



Minutes of Committee Meeting

June 12th 2013, 7.00 pm at The Vale Community Centre, 17a Hadlow Close

Present: Committee: Alan Cooke, Betty Field, Nick Wood; Others: Amy Allison (Trust for Developing Communities)

1. Apologies: None received
2. Minutes of Meetings April 10th and May 8th 2013: These were agreed.
3. Matters Arising:
 - a) Members of the Committee had met with Dominic, team-leader for the Council's mowing-team, to discuss Estate matters, notably spraying, the planting of annuals around the estate, the treatment of the areas around newly-planted fruit-trees, and potential areas of new planting. It was established that the team sprays the area once a year in February, to kill weeds before planting with new annuals during the spring. This year, the planting had only just taken place, following the cold spring. In addition, an East Sussex Highways team sprays the strips immediately adjoining highways twice a year, but this has no impact on any plants more than a foot or so from the roadway. The Committee members were happy with the information given. Dominic said his team were very careful not to encroach upon the membranes surrounding the new trees, and watched out for any areas of bulbs when undertaking the first mow of the year. Potential sites for further plantings (of non-fruit-trees) this coming winter, at the very top of Queensway, and on the bank in front of 133-167 Craven Road, were discussed with Dominic, but no problems are foreseen.
 - b) Cllr Morgan has taken up with the Council the matter of the non-functioning light in Tilgate Close, and the Council promised to come back with a solution within the following month. The Committee will chase the Council again if there is no solution by the time of the AGM in July.
4. Correspondence: None.
5. Finance: The Accounts for 2012/13 for both the Community Association and the Vale Community Centre have been audited by the Resource Centre and will be circulated at the AGM. The financial situation is still healthy.
6. Annual General Meeting, July 10th: Apart from the normal business of the AGM (Chairman's Report, Accounts, election of officers) it was agreed that the main focus of the meeting would be a presentation of the Jubilee book project, with a photo montage showing the work undertaken by the team to produce the book – Ruth would be asked to prepare the photos, and Alan would speak about the project, with input from the others involved. Amy would be on leave at the time of the AGM but would plan the buffet with Nick and Betty (at a cost of around £30), to be available for 6:30pm with the meeting at 7pm, and time for general conversations afterwards. Alan

would prepare a leaflet to be distributed by June 28th, highlighting the book project to try and encourage others to attend.

7. Updates on current projects:

a) The Kitchen. Amy and Claire have now moved into the Little Vale. Work on re-locating aspects of the disabled toilet was due to start the following day, following which its door can be re-positioned and work on the kitchen expansion begun. Phil was to be asked to advise which week in August he can devote to constructing and installing the kitchen, following which the Council and Mears can be given a timeline for reorganising the plumbing and electrics. A kitchen planner (Alan Lugton) was currently finalising the layout and detailing the most appropriate equipment, which Amy will then order. It is currently expected that the Vale will be out of use for the whole of August.

b) The Diamond Jubilee Book. The book was received on May 30th, and all households in Craven Vale, Baker's Bottom and The Causeway had received copies by the following afternoon. It has been received well, and there are still a significant number of copies available, some of which will be distributed to local schools and organisations.

c) The Web-site. The web-site (cravenvale.org.uk) went live in the last week of May and is full of useful information. The site will shortly be upgraded to offer audio capabilities. The expectation is that it will at some time replace the blog-site operated until now by Roy, to whom thanks were expressed.

d) The Friends of Craven Wood. The next meeting of the Friends of Craven Wood will be at 7pm on July 1st at the Vale. Monthly work sessions are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month, meeting at the end of The Causeway at 10am. Already a new bench and pathway have been constructed.

8. Any Other Business

a) New road signs welcoming people to Craven Vale were erected at each end of Queensway on May 31st to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, as well as a new road-sign for 'Jubilee Walk'.

b) The Jubilee Day celebrations on June 2nd were once again very successful, although the numbers attending were down on last year. Cllr Sue Shanks attended, as did the Deputy Mayor, Bill Randall.

c) It was agreed that CVCA will host a stall at the official opening of the re-constructed Level on Saturday September 14th, to cover the Friends of Craven Wood as well as CVCA, and handing out the Jubilee book.

d) Nick raised the problem of a new council tenant who found that all the windows in their flat were locked, but that no keys had been left by the previous tenant. On approaching the Council, they had been told that it was not the Council's responsibility to provide replacement keys. The Committee asked Peter Mustow – in his absence – to approach the Council once more to ensure that they could be provided or (at the very least) let the tenant know where to go for replacement keys and how to find out where to look for the key reference numbers.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm

The next meetings will be held at 7 pm on:

Wednesday **July 10th** (Annual General Meeting)

Wednesday **September 11th** (Committee Meeting)

Wednesday **October 9th** (Full Meeting)

NO meeting will be held in **August**