

The Blackheath Village Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at “Theobalds” on Wednesday Tuesday 5th February 2013

Present:

Alistair Taylor (Chairman)	Hamish Whiteman
Nick Harrison (Secretary)	Penny Kirkwood
Alan Barlow (Treasurer)	Steve Brockwell
Peter Herbert	Paul Brodie
Nick Morris	Julie Firth
Dave Grisley	Jayne Barlow (co-opted member)

Apologies: There were no apologies.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 1 August 2012 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Committee changes

There were no matters to discuss.

4. Compliance

There were no matters to discuss.

5. Financial report

(a) AB presented a financial report to the committee. He reported that the society currently held approximately £14,500, of which approximately £4,500 was ring-fenced for the War Memorial Fund and for village projects, leaving approximately £10,000 available for the running of the society and the fair. He reported that the society's accounts had been duly filed with the Charity Commissioners.

(b) AB further reported that the existing village hall Gift Aid scheme operated through the society was being wound up and transferred to a new scheme operated through the village hall, although it was likely that the money would continue to pass through a BVS account for the time being.

6. Village Vision

(a) SB reported that the work to the verge below the village hall had been duly completed but had recently been damaged by a truck. The company responsible had undertaken to repair the damage, but there was an ongoing problem of damage as a result of the continuing wet weather. Various options were discussed. It was noted that the use and ongoing maintenance of the verge was primarily a hall management issue. The BVS would consider further assistance to support the hall if and when any firm proposal were to be brought forward by the hall.

(b) SB reported on the formation of the new volunteer working group. This had been established through Waverley BC, who had paid half of the insurance premium. This meant that villagers could now conduct working parties on Waverley managed land in the absence of David Olliver, although they could not use power tools. There was a discussion of the programme of works which would be undertaken by the group, and SB explained that the first task was to be the clearing of scrub and planting near the cross-roads. It was agreed that the village vision sub-committee would meet with David Olliver to formalise what had been agreed and discuss a future programme of works. **Action SB**

(c) PB mentioned that several villagers had expressed concern about parking along the road beyond the top car-park, which was causing an obstruction which could impede emergency vehicles, and about damage to the verge in the same area. It was agreed that PB would approach David Olliver and also the National Trust representative (who had previously indicated that damage caused to the verge by NT vehicles would be repaired by the NT) about this issue. **Action PB**

(d) DG asked whether any further progress had been made with the idea of a plaque and bench to go inside the well. PB said that he would see if a suitable plaque could be produced and AT said that he would progress the proposal for a bench: **Action PB and AT**

(e) HW raised the possibility of restoring additional vistas from the War Memorial. It was agreed that this idea should be pursued with the National Trust. **Action HW**

7. Forthcoming events

(a) JB reported that the Terry Fincher memorial photo competition had been announced to the village, and a few entries had already been submitted. It was proposed that they would be displayed at the fair, when a winner would be chosen. **Action: JB**

(b) There was a discussion of the village archive, which JB said was proposed to be stored in the village hall. It was also proposed to have an electronic version of the archive, which could be linked to the village website.

(c) There was a discussion about the organisation of the May Fair. NO main organiser had been identified, however it was agreed that an initial meeting of the Fair Organising Sub-Committee would take place on Tuesday 12th February, to be attended by at least AT, DG, SB, James Collins and Peter Walshaw. **Action AT, DG, SB**

8. Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

9. Village and Third Party Representations

(a) PB reported that a letter had been sent to Waverley on behalf of the society nominating the Villagers Pub as an asset of community value. This had been signed by the overwhelming majority of households in the village. There was a discussion of what further steps could be taken to bring pressure on the freeholders.

(b) AT reported that the flood mitigation works near Lynes Farm would finally be commencing on Monday 11 February, when Blackheath Lane would be closed for 2 weeks.

(c) There was a discussion of the recent low cost housing exhibition. It was reported that one of the possible sites that had been mentioned was off Blackheath Lane close to Wonersh, but no scheme had yet been worked out and consultations were still at a preliminary stage. It was agreed that the society should maintain a watching brief.

(d) NH reported that the pavilion project was progressing well. He indicated that the permitted use of the pavilion would shortly be finalised with Waverley and in that regard it was proposed that there would be further discussions with the club's immediate neighbours and representatives of the village hall to define precisely the permitted extent of use by Blackheath residents for community activities.

10. Dates for the Diary

The date for the next meeting was set for Tuesday 16th April 2013.

Nick Harrison
10/2/13