



# Craven Vale Community Association

## Notes of Annual General Meeting

July 10th 2013, 7.00pm at The Vale Community Centre, Hadlow Close

**Present:** Residents: Grant Scott (Chairman), Shirley Blount, Laura Buckley, Roger Carter, Alan Cooke, Rosemary Deacon, Bill Duff, Betty Field, Joan Girling, Lindy Holloway, Ewa Knebloch, Angelo Roxo, Margaret Sinden, Clive Taplin, Geoff Wilcock, Nick Wood; Others: Cllr Gill Mitchell, Cllr Chaun Wilson, Peter Mustow (Community Participation Officer), PCSO Laura Hall, PCSO Carol Manton

1. **Welcome and Apologies.** Following a buffet from 6:30 pm onwards, Grant opened the meeting at 7:15 pm. Apologies were received from Cllr Warren Morgan, Amy Allison (Trust for Developing Communities – TDC), Nick Aldwinckle (Neighbourhood office).
2. **Minutes.** The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of June 13th 2012 were circulated and were agreed to be a true record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.
3. **Chairman's Report.** Grant reported on the year, and gave thanks to members of the committee who had achieved so much over the past year, plus the sustained efforts of Amy and Claire from TDC, and of our Councillors.

The Association was now well under way with its plans to double the size of the kitchen in the Vale Community Centre – the finance was in place and the first stage of the project (re-decorating and equipping the Little Vale to act as the new office) was complete. The work should be completed in August, with plans for a weekly coffee morning in the autumn.

During the year the Association has continued with its long-term aim of improving community spirit in the area by setting up its own website ([www.cravenvale.org.uk](http://www.cravenvale.org.uk)) and publishing a history book of the Estate ('Pride of our Valley') to celebrate the diamond jubilee of the Estate, each of which has been well received. Celebrations, mainly at Christmas and on Coronation Day, have all been well-attended.

Another development this year has been the setting up of 'Friends of Craven Wood' to continue the work of the Association and the City Ranger in the nearby woodland with its 'Walk on the Wild Side' project, and being open to members from outside the area. This year saw the planting of 18 fruit trees in the wood, as well as the final batch of 22 on the Estate, making a total of 66, all with the help of Brighton Permaculture.

Money from the Council's Estate Development Budget has paid for new 'welcome' signs at each end of Queensway.

There have been good attendances at our regular open meetings during the past year and a wide range of subjects have been discussed, and problems solved. The Community Association

continued to act as the Local Action Team for the area, liaising with Sussex Police to set agendas and targets for our area. The finances of both the Association and the Centre remain in very good shape.

4. **Treasurer's Report.** Alan circulated the audited accounts. Separate accounts are held for the Community Association and the Vale Community Centre. At the end of March 2013 the CVCA account held some £12,249.10 of which £362.85 was available for day-to-day activities, and the remainder reserved for specific projects, notably payment for the production of the book and construction and equipping of the new kitchen. The Vale CC account held £3,843.77, with some allocated for additional costs associated with the kitchen project. The meeting adopted the accounts as audited by the Resource Centre.

5. **Amendments to Constitution.** Following a decision taken by the Association in January to increase the area covered by the CVCA, Grant proposed that Article 2 of the Constitution be amended to add 'The Causeway' and 'Monument View' to the list of streets represented by the Association. Geoff seconded the motion which was agreed unanimously, and a revised copy of the Constitution was signed and given to Peter Mustow on behalf of the Council. A second amendment was proposed to reduce the quorum needed for AGMs from 12 to 10, but was withdrawn following discussion.

6. **Election of Committee.** Peter thanked the committee for all their hard work over the past year and then asked for people to propose candidates for Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and to put themselves forward as Committee Members. The following were unanimously elected:

Chairman – Grant Scott; Secretary and Treasurer - Alan Cooke; other committee members – Laura Buckley, Roger Carter, Bill Duff, Betty Field, and Nick Wood.

Grant Scott was appointed as the Area Panel Representative, with Alan Cooke elected as his deputy. Cheque signatories were agreed as Alan Cooke, Grant Scott and Nick Wood.

The next committee meeting was set for September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

#### 7. **Any Other Business**

- a) Clive raised the subject of the council consultation in Baker's Bottom concerning car parking. Alan said that Queens Park LAT was taking the lead on this, but that the CVCA would be one of those groups to be consulted, and that residents would be advised when they could make representations.
- b) Laura asked whether the association could help with funding an after school arts club. Amy offered to help with funding, but Peter said that care would need to be taken if it was intended to reimburse committee members.
- c) Peter mentioned the meeting to be held at the Housing Centre in Moulsecoomb on July 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss new groups representing tenants and leaseholders, and invited people to attend.
- d) Geoff raised the concern of parking on Southwater Close which impacted on access by emergency vehicles, and the need for yellow lines at the junction with Queensway. Cllr Gill Mitchell would follow this up with the Council, but believed there was no money available.

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.