



Craven Vale Community Association

Minutes of General Meeting

November 9th 2016, 7.00pm at The Vale Community Centre, 17a Hadlow Close

Present: Committee members: Alan Cooke, Betty Field, Christine Harrop, Rosemary Johnson, Nick Wood; Residents: Owen Gaston, Dave Green, Ewa Knebloch, Sally Slater, Jenny Taylor; Others - Cllr Gill Mitchell, Keely McDonald (Resident Involvement Officer, BHCC); Amy Allison (Trust for Developing Communities)

1. Apologies

Grant Scott, Ian Simpson, Clive Taplin, Geoff Wilcock, Keely McDonald and Cllrs Barford, Chapman and Morris all sent their apologies.

2. Minutes of the General Meeting of September 14th 2016

The Minutes were agreed as accurate.

3. Matters arising

- a) The installation of CCTV at two fly-tipping hotspots is being trialled elsewhere.
- b) Posters advising residents how to report anti-social behaviour have been put on the notice-boards.

4. Correspondence

- a) A reminder of the City Wide Conference being held on November 17th
- b) A leaflet on 'Your Rent Matters' – people of working age may wish to understand the impact of Universal Credit and will be able to have discussions with Housing Customer Services between 14th and 25th November.

5. Finance

The Community Association currently has around £300 available for miscellaneous community needs, plus money it is holding in trust for the Healthy Neighbourhood Fund. The Vale Community Centre account has some £4,000.

6. Estate Development Budget

- a) EDB Grants 2014/2015. All completed, apart from an agreed feasibility study of a possible play area between 12 Parham Close and the entrance to Craven Wood. Cllr Mitchell advised that the Council would not be able to maintain any such play area in future, and it was agreed not to continue to press for this study to be made.
- b) EDB Grants 2015/2016. All completed, apart from an agreed feasibility study to assess the usability of the bin store behind Southwater Close as a joint Craven Vale – Men in Sheds facility. (It was later learnt that an initial visit had been made earlier on November 9th).
- c) EDB Grants 2016/2017. Two major bids were agreed – the construction of a footpath between 30 Hadlow Close and the junction of Craven Road and Queensway; and the planting of fruit trees alongside the path. Neither has yet commenced. Two minor bids were agreed – a new sensor light for the Vale Community Centre (fitted) and a new larger notice-

board for the junction of Craven Road and Queensway, with the existing smaller board re-located to the top end of Craven Road (awaited).

- d) Quick Bids submitted and still awaited. It was agreed in the Spring that the notice board at the top of Hadlow Close which was blown down in January would be either re-instated or replaced with a stronger structure – still awaited. The replacement of birds-mouth fencing along Queensway has been partially completed, and a further quick bid will be requested to complete the work.
- e) EDB Bids 2017/2018. It was agreed that just one major bid will be submitted, which will be for a set of wooden steps to be constructed between the car-park area of Parham Close and the entrance to Craven Wood. This needs to be submitted by November 18th.

A lengthy discussion was held on the merits of proceeding with the request for a footpath between 65-75 Queensway and the pavement, avoiding the use of steps, to assist those who would prefer wheeled access. Keely said that, as the path would need to cut through the existing retaining wall and be quite steep at the northern end, railings would be needed and the cost would be likely to be significantly above £4,500. Above this sum, the cost to each leaseholder in the whole block from 67-99 Queensway would be above the £250 accepted by the Council, and additional leaseholder payments would be required. If the cost were to be allocated to just the one stairwell, the Council would accept only the first £1,500 before requesting assistance from the leaseholders in that area, of which the person requesting the improvement is one. As a result, the meeting felt that it would not be right to proceed without further discussion with the resident requesting the path and other affected leaseholders.

However, a Quick Bid will be submitted for two additional lights to be placed above the stairwell entrances to 77-87 and 89-99 Queensway, to light the footpath running in front of the block.

A second Quick Bid will be made for the completion of the repairs to the birds-mouth fencing in Queensway.

A third Quick Bid will be made for the provision of shrubs and small trees for the area between Parham Close and Craven Wood, lining the steps and footpath from the car park area to the wood. In order to be considered at the next sub-committee meeting, these Quick Bids need to be submitted by November 15th.

7. **Any Other Business**

- a) Christine was thanked for her work in painting the step-edges in Tilgate Close. Other critical areas would be completed at a later date.
- b) Car Parking Consultation. Cllr Mitchell advised that the next consultation for Craven Vale would be distributed around December 1st, and that a team would be available to answer questions at the Vale CC on Thursday December 15th between 1 and 8 pm. She advised that the current streets covered by the 'U' light-touch zone (including Bakers Bottom) will be consulted at the same time on the possibility of converting to a full-time parking zone.
- c) It was agreed that Cllr Mitchell would contact Charles Field and Ben Tedder to see what the current plans were for parking in the Housing-owned car parks of Parham Close and part of Hadlow Close – ideally these car-parks should be transferred to the Highways Department so that a fully-integrated parking zone could be instituted if that is the decision of the residents.
- d) An e-mail from Caroline Hendriks was read out in which she asked people to consider objecting to the proposal to build two houses on the rear garden of 9-11 Dawson Terrace, which could only be accessed via Southwater Close. Cllr Mitchell agreed to follow this up, as the access for both construction and eventual occupation would be via Housing Land. She would ensure that the Queens Park Councillors were aware of the application.

The meeting ended at 8.10 p.m.

The next Committee Meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday December 14th

The next General Meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday January 11th