

The Blackheath Village Society

Draft minutes of the Committee Meeting held at “Winter Meadow” on Wednesday 9th June 2010

Present:

Paul Brodie	Sheila Webster
Jeannie Davies	
Nick Harrison	
Nick Morris	
Patrick Venning	
Alistair Taylor	

1. Apologies: Richard Williams, Peter Herbert, Steve Brockwell, Dave Grisley

2. Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 10th March 2010 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

(a) Village Audit

Alistair reported that he has yet to complete his redraft of the existing report prepared by Sarah Henderson, but will seek to do so over the next few weeks.

Action: Alistair Taylor

(b) Future legal status of the BVS

Nick Harrison reported that he had spoken to the Charity Commissioners that day and had been advised that there would be further delays in the introduction of the necessary legislation making it possible for the society to convert itself into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Charity Commissioners now advised that it was anticipated that this legislation would be introduced in the course of 2011. After discussion, it was agreed that there was nothing which could usefully be done in the meantime, pending the introduction of this legislation.

(c) Village well project

Since the last meeting all the legal documentation for the restored village well had been duly completed between the Society, Wonersh Parish Council, Waverley and Peter Herbert, and the well itself had been constructed. It was agreed that the opening ceremony and subsequent village barbecue had been a resounding success, and much appreciated by the guests of honour, Billie Hockley and Hilda Beasley.

Patrick Venning reported that the grant of £8,907 to Wonersh Parish Council for the cost of the well had been paid.

Paul Brodie reported that he had discussed with Roy Enticknap the installation of a wooden seat inside the well structure, and it was agreed that this work would be carried out, subject to the formal approval of Wonersh Parish Council, which Nick Morris would seek. The estimated cost of the seat was £200-400. It was further agreed that Paul Brodie would investigate the cost of

producing a plinth showing the Harrison Townsend buildings in the village, for possible installation either in the well structure or elsewhere in the village.

Action: Paul Brodie, Nick Morris

4. Fair report

In the absence of Dave Grisley, Alistair Taylor reported that the fair had been generally very successful, notwithstanding the weather. He further reported that the fair organisation had generally worked better than ever, with the burden being shared around more widely than in previous years.

There was a short discussion of whether in some future year (possibly 2012) there should be a year without a fair and instead a major village event of a different kind, such as a street party. No conclusion was reached, but it was agreed that opinion should be canvassed on this possibility at a future date, possibly at the 2011 AGM. It was agreed that in any event there would be a fair in 2011.

5. Treasurer's Report.

Patrick Venning presented his report dated 9th June (attached hereto).

It was noted that a "customary donation" had been made to the village hall in 2008 but not in 2009, although a substantial donation had been made in 2009 in response to a bid by the village hall for funding. It was agreed that in 2010 and future years a customary donation of £500 would be made to the village hall on the same footing as the similar donations made to the Friary, Scouts and Chilworth and Womersley and Shamley Green Village Schools (i.e. the full donation would be made only if the fair was successful).

6. Amount of funds available for distribution

It was noted from Patrick Venning's report that there were various sums expected by the Society but not yet received, including in particular £1,500 by way of sponsorship and approximately £800 in Gift Aid tax rebate. In the circumstances, it was agreed that a provisional figure only should be announced as the amount available for distribution, and that this provisional figure should be £8,000.

It was further agreed that, at the time of making the announcement and inviting bids for funding, it should be made clear that the committee might decide that some part of the funds should be retained for works for the general benefit of the village rather than being distributed to external bidders.

7. Traffic Calming

Nick Morris stated that there was nothing further to report since the previous committee meeting.

8. Barnett Hill Transport Management Consultation Committee

Nick Morris and Alistair Taylor reported that a BVS representative had been invited to sit on the Transport Management Consultation Committee established by Barnett Hill pursuant to the conditions under which they were granted planning consent for a change of use.

It was agreed that this invitation would be accepted and that Alistair Taylor would be the Village Society representative on the committee.

9. AGM

(a) Next year's committee

Nick Harrison announced that he had decided to step down as Chairman of the Society at the conclusion of the forthcoming AGM, and that he had spoken to Alistair Taylor about whether he would be willing to take over the Chairmanship. Alistair indicated that he was prepared to do so.

Nick further reported that Alan Barlow had agreed to take over from Patrick as Treasurer following the AGM, and that absent any other candidates Nick was himself willing to take over the role of Secretary from Richard Williams, who was also stepping down.

The committee fully endorsed all these proposals, subject to the election (or re-election) of the relevant persons at the forthcoming AGM.

It was agreed that Nick and Alistair would take soundings in relation to the position of other members of the committee and possible new members of the committee over the next few days.

Action: Nick Harrison, Alistair Taylor

(b) Practical arrangements

It was agreed that an invitation to nominate new members of the committee would be circulated to the village not less than one week prior to the AGM.

Action: Nick Harrison

10. Dates for the Diary

AGM – 23 June 2010

No date was set for the next committee meeting