.

Welcome Packs – Roger Sweeting

- Bromfords are delivering packs to their tenants
- Waitrose and Gardner's leaflets have been awaiting collection.
- Kate and Kate now have 40 sets to deliver and Redrow have 10.
- It was agreed to give some to Claire Charlesworth at Mulberry Court.
- The Leisure Centre voucher doesn't expire till 2012
- Will need to put together another 100 in the near future.

The Churn – Liza Darroch

Fun Day – Sunday, 13 May 2012

- Keen that the stalls entertain but not sell.
- May be opportunity to communicate and enlist help for the Jubilee procession.
- Plant sale raising for The Churn itself.
- The Churn will be the main recipient of Cirencester Open Gardens at the beginning of July.
- Copy needed for next Churn. Deadline end of February
- New leaflets were circulated.

Queen's Jubilee – Cllr Shirley Alexander and Rose Leicester

- Lots of plans in place but still waiting for licensing permissions from CDC which are to be decided in March.
- TC has employed Health & Safety events management consultancy
- Coordinators or events are in place to cover each aspect.
- It is hoped that there will be side shows and food outlets and that people will bring their own picnics.
- Residents from the 5 Wards will parade through the 5 entrances into Abbey Grounds
- A singer will lead singing and end with Land of Hope and Glory and God Save the Queen
- Hoping to have beacon on church tower or scouts may light one on the Armada site off the Whiteway.
- Stalls – should be imaginative but no bric a brac
- There will be a parade through the Market Place during the afternoon.
- Will need 40 +people for marshalling and security.

Emergency Planning – Marilyn Cox, Gloucestershire Rural Community Council

Town Council is developing an Emergency plan and needs to have local knowledge: areas with specific problems, elderly, vulnerable people, sites that need extra salting, places of safety, people who are prepared to be contacted when help is needed.

It was agreed that Marilyn would attend the Pop Inn on Monday, 6 February to develop this.

Mulberry Court – Claire Charlesworth

Claire was not available. However, it was agreed to ask if BCG could hold a Coffee Morning

at Mulberry Court to promote the Group. Liza to progress.

Town Council – Locations for Litter, Dog Waste & Grit/Salt Bins

It was agreed that additional grit/salt bins need to be located in the Beeches Road bridge and the Paddock area; Dog poo and litter bins are needed under bridge on the disused railway line.

Police

- Very quiet over Christmas and New Year including the night clubs
- Of all of the 77 crimes in Cirencester in December only 3 were in Beeches: shop lifting – offender caught and dealt with, 1 drugs warrant – cannabis found and offender arrested, robbery on railway line.
- Mobile police station will visit all Wards in Cirencester 1 day per month as a new initiative.
- Community meeting on Monday, 23 January at 7.30 pm at CDC offices following the Watermoor Group meetings

Town Council – Cllr Shirley Alexander

The Town Council element of the Council tax will increase 2012-13 by 7.5% which equates to £4.65 pa for each Band D property.

8. Any Other Business

Stephen Wright - Cirencester Development Partnership – Our Future Cirencester

Stephen explained that the Partnership hopes to bring together ideas to formulate a vision for Cirencester with the Development Trust taking forward some of the projects on a financially sustainable basis. Since time had run out, Stephen was invited to attend the next Group meeting.

Jamie Walton, Urban Community Development Officer, Cirencester Town Council

Jamie explained that Martin Conyers is developing a management plan of the green spaces in the Town and is keen to involve residents. The Friends of City Bank Group are due to meet on Thursday, 26 January 2012 at 7 pm at Cirencester primary school. It is an Open Meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.

9. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 9 February 2012 starting at 6.30 pm. At THE GOLDEN FARM INN

The meeting was closed at 7.55 pm