

The Blackheath Village Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at “The Old Post Office” on Tuesday 24th April 2012

Present:

Alistair Taylor (Chairman)	Hamish Whiteman
Nick Harrison (Secretary)	Dave Grisley
Nick Morris	Steve Brockwell
Peter Herbert	Penny Kirkwood
Julie Firth	

Apologies: Paul Brodie, Alan Barlow

Prior to the meeting there was a short presentation to Sarah Henderson, who is shortly leaving her post as Waverley’s Countryside Ranger: see item 6 below. Sarah was presented with a Terry Fincher print and thanked on behalf of the village for her work over the past 16 years in Blackheath.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 31st January 2012 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Events

a) Terry Fincher memorial photo competition

It was agreed that entries would be invited for this over a period later in the year – a reminder to the village would be sent out after discussion with Jayne Barlow.

Action: AT

b) Diamond Jubilee celebration

HW gave an update on the proposed street party and related competitions and events, details of which would be contained in a flyer to be circulated shortly to the village.

Action: HW/DG

4. May Fair

SB gave an update on preparations for the Fair, and there was a discussion about further steps needed. It was agreed that AT, DG and SB would meet to divide the work of organising the remaining stalls.

Action AT/DG/SB

5. Pub

Concerns had been expressed by several villagers about the deteriorating state of the pub and many residents were asking whether there was any progress

with the freeholders. It was reported that discussions with PH concerning the car-park were expected to be finalised shortly, following which it was anticipated that there would be a renewed approach to Wellington.

Action: AT, PB

6. Ranger

Sarah Henderson will be leaving her post as Waverley's Countryside Ranger at the end of April, to take up a post with the Earl of Leicester at Holkham Hall in Norfolk with responsibility for the coastal nature reserve on his estate. The committee expressed its thanks to Sarah, who will be sorely missed. It was reported that Sarah's replacement, David Edwards, would be taking up the position in about mid-May.

7. Village Plan and Village Projects

- a) SB reported that the proposal to repair and protect the verge and parking area below the village hall had now been finalised, and that it had been agreed in principle that this would proceed. The total cost of £7500 would be met as to 1/3 by the BVS, 1/3 by the Village Hall and 1/3 by Waverley BC and Surrey County Council.

Action: SB

- b) It was reported that it had been decided after discussions with Sarah Henderson that the planting of a tree to replace the recently-felled cherry tree on the verge opposite the Old Post Office would proceed next autumn. A suitable tree had been selected.

Action: AT

8. Lynes Farm drainage update

AT reported that although he had been informed by Surrey Highways that a budget had been allocated to carry out the drainage works required to resolve this issue some time ago, still nothing had been done despite his chasing them repeatedly for action. It was further reported that there had been a recent serious incident after a resident's car which went through the flood subsequently suffered an electrical short circuit and caught fire.

It was resolved that AT would write a further letter to Surrey Highways referring to this incident and making clear that unless the matter were resolved shortly, the BVS would escalate the matter, by involving our local councillors, MP and the press.

Action: AT

9. Traffic

James Collins had expressed continuing concern about the speed of traffic in the centre of the village. It was agreed that James would be invited to form part of a new traffic calming group.

Action: AT

10. Dates for the Diary

No date was set for the next meeting.

Nick Harrison
9/5/12