

The Blackheath Village Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at “The Old Post Office” on Tuesday 17th May 2011

Present:

Alistair Taylor (Chairman)	Penny Kirkwood
Nick Harrison (Secretary)	Dave Grisley
Hamish Whiteman	Steve Brockwell
Peter Herbert	
Paul Brodie	

Apologies: Alan Barlow, Julie Firth, Nick Morris

1. Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 15th February 2011 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Compliance

NH is in discussion with Richard Williams about the collation of all of the Society’s governing documents and important correspondence that will be kept by the secretary – to be progressed.

Action: NH

4. Distribution of Funds

All distributions have now been made from last year’s fair and letters of thanks received. HW raised a query as to the amount of the distribution to Wonersh and Shamley Green School; AT to check with AB that the correct amount was distributed.

Action: AT

5. Financial Report

AB will provide a written financial report when he returns from abroad.

Action: AB

6. Events

a) Next year’s Village Fair

It was agreed that next year’s Village Fair would take place on the early May bank holiday, which will be 7th May 2012.

It was agreed that Peter Walshaw would be approached and asked if he would be willing to chair the fair organising committee.

Action: SB/AT

PB will ask Mo Kimmins if he would be willing to store the 2 pieces of fair equipment currently in the cricket club car park.

Action: PB

b) This year's Village BBQ

It was confirmed that this year's village BBQ would take place on Sunday 29th May. HW to organise; notice to village to go out as soon as possible.

Action: HW/NH

c) Diamond Jubilee celebration

It was agreed that (subject to confirmation from the cricket club that the ground would be available, to be sought by NH) the village would hold a party on the day of the Diamond Jubilee next year, Tuesday 5th June. This would be in the form of the usual village BBQ, but with a Diamond Jubilee theme. HW/DG to organise.

Action: HW/DG/NH

7. Village Vision / Village Projects

a) A sub-committee of PH, SB, NM & AT is due to meet with a view to producing a document for the committee to consider and for subsequent presentation at the AGM.

Action: PH/SB/NM/AT

b) PB is exploring with Sarah Henderson a proposal to move the car park at the top of the village to another location.

c) It was agreed that AT would act as liaison with Waverley in making representations on behalf of the village, and would request regular (probably quarterly) meetings with Sarah Henderson to relay villagers' concerns.

Action: AT

8. Village Hall

SB reported that there were 2 major issues facing the Village Hall in the near future:-

a) The car parking area on the verge to the west of the hall had become so badly eroded that unless remedial action were taken within about 18 months it was likely to become unusable as cars would ground on it, and this would have very serious consequences for the viability of the village hall. A proposal had been put forward to raise the area immediately in front of the garage with railway sleepers, however a different form of edging was required for the car-parking area. It was considered that granite sets were probably the best option, however they were expensive and any works within 1.5m of the road would have to be approved by Surrey Highways and carried out by an approved contractor. SB indicated that an application for significant funding towards this from the BVS was likely in due course.

b) Recladding of the roof and walls around the stage area to the rear of the building would be necessary within the next 2-3 years. A quotation had been obtained to do this with steel sheets at a cost of approximately £7,000, however there were concerns as to whether this material was suitable. Again, an application for significant funding towards this from the BVS was likely in due course.

9. Pub

- a) PB gave a brief report to the committee on discussions which had taken place with the freeholder about the possibility of acquiring the freehold of the pub on behalf of the village. It was agreed that PB and AT would draft a brief statement to the village about this for consideration by the committee and subsequent distribution to the village.

Action: AT/PB

- b) It was noted that rubbish and debris on the common to the rear of the pub was now worse than ever. It was agreed that a working party would be organised to clear this up.

Action: AT/SB

10. Resolutions

- a) A vote of thanks to Nick Morris for his tireless work as Parish Councillor over many years was unanimously passed.
- b) It was resolved that, between now and the AGM, PB and NM would swap roles on the BVS committee, so that PB became forthwith the Parish Council representative.

11. AOB

- a) PB noted that central government are encouraging all communities to provide a children's play area and PB had been tasked by the parish to ascertain whether this is something that Blackheath would like to pursue. PB noted that it is unclear as to what funding might be available for such a project and obviously a suitable location would have to be acquired. The various merits and possible issues were discussed. It was agreed that PB would explore this idea further and consult more widely including discussing with the cricket club whether it could be located at the club.

Action: PB

- b) PB sought confirmation as to whether the BVS would be contributing to the cost of the new notice board outside the village hall on the basis that it would have part use of that notice board. It was confirmed that the BVS would contribute 25% of the cost (£250 plus VAT) in return for use of 25% of the notice board.
- c) NH reported that the cricket club pavilion appeal launch would be taking place on Friday at the club.
- d) It was agreed that there should be a further newsletter in early July. NM to be asked if he would be willing to take responsibility for producing this.

Action: AT

12. Dates for the Diary

Next meeting – Tuesday 21st June

AGM – Tuesday 5th July

Nick Harrison