

# **The Blackheath Village Society**

## **Annual General Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2013.**

The AGM of the BVS was held at the **Blackheath Village Hall at 8pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June following drinks and nibbles at 7-30pm.**

Chairman: Alistair Taylor

Secretary (Acting): Hamish Whiteman

### **1. Apologies**

Various apologies from BVS committee members and others were tabled and accepted.

### **2. Minutes of the 2012 AGM**

The Minutes of the 2012 BVS annual general meeting were table and accepted without comment.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

Alistair Taylor reported that the year to June 2013 had been an extremely busy one with all of the annual events taking place. Particular mention went to a very successful 2013 May Fair, an equally successful 2012 Village Party to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and Tea with the Queen Exhibition and the 2012 Village Christmas Party.

The following items were discussed in detail:

#### **Village Vision & Volunteer Group**

Steve Brockwell reported that good progress was being made with the Blackheath Village Vision with Sarah Henderson and more latterly with David Oliver who has taken over Sarah's role as Ranger for Blackheath Common. The Village Volunteer group is an informal organisation which Steve runs to carry out certain work on the heathland agreed with David Olliver and in accordance with the Village Vision. The Volunteer Group is insured, with half of the premium being paid by Waverley Borough Council and the remainder by the BVS. It undertakes up to 12 sessions during any year. Steve encouraged everyone to join in with the working parties.

## **Flood Mitigation Works**

AT reported that the flood mitigation works along Blackheath Lane had been carried out and had been successful in mitigating flash-flooding and standing water along the lane. For the works to continue to be successful into the medium term maintenance would be necessary to remove silt from the drainage areas.

## **Traffic Sub-Committee**

Jan Cope wanted to recreate the previously successful BVS sub-committee aimed at raising both residents and visitors awareness of driving slowly and carefully through the Village with a particular aim to protect the children living in the Village. The possibility of car-stickers was raised and the Cricket Club agreed to mention the issue to its membership.

## **Villagers Pub**

AT confirmed that the pub was still closed and that in its continued state of dilapidation was not positive. It was noted that Paul Brodie had lodged an application with Waverley Borough Council to have the pub listed as an Asset of Community Value which, if successful, would assist in retaining the current building for use as a pub rather than for potential residential redevelopment.

## **Cricket Club Social Membership**

AT reported that as part of the donation to the Cricket Club from Village Fair proceeds, the Cricket Club had agreed that all residents of the Village are Social Members of the Cricket Club. He encouraged all residents to take advantage of this membership to ensure that the Cricket Club continues to flourish for the benefit of the Club and the Village.

## **Village Website and Emails**

It is planned that all Village documents will be available for viewing on the Village website ([www.blackheathsurrey.co.uk](http://www.blackheathsurrey.co.uk)) with Simon Jones keeping the site updated.

Nick Harrison confirmed that he had run the Village email system for 6 years and a village email address is also at the planning stage.

## **Parish Councillor**

Of particular concern was the fact that the position of Parish Councillor to represent Blackheath's interests on Wonersh Parish Council (Blackheath Ward) remained vacant as at the date of the AGM. As a consequence the Village does not have a voice of representation on the Parish Council. Patrick Venning suggested the possibility of two councillors sharing the burden of the role, although Nick Morris explained that the number of Parish Councillors in

each Ward was governed by the number of electors and this restricted Blackheath to one Councillor. He also emphasised that each Councillor was a member of a team and could always depend on help from any other of the Councillors.

### **Village Fair**

AT reported that the 2013 May Fair had been very successful. Particular thanks went to Steve Brockwell, Jim Collins and Peter Walshaw for organising the event with thanks also going to Alistair Taylor, Paul Brodie, Hamish Whiteman, Dave Grisley, Peter Maggs, Chris Curran and Alan Barlow for their input into organising the event. Specific thanks also went to Mo and Charlotte Kimmins for their huge effort on the bric-a-brac stall and St Augustine's Abbey and John Crittal for allowing their land to be used for parking without which the Fair could not run.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Linda Poil presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Alan Barlow who was sadly unable to attend the meeting.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 the BVS had Assets and Funds of £14,769. £2,349 of this money is specifically allocated for the upkeep of the War Memorial. Approximately £9,000 of this money is held to cover the eventuality of an unsuccessful fair and a further £3,000 is available for spend on Village projects.

#### **5. BVS Committee Business – Election of Members**

The following two members were not standing for re-election:

Julie Firth

Lady Penelope Kirkwood

Paul Brodie had resigned as Parish Councillor and was therefore standing down as a co-opted member. He indicated that he is prepared to stand for election.

Nick Harrison has resigned as Secretary to the Committee. He indicated that he is willing to stand for election.

Christina Hartshorn has indicated that she is willing to stand for election.

All other existing members of the Committee have indicated that they are prepared to stand for re-election.

The following were therefore elected unopposed:

Alistair Taylor (who indicated he was willing to continue as Chairman)

Christina Hartshorn (who indicated she was willing to act as Secretary)

Alan Barlow (who had indicated he was willing to continue as Treasurer)

Nick Harrison

Steve Brockwell  
Hamish Whiteman  
Dave Grisely  
Nick Morris  
Paul Brodie

It was confirmed that Peter Herbert, Lord of the Manor would again be co-opted.

Co-options from the Village Hall Committee and Wonersh Parish Council would be made by the Committee.

## **6. AOB**

Patrick Venning requested more notice in future for the date of the BVS AGM.

Jan Cope raised the issue of visibility at the cross-roads if travelling south and asked whether a mirror could be installed to assist drivers travelling in this direction.

It was noted that a blue van has been parked on the track in the woods opposite St Augustine's Abbey. Its presence has been brought to the attention of the Police.

The new signs positioned on the cross-roads were noted.

## **7. Future Dates**

- Pimms & Picnic at Chilworth Manor – date to be confirmed.
- Village BBQ – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2013
- Village Fireworks – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013
- Christmas Party – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2013
- 2014 May Fair – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary May Fair 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014
- 2014 BVS AGM – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014

**19<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Hamish Whiteman**  
**Secretary (Acting)**  
**Tel: 01483 890501**