

Minutes of 113th Meeting of the BHNW

15th September 2011 in St. Augustine's Parish Church Hall

Present:

Julie Windsor	Secretary
Richard Old	Church
Tim Davies	Heath Lower
Graeme Dundas	Queensholm
Barry Shore	Quakers
Chris & Lynda Stone	Upper Heath
Mark Garland	Newsletter Editor
Bill Crocker	Chair

Apologies, Katrina, Ross, Bridget, Martyn, Peter Tucker, Mark Venables, James Willoughby-Smith, Rocky Rose Cane, Leslie Ashley, Mike Baker, Malcolm Coles and Martyn Thomas.

Rose is moving to Chipping Sodbury, but has offered to stay on the committee as a representative of Bromley Heath School. In discussion about it all agreed Rose is a 'valuable asset' and it would be great if she could continue in a role with BHNW. Points arising were:

- ❖ **Barry wondered if creating this role would set a precedent so that we would have to represent other schools and churches etc.**
- ❖ **or even pre schools as Lynda suggested. (Chris & Lynda Stone have kindly offered to take over Rose's patch and to find a replacement for their existing sector.) Chris mused that perhaps we should have representatives for other places.**
- ❖ **Bill mentioned that the Community Plan Group have found churches feel quite isolated from what is going on.**
- ❖ **Barry asked if they would be voting members**
- ❖ **Graeme suggested we could bring these representatives in initially in an advisory capacity and see how it goes on. We are supposed to be non political and with no particular religious link.**
- ❖ **Barry said it would change our modus operandi if we change the constitution.**
- ❖ **Mark suggested that it would be a shame to lose someone who gives up as much time as Rose does.**

The conclusion was that Rose is offering for the good of the school and us and that we should use email to get pros & cons from everyone not present to get feedback for next meeting and vote next time. **ACTION: Bill.**

Committee recorded good wishes for Ron on his forthcoming operation and a full recovery.

MINUTES

Last minutes mentioned re corrections of spellings etc Jon Hunt and Jon Lesley and then signed by the Chair as a correct record with no matters arising.

COMMUNITY PLAN PROGRESS

Graham Riley called together the group and those who'd volunteered in addition to move things forward. Bill reported on the meeting held at Lincombe Barn in July. There was a good turn- out, but when split into groups, despite high numbers responding to the questionnaire on traffic etc, few came to sit at that topic group table with a vigour to take it forward. Bill said he will organise a meeting of the group soon, talked about possible content and will ask if anyone can join from this committee.

Bill had to go to PACT instead on the night of the last group meeting and will let us know what is happening at our next meeting. Meetings will be quarterly. Graeme is looking at funding and will review should he stay as Chair (not discussed) as he is now elected as Parish Councillor and is its Chair.

COLD CALLING ZONES

No one handling project at the moment, as person who deals with stickers, etc, at the Council is on maternity leave. Barry suggested, down-loading a notice from the internet to put up on the next target area doors. Graeme felt it was partnership of police and council who had the ability to make an area a no cold callers zone and Mark suggested that the percentage of people who actually put the stickers up to deter cold callers is not very large on experience of our sticker display. Possibly it would help having signs on lamp posts in designated areas, but this would obviously depend on the number of people who were interested and involved enough to back us as a neighbourhood watch.

Barry proposed that it should be raised in the newsletter which would give us some feedback. He also proposed a link on our website to a site where anyone interested could download a sign and it was agreed these suggestions would be researched.

PACT

Bill said the meeting had been very interesting. Jackie had sent out the Agenda, but not everyone had updated items included. There is some progress on the people

misbehaving at Bury Hill Housing Association properties. Bromley Heath School is to have a crossing outside pedestrian/zebra crossing costing £25,000 to £35,000.

Apparently the Traffic lady turned up at the meeting and spoke, but was told off by the council subsequently for speaking out about people not taking notice of her sign and not stopping. An idea may be to put a camera on the top of the lollipop stick which could record anyone not stopping. Also mentioned was the parking on zigzag lines particularly at the beginning of a new term.

Apparently someone was reported speeding recently up and down Oakdale Road, they were known to the police, but the sign was apparently not working at the time. Chris Stone said the speedvisor sign is now working.

Everlast Paving who duped someone in the area recently and are now known to the Police and Trading Standards were spotted in the area again by Mark G. recently and while he got a picture, Bill rang the police and they were dealt with appropriately.

There has have been reports of people drug dealing in Church Lane, one recently from a dog walker who suggested that they were quite blatant. Katrina has caught some users.

A new paper is out now following consultation by Baroness Newlove. A future report was requested on it. Funding is also now available at £5 million for this and next year for innovative projects that have to some funds themselves and a partnership approach.

'GONE' Graffiti project bid, The Council only remove offensive graffiti. Bill said if we had some forms printed we could go to people affected and support them getting it removed. As part of bid we would need a new banner and other promotional materials. £1,750 approved at PACT which will go through to the Council and the result will be known after December meeting.

Mike had written suggesting pitching to the Parish Council for funds and Bill said he had written to Angela, but deadline for grants was 1st September. Form may be used for capital, but also revenue for refreshments, booking costs, etc, at regular meetings and at the AGM. Bill has been invited to attend a meeting of the Parish Council and there may be some more money available in the New Year.

There was a discussion on the size of the traffic island at the bottom of Quakers Road which Mark said was not big enough to get the whole of a bike on. Also areas surrounding the cycle path are very overgrown near the Frome bridge making sight lines difficult. Mark complained to Parish Council who put him on to South Glos. Mark put in 40 page document and received eventually a 5 line e mail from the South Glos Officer concerned (obviously not very)! Bill suggested this would have bee taken more

seriously by Bristol Council and Jackie at the meeting agreed to take further action to move things on.

Avon Fire & Rescue printout of fires attended showed there was nothing in terms of worrying behaviour in the patch. There was a presentation by SITA who have a new Inspector on the Community Site called Derek Reece. The bags to hold Cardboard for recycling are as rare as hen's teeth apparently!

Barry reported that on the National Police web site there is information about local crime, but that it is not available locally although burglaries etc are fed back on Ringmaster.

Richard brought up the chain link fence at the Green Dragon and not wanting to contribute as a Council Tax payer on which there were varying views.

IMPROVED BHNW COMMUNICATIONS

Mark brought up the subject of the recent fire in Queensholme and the general feeling was that we should respond by showing support as a group and on a compassionate note should send a card as quickly as possible.

Richard was concerned about going against the constitution in giving advice on smoke alarms etc. So Lynda suggested that we could just put something informative in the newsletter about people checking their alarms worked etc. As Chris said the causes of fire are so varied it would be hard to cover all bases. The police, according to Bill, will not reveal the cause of fire, at present. On the point of sending cards Barry said should we include situations where people have been burgled etc ...what about having sheds broken into? It was decided to look at this in more depth at the next meeting. **ACTION: Bill for agenda.**

REPORTS

There was some banter between Mark and Bill about having messed up Mark's advanced work on the newsletter regarding the prices per advert, but this was resolved amicably by them at dawn!

Police are to have a new contact number 101 and there would be one price for the call regardless (which is not as expensive as calling the existing 0845 number) at 15p for the duration.

Welcome Packs to be advertised in newsletter as well as contact points, AGM Stuff, write up about the Crime Scene talk and Fire & Rescue for general advice. Residents have been vigilant, in several cases. Damage to school grounds, we helped. Note about application for money for GONE. £100 for ad from Raj. We need to do a cost review, and Mark had checked prices for printing the newsletter. One he had spoken with

came down from £1,375 to £1,060 without haggling. **ACTION:** Bill to circulate specification by email for approval, Bill and Mark to send to Staple Hill Press and competitors and Bill, Mark and Tim please to open tenders.

Barry suggested safety tips for Firework Night, Halloween and Christmas could go in the Newsletter.

Bill thanked Mark for all his hard work.

There's not been time to look at Facebook and Twitter, but Barry suggested that they would both be good ways to reach people who use the internet so much now, especially if there was another situation like the one with Everlast. It was agreed to come back to this at a future meeting.

FESTIVAL

Our review and next years plans were deferred as Martyn was not present.

AOB: Chief Superintendant Andy Francis is attending meeting at Cleeve Rugby Club on Thurs 1st December and the next PACT meeting 6th December Badminton Road Methodist .

Our next meeting is on Thursday the 1st December 2011