



Craven Vale Community Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

June 8th 2016, 7.00pm at The Vale Community Centre, Hadlow Close

Members: Patricia Bartley, Alan Cooke, Debbie Croft, Rom Croft, Betty Field, Dave Green, Christine Harrop, Rosemary Johnson, Reza, Grant Scott, Sally Slater, Ian Simpson, Clive Taplin, Jenny Taylor, Charles Turner, Geoff Wilcock, Jason Williams, Nick Wood. Guests: Edward Cope, Lesley Cope and Jason Williams (Resident Inspectors), Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Morgan, Keely McDonald (Resident Involvement Officer)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed all residents, local councillors and the resident inspectors.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Chapman and Morris.

3. Minutes of the AGM of 8 June 2015

The Minutes were agreed as accurate with the following amendments:

- (a) Item 6: The full name is "the Business and Value for Money Group".
- (b) Item 7b: Rosemary had asked the total grant for all local community groups. The £4 million figure was total EU funding received by BHCC.
- (c) Some references to '2014' to read '2015'

Matters arising

Alan confirmed the unofficial car parking survey had been neutral and that the Association had not taken a position for or against controlled parking.

4. Chair's Report

Grant thanked the current Committee, the Council staff who have supported the Association, especially Amy and Claire, and ward councillors. He regretted the loss of our local PCSOs who have done so much for the neighbourhood.

The Vale Community Centre now has an improved kitchen and new furniture. The café is open on Wednesday mornings and is available for hire at other times. Other activities at the Centre include monthly activities for older residents and the weekly food bank. Upcoming events include the Summer Fair on July 23rd, with a Brazilian Olympics theme, and an afternoon tea for the Queen's 90th birthday on June 12th.

Friends of Craven Wood meet at 10 am on the first Saturday of each month. The group has created several new habitats on the hill in the last year.

5. Treasurer's Report

Alan presented separate annual accounts for the Community Association and the Vale Community Centre. Both sets of accounts have been inspected and approved by the Resource Centre.

- (a) The Community Association received around £4,400 during the year, including £2,500 from the Healthy Neighbourhoods Fund and £360 in donations. Total expenditure was some £3,800 including the wildflower garden and planting of new trees. The current balance is £2,500 but most of this is restricted to HNF items, leaving around £470 for day-to-day costs.
- (b) The Vale Community Centre had receipts of £2,900 during the year, mostly from room hire. Expenditure was £3,400 including the PRS licence and newsletters. The current balance is slightly less than £3,000.

Answering questions, the Treasurer confirmed that:

- (i) Heating and lighting are not included in the Vale Community Centre accounts as the Council pays these bills. BHCC also meets the expenses for the "Little Vale" building.
- (ii) The Vale Community Centre liability insurance only covers CVCA events. Other groups using the venue need their own insurance.

6. Constitution

Alan explained the Committee has proposed amendments to bring the CVCA Constitution up to date:

- (a) an extended section on non-discrimination to cover a wider range of grounds;
- (b) a new post of social media officer;
- (c) binding agreements can only be made by full Committee or General Meeting;
- (d) Changes to procedures for the AGM on notice and an independent Chair;
- (e) Financial books available at all meetings and open to inspection on written request.

These changes are based on the council's Model Constitution for residents' groups, and are a requirement of Council recognition (which enables funding).

The meeting sent the proposed changes back for redrafting and checking that the Council will accept the changes:

- (a) remove the words "minimum of" from the quorum (paras 8,2 and 8,3)
- (b) change the name from "residents association" to "community association" (paras 9,2 and 9,3)

ACTION: Check whether these changes are acceptable (Keely)

7. Election of the Committee

The following members were elected to the committee

- (a) Chair: Grant Scott.
- (b) Secretary and Treasurer: Alan Cooke.
- (c) Social Media Officer: Nick Wood.
- (d) Committee: Betty Field, Christine Harrop, Rosemary Johnson, Ian Simpson, Clive Taplin and Geoff Wilcock.
- (e) Area Panel: Grant Scott (Representative), Alan Cooke (Deputy).

8. Any Other Business

(a) Parking

Cllr Mitchell explained that councillors have received complaints about parking problems from Craven Vale residents. Reasons for the extra demand for parking on the estate may include the parking scheme adopted in Bakers Bottom and the expansion of the hospital. The Council is now at the beginning of a two-stage consultation process.

In the first phase the Council received 121 responses, with 67 replies in favour of a parking scheme in principle. Those in favour were equally divided between all day restrictions and two separate periods during the day, while the third option (three separate hours of parking restrictions per day) was poorly supported. Road-by-road results of the survey will be available on the Council website later this month.

The council Committee will decide whether there is enough interest to move to the second consultation stage on 28 June. If there is considered to be sufficient interest the second stage will take place in the autumn.

Answering questions, Cllr Mitchell explained the law requires parking schemes to be “cost neutral” so that they cannot make a profit for the Council. Any surplus produced must be put back into local transport projects such as concessionary fares. It was explained that the Council had to remain neutral during the consultation so they could not support any lobbying groups either for or against parking.

(c) Police Community Support Officers

The PCSOs are no longer working in specific neighbourhoods and our local officers have left the service. The meeting recorded thanks for their hard work.

(d) Resident Assessors

Keely explained that the resident inspectors check council properties before they are let to make sure they are of a suitable standard. New volunteers are welcome, and the Council provides training and support. Unfortunately, as the meeting had taken far longer than expected, the resident assessors present had to leave before they were able to discuss their role.

(e) Bins

Bins are due to be replaced as part of a rolling programme. Residents reported bins at the top of Queensway need to be secured so they are not blown around in strong winds. **ACTION:** raise the issue of securing bins (Councillor Mitchell).

(f) Maintenance of buildings

Some blocks need lichen and mould cleaned or shaded walls and also need repainting.

ACTION: The Secretary to check with the Property & Investment Team to see if any works are scheduled.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.