



# Craven Vale Community Association

## Notes of Open Meeting

January 14<sup>th</sup> 2015, 7.00 pm at The Vale Community Centre, 17a Hadlow Close

**Present:** Committee: Grant Scott (Chairman), Alan Cooke (Secretary), Betty Field, Clive Taplin, Geoff Wilcock, Nick Wood; Residents: Rosemary Johnson, Jenny Taylor; Others: Keely McDonald (Trainee Resident Involvement Officer, Amy Allison (Trust for Developing Communities), Ruth Sennett

1. **Apologies:** None

2. **Minutes of meeting November 8<sup>th</sup> 2014.** These were agreed unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising.**

a) *Door entry fobs for Royal Mail.* Although the Association has now been provided with key fobs for Craven Road and Hadlow Close blocks, the postman still has not received his. Keely was sure that the Post Office have been provided with a set, and would investigate why they have not been passed on to the relevant member of staff.

b) *Hadlow Close storage sheds.* No action has been taken on repairs to these and the adjacent street light. Keely and Nick then visited the area once more, and Keely offered to chase the relevant people.

c) *38 Bute Street.* Keely has arranged for a council architect to visit the house shortly to see what needs to be done. Clive asked if the inside of the building also needs to be checked as the residents have not asked for repairs to be done but it is likely to be suffering from damp.

d) *Tilgate Close.* Keely reported no progress on providing double yellow lines at the turning area of Tilgate Close. Betty remarked that someone had painted a large 'no parking' sign on the relevant wall. Keely would try again.

4. **Correspondence**

a) The Resource Centre has invited members of the Committee to attend a discussion on how to get more people involved. Grant, Nick, Geoff and Alan volunteered to attend one of the planned sessions.

b) Eastern Area Panel meeting. This will be held at the Vale Community Centre at 7pm on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

c) There had been no response about the poor state of many communal bins in Craven Road and Queensway – there is unlikely to be any finance available.

d) There had been no improvement in the situation regarding an anti-social family in Hadlow Close jettisoning rubbish from their balcony onto the grass below. Nick Aldwinckle will be asked to contact the family once more.

## 5. Finance

The finances remain healthy.

## 6. Updates

a) *The Vale Community Centre.* Redecoration of the Centre had now been completed, paid for out of Centre funds. New carpeting and vinyl were due to be laid the following week, paid for by the Estate Development Budget fund. Grant offered to paint the remaining wall post in the kitchen area.

b) *The Friends of Craven Wood.* On January 20th Grant and Alan would be attending the University of Sussex Volunteering Fair to try and tempt some students to join the Group and the working days.

The working day planned for January 31<sup>st</sup> had been cancelled – instead the Group will be manning a stall at Brighton Museum as part of Family Archaeology Day, focussing on the Big Dig held in the Summer at Whitehawk Camp. All are welcome to help on the stall or just attend.

Instead – subject to checking by Grant with Paul – a work morning will be held in the Wood on Thursday January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am when Green Gym volunteers will also be present.

## 7. Any Other Business

a) Alan reported that the bus company will be holding a consultation soon on bus routes to Woodingdean, including the No. 2 bus. Once they have had preliminary discussions with the Council, they will put the consultation out in about a month's time. The Association will try to ensure that the maximum number of people are alerted to the consultation when it is published. In the meantime, residents should start thinking about any improvements that might be made to our sole bus route.

c) Jenny asked about the regulations concerning disabled bay parking, and whether they had changed. Could the disabled bay opposite the Resource Centre in Craven Road be repainted.

d) Rosemary asked whether anyone else had had problems with the Council when paying amounts due through the Post Office etc with cash, rather than by Direct Debit. Several times the Council has sought to take her to court for non-payment when she had receipts for the payments.

e) Alan reported on EDB projects. The lights in Southwater and Queensway had now been installed, although one hasn't yet worked. The carpeting was due to be completed. Still to be undertaken were the provision of a bench at the Hadlow Close bus stop, the feasibility study for a play area, and the payment of £500 to cover the cost of Community Payback step painting. Alan would write to Mears to see what was happening. It was also agreed to ask for a replacement notice board at the top of Hadlow Close under the Quick Bid system.

## 8. Dates of Next Meetings

a) Committee Meeting, 7 pm February 11<sup>th</sup>

b) General Meeting, 7 pm March 11<sup>th</sup> (no set agenda yet)

Please note for your diaries that this year's AGM will be on Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup>

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.