

The Blackheath Village Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at Winter Meadow on Wednesday 11th June 2008

Present:

Steve Brockwell	Paul Brodie
Jeannie Davies	Dave Grisley
Nick Harrison	Peter Herbert
Nick Morris	Alistair Taylor
Patrick Venning	Sheila Webster
Richard Williams	

1. Apologies: None

2. Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 12th March 2008 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

Flooding and Ditches. See 11. below

4. May Fair Review

This was a great success both in social and in financial terms and Dave Grisley and all others involved in the preparation and planning of the Fair were warmly congratulated. The financial result is that a surplus of approximately £10,000 is available for distribution (See below under 4.)

The Treasurer reported that the new financial arrangements both before and on the day worked well and enabled the finance team to obtain a realistically accurate assessment of the financial results within a very short time after the Fair thereby enabling the committee to communicate an initial prognosis promptly to the village. However, it was recognised that the committee should be conservative in its early assessment of available funds in order to avoid expectations which might subsequently need to be dampened when final figures are available.

The food and drinks stalls ran out of products relatively early and therefore, consideration should be given for more stalls of this kind in future.

For various reasons it had proved problematical to obtain the necessary licence for the Fair this year and consideration should be given in due course to whether the BVS should approach Waverley Borough Council, if Peter Herbert were agreeable, to ascertain whether the verges could be removed from the Waverley management lease and let directly to the BVS. This will be considered further in due course.

5. Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer had distributed a short report dated 7th June prior to the meeting (copy enclosed) and the following was agreed:

- (a) In view of the fact that under, the existing arrangements, the separate account which was being operated for the War Memorial Fund had attracted very little interest over some years, the following resolution was agreed after discussions with the Hayward family:

“That the funds in the War Memorial Fund separate BVS bank account be combined with the rest of the BVS funds and the separate bank account be closed,

That the restricted War Memorial Fund continues to be separately accounted for and used solely for the maintenance and restoration of the Blackheath War Memorial, that withdrawals from it must have the prior approval in writing of any two of the three issue of Mr Frank Hayward – that is Mr Colin Hayward, Mr Graham Hayward and Mrs Jacky Beadell – or of such one, two or three of their direct descendants as may subsequently be agreed with the BVS Committee,

That the War Memorial Fund should be credited with its proportionate share of the highest interest rate earned by BVS bank deposits and That the War Memorial Fund should be identified within the BVS Annual Accounts, showing interest credited to it, any other monies credited to it and all expenditures from it”.

- (b) All cheques drawn on BVS accounts should continue to require two signatures.
- (c) The Treasurer was authorised to sound out a suitable person to act as auditor.
- (d) An additional £31 was agreed to be made available to the proponents of the Well scheme.

6. Decision on the amount available for distribution

Following consideration of the Treasurer’s report and consideration of likely calls on BVS funds during the forthcoming year it was agreed in view of the fact that the BVS finances appeared to be in a healthy state after some years of financial good management, that the sum of £10,000 would be made available for distribution. Distributions would be approved by the committee following consideration of applications in due course. In this regard, the donations sub-committee will meet during the second half of September to consider applications received by the 1st September.

7. Proposal to change the date of the AGM to May/June

8. Proposal to change the BVS financial year to the calendar year

The Chairman had circulated a paper dated 10th June commenting on these inter-related issues (papers attached) before the meeting. For the reasons set out in that note it was agreed in principle that:

- (a) The BVS AGM would henceforth be held in June.
- (b) The BVS financial year will henceforth run from 1st January to 31st December.
- (c) The village would be asked to approve these amendments at the January 2009 AGM.

It was recognised that these proposed amendments may require some fine tuning of the timetable which was agreed as part of the BVS Financial Management and Distribution Policy which was agreed at the AGM in January 2008. Furthermore, it follows if these arrangements are approved at the next AGM in January 2009 that the current financial year will run from 1st September 2008 until 31st December 2009 and that the next AGM will not be until June 2010.

9. Village Audit

There were no further substantive developments to report.

10. Trust Deed and Trustees

Richard Williams undertook to prepare a draft trust deed over the summer and this issue would be considered at the next committee meeting.

Action

Richard Williams

11. Flooding and ditches

Steve Brockwell reported that Waverley has limited funding available for replacing/improving ditches and that he was pressing them to assist. The petition which he had organised has now been submitted and this has helped to persuade Surrey Highways to take the issue seriously. They have promised to install soakways where necessary and new pipes have been laid to draw off the excess water. The culvert under the cross-roads is now flowing and consultation has started with individual house-holders as to possible long-term solutions.

Steve was encouraged by the committee to continue his hard work and thanked for his sterling efforts to date.

Action

Steve Brockwell

12. Newsletter

It was agreed that a further newsletter would be distributed during the first week of July if possible.

Action

Jeannie Davies and Sheila Webster

13. Any Other Business

Expressions of thanks had been received from the Church, the Cricket Club and the Village Hall for the funds that the BVS had been able to donate earlier in the year all of which were being put to good use. A brief report on how the money was being used was made by Alistair Taylor for the Church, Nick Harrison for the Cricket Club and Steve Brockwell for the Village Hall.

14. Dates for the Diary

The next committee meeting was fixed for 8pm on **Wednesday 1st October.**

Richard Williams
Secretary

