



Craven Vale Community Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting

February 11th 2015, 7.00 pm at The Vale Community Centre, 17a Hadlow Close

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

1. **Apologies:** Bill Duff
2. **Minutes of meetings December 8th 2014 and January 14th 2015.** These were agreed unanimously.
3. **Matters Arising.**
 - a) *Repairs to Hadlow Close store-rooms and path light.* No response yet to complaints.
 - b) *Reported problems with structure of 38 Bute Street.* Keely reported that a visit would be made shortly by the Council.
 - c) *Car parking.* Benjamin Tedder would be invited to the next meeting to discuss new arrangements for Housing-controlled parking in Hadlow and Parham Closes.
 - d) *EDB 2014/15 update.* Keely was advised that no action had yet been taken on three outstanding bids – the bench at the top of Hadlow Close, the feasibility study of a play area at the end of Parham Close, and the grant of £500 to pay Community Payback for materials.
 - e) *Verges in Queensway and Craven Road.* All were appalled at the present state of the grass verges, being dug up by both parked and passing vehicles, with the verges being gouged up to 10cm below kerb level in some places. Grant had had verbal abuse from Council sub-contractors when photographing their vehicles parked on the verges. A bollard had been removed from Hadlow Close to 'permit' parking there, while others were parking on footpaths. Cllrs Mitchell and Morgan had seen the state of the verges and they – with Grant – were bringing this to the notice of all the relevant Highways personnel. NSL have been ticketing some offenders.
 - f) *Funding for youth officer.* Grant explained that no decisions will be made until after the Council's budget meeting on February 26th.
 - g) *Key fobs for Royal Mail.* Alan advised Keely that the Estate postman said that the Royal Mail is refusing to pay the Council for the necessary key fobs. Keely reported that the Council are likely to permanently disable all trade buttons throughout the City.
 - h) *Yellow lines.* Betty reported that – as requested – double yellow lines have now been painted at the far end of Tilgate Close; and also at the entrance to Southwater Close.

j) *Communal bins*. Cllr Mitchell advises that no money is currently available to replace or repair damaged bins, but Grant will keep up the pressure.

k) *Problem family in Hadlow Close*. No action has yet been taken although Neighbourhood Officer Nick Aldwinckle is believed to be monitoring the situation.

l) *The No 2 bus*. Alan reported that a consultation on the 2 and 22 routes to Woodingdean would shortly be announced – residents will be advised so that they can make representations.

4. **Correspondence**. None.

5. **Finance**. The finances remain healthy.

6. **Estate Development Budget 2015/16**. The bids made by Craven Vale will be voted on in April. It was agreed that Alan would submit a Quick-Bid to replace the large damaged notice-board at the top of Queensway.

7. **Updates**

a) *The Vale Community Centre*. Redecoration of the Centre had now been completed, as well as the laying of new carpet and linoleum. Concern was made about the one carpet join already beginning to show loose tufts, and the damage done to the recently-acquired vacuum cleaner. Alan was asked to invite the contractor back, and to ask them to replace the vacuum cleaner and repair the damaged join.

b) *The Friends of Craven Wood*. On January 20th Grant and Alan attended the University of Sussex Volunteering Fair and took the details of 34 interested students. Together with Nick and Amy they also represented FoCW and CVCA at the Whitehawk Archaeology Family Day at the Museum on January 31st, where several hundred people visited the display. The next working session will be between 10am and 1pm on Saturday February 28th.

7. **Any Other Business**

a) Nick and Geoff attended a meeting at the Bighthelm Centre focussing on how to attract more people to become involved in their local community associations. Apart from considering the possibility of holding meetings in the daytime, it was felt that most if not all of the ideas put forward are already being acted upon.

b) No plans had yet been finalised for this year's summer fun-day. Amy, Claire and Sue were aiming to put together some suggestions.

c) Alan asked Geoff how the UKPN installation of new power cables had gone in his block. It has taken a few days longer than predicted and they still need to return at a later date to complete the work; but the inconvenience was less than expected.

d) Grant reported that Amanda had completed the garden improvements in front of 133-167 Craven Road, and tidied up the area where the shingle had been stored. It has greatly improved the area.

e) Nick reported that Christine's funeral would take place on February 13th and it was agreed that CVCA would pay for a floral tribute to be taken by Nick on our behalf.

8. **Dates of Next Meetings**

a) General Meeting, 7 pm March 11th – concentrating on parking matters

b) Committee Meeting, 7 pm April 8th

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

The meeting closed at 8:00 pm.