

# The Blackheath Village Society

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at “The Old Post Office” on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Present:

Alan Barlow (Treasurer)	Peter Herbert
Steve Brockwell	Penny Kirkwood
Paul Brodie	Nick Morris
Julie Firth	Alistair Taylor (Chairman)
Nick Harrison (Secretary)	Hamish Whiteman

Apologies: Dave Grisley

### 1. Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010 were approved.

### 2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

### 3. Trust Deed

AT informed the committee that he had discussed the problem of the absence of a trust deed with Stephen Drewitt, who had obtained advice from a colleague specialising in charity matters. A short proposed deed to be entered into by the existing trustees had been suggested. It was agreed that AT would seek the advice of the Charity Commissioners on the proposed deed and also on the inclusion of a provision either in the deed or in the constitution (or both) giving the committee the power to appoint replacement trustees.

**Action: AT**

### 4. Financial Report

AB presented his report (copy annexed).

- (a) It was agreed that the value of the fair equipment in the accounts (currently stated at £1,500) would be written down to zero.

**Action: AB**

- (b) It was agreed that AB would write to the Village Hall treasurer, Graham Fowler, with regard to the Village Hall Gift Aid Scheme, which has hitherto operated on the charity number of the Village Society, proposing that he take steps to amend the scheme so that in future it operates on the Village Hall charity number and is administered solely by the Village Hall.

**Action: AB**

- (c) A resolution was passed approving a change of signatories on the Society's account with HSBC in the terms of the draft resolution on the HSBC mandate form. The new signatories are to be AT, AB, NH and DG. AB will complete the necessary formalities to complete the change of signatories on the Society's accounts with both HSBC and CCLA.

**Action: AB**

- (d) It was agreed that the provisional figure of **£8,000** agreed at the last committee meeting as the total amount available for both village projects and for external distribution should stand.

## 5. Forthcoming events

- (a) It was agreed that there would be a total budget of £1,000 for the Society's Christmas parties and the Terry Fincher Memorial Photo Competition.
- (b) PH kindly agreed that a Christmas tree from the heath could be felled and erected outside the village hall.
- (c) It was agreed that GW would be asked to lead the carol singing outside the Village Hall on Christmas Eve.

**Action: SB**

**Action: AT**

## 6. Applications for funding and village projects

- (a) It was reported that the Distributions Sub-Committee had received bids from the Village Hall Management Committee, the Care Team, the Blackheath and Bramley Choral Society, the Traffic Calming Committee, Womersley and Shamley Green Infant School and the Cricket Club. The sub-committee had not yet met pending the decision of the committee on the amount available for distribution to external bidders.
- (b) It was agreed that, in view of the committee's previous decision that in future years some part of the Society's funds should be devoted to village projects, there should be a review of the procedure for deciding on distributions of funds, including the order of the meetings of the committee and sub-committee.
- (c) AT outlined briefly to the committee a first draft of a revised village audit report which he was working on, and which had identified various matters which might require funding by the Society in future.
- (d) It was resolved after discussion that this year the sum of **£2,500** out of the total available figure of £8,000 should be retained for village projects, and accordingly that the sum of £5,500 should be made available for distribution to external bidders by the sub-committee.  
[**Note:** it was subsequently agreed that the sum of £400 should be allocated towards the cost of a new village noticeboard (see item 8(j) below) and that the amount available for distribution to external bidders should be reduced to **£5,100.**]

## 7. Village and third party representations

- (a) AT reported that concerns had been expressed about visitors to the village, largely walkers, parking on the road near the top car-park and thereby obstructing access for residents. It was agreed that AT would ask Sarah Henderson if a new sign could be placed at the entrance to the top car-park requesting visitors to park in the car-park near the Hallams if the top car-park was full.

**Action: AT**

- (b) AT reported that the National Trust had informed him that they were going to fell some trees in the area to the north-east of the War Memorial.
- (c) It was noted that the Village Archive Exhibition had been a resounding success and the committee unanimously agreed a vote of thanks and congratulations to its principal organisers, Jayne Barlow and Graham Hayward.

## 8. Members' reports

- (a) It was agreed that JF would talk to Matthew Burns about substituting Pewleys for Burns & Webber as the sponsors of the village pack for new residents.  
**Action: JF**
- (b) SB reported that various works to the Village Hall were being considered by the Village Hall Management Committee.
- (c) It was agreed that PB would produce the next issue of the Newsletter in early December.  
**Action: PB**
- (d) PB reported that he had asked Roy Enticknap to construct a bench inside the new village well, but that he did not yet have a cost estimate for this. He also reported that the installation of a plaque showing the Harrison Townsend buildings in the village was still under discussion.
- (e) It was agreed that Sarah Henderson should be reminded about the need to reseed the area around the well this autumn.  
**Action: AT**
- (f) NH reported that the cricket club's plans for a new pavilion were still under consideration, but that it was hoped that the proposed consultation meeting with the village would take place at some point in the next few weeks.
- (g) PK reported on the work of the Care Team.
- (h) HW reported that the Franciscans would definitely be leaving the Friary on 31/12/10, but that there was still not definite news on what would happen to the Friary thereafter. It was agreed that HW would discuss with the friars what would be an appropriate event for villagers to mark the friars' departure.  
**Action: HW**
- (i) PH stated that he intended to propose that the village erect a plaque of some kind in memory of the Canadian regiment stationed in Blackheath during World War II. This suggestion met with general approval.
- (j) NM stated that Wonersh Parish Council had offered to fund 50% of the cost of a new village noticeboard outside the Village Hall, on the footing that the Village Hall funded 25% and the Society funded 25%. The total cost of this was estimated to be £1,600 and accordingly the Society's contribution would be £400. It was agreed to proceed with this proposal and NM was asked to inform the other parties accordingly.  
**Action: NM**
- (k) NM reiterated that he would be standing down as a parish councillor next year and requested all committee members to consider who might

be persuaded to replace him as Blackheath's representative on the Council.

**9. Web-site**

It was agreed that AT would talk to Simon Jones about updating the information on the village web-site.

**Action: AT**

**10. Dates for the Diary**

Next meeting – Tuesday 23 November 2010

Christmas party – Saturday 11 December 2010

Nick Harrison  
Secretary