



# Craven Vale

## Community Association

### Minutes of Annual General Meeting

July 8th 2014, 7.00pm at The Vale Community Centre, Hadlow Close

**Present:** Residents: Grant Scott (Chairman), Daniel Campbell, Alan Cooke, Bill Duff, Betty Field, Vanessa de Guzman, Kate Hale, Christine Harrop, P. Hatter, Jason Husselbee, Rosemary Johnson, Gary Poole, Ian Simpson, Jose Summerton, Clive Taplin, Geoff Wilcock, Nick Wood; Others: Cllr Gill Mitchell, Cllr Karen Barford, Keely McDonald (Resident Neighbourhood Officer), Amy Allison (Trust for Developing Communities),

1. **Welcome and Apologies.** Following a buffet from 6:30 pm onwards, Grant opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Maggie Barradell, Daniel Chapman and Adrian Morris

2. **Minutes.** The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of June 11th 2014 were circulated and were agreed to be a true record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

3. **Results of Unofficial Car Parking Survey.** Alan reported on the unofficial survey sent to all 334 households on the Craven Vale Estate. A detailed report is attached to these minutes. There were 96 responses, or a response rate of almost 29%. 82% were in favour of the Council holding another full consultation, while 76% said that they were likely to vote in favour of a car parking zone for their road. The survey had been discussed favourably at a Council meeting the previous evening and Cllr Mitchell said that it would now go forward to another meeting in October, along with other similar requests, and would almost certainly result in another full consultation some time next year.

4. **Presentation on the 'Save the Cuthbert' campaign by Vanessa de Guzman.** A group of residents living in and around the middle part of Freshfield Road have been looking for a suitable community venue in that area to provide facilities and a drop-in location for residents. They now wish to preserve the Cuthbert Inn as such a facility, but have had to fight off determined opposition from the current owners who wish to re-develop the site for a small number of large houses. Their first planning application was turned down for several reasons, including the loss of a community asset, which their current second application seeks to address.

Vanessa and her colleagues are fighting this application and have galvanised people into sending 80 objections – this application will be decided by mid-August. They have also sought to apply to have the Cuthbert listed as a 'community venue' which would give some added protection. This would ensure that the present owners have to offer the site for sale, which would give the team some six months in which to arrange the funding – it last sold for £650,000. Some major funders would be approached. The intention would be to set up a venue similar to the 'Bevy' in Bevendean, a not-for-profit entity incorporating clinics and activities for both young and old.

At an earlier meeting the Craven Vale CA committee had agreed to support the concept, as it would provide a much wider range of activities for local residents than can be supported by the small Vale

Community Centre. There was general support from those at the meeting, who were invited to join the campaign.

5. **Chairman's Report.** Grant reported on the past 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, those from the Housing Office, and our Councillors and PCSOs. He asked Ward Councillors to do all in their power to keep funding in place for TDC.

With the completion of the kitchen project the Vale Community Centre is now able to host a wider range of groups – we are now just awaiting some new chairs. The weekly Food Bank and the monthly meetings for the Over 50s are growing in support, as is the weekly café on Wednesday mornings. We held a successful Fun Dog Show on August 16<sup>th</sup> as well as Halloween and Christmas celebrations.

The new car parking arrangements for Baker's Bottom were put in place, but this seems to have led to increased pressure on parking in Craven Vale; while the Council has paid for a new notice board and bench at the top of Hadlow Close.

Meetings (which combine Community Association, Tenants Association and Local Action Team activities) continue to be well-attended.

5. **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 2014 the CVCA account held some £1,860, all of which was restricted for specific projects with no allowance for day-to-day costs. The Vale CC account held £3,467, thanks to the sale of an oven for £1,050. A transfer of £500 has been made from the Vale Account to the CVCA Account to cover ongoing association costs. The meeting unanimously adopted the accounts as audited by the Resource Centre.

6. **Election of Committee.** Keely 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 – Bill Duff, Betty Field, Kate Hale, Ian Simpson, Clive Taplin, Geoff Wilcock and Nick Wood. Ian Simpson agreed to shadow the role of secretary during the coming year with a view to taking over next year.

Alan Cooke was appointed as the Area Panel Representative, with Grant Scott elected as his deputy.

The next committee meeting was set for Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

## 7. **Any Other Business**

- a) Amy raised the building works between Dawson Terrace and Southwater Close and asked if there had been any planning application and approval for what appears to be a large private car park. Cllr Mitchell agreed to follow this up.
- b) Rosemary asked whether any of the funding of CVCA came from the EU. Alan said it was not the case, while Cllr Mitchell said that the Council receives some £4mn a year from the EU for specific projects.
- c) Amy reminded everybody that the annual summer fun day would take place on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting closed at 8:25 pm.