

MINUTES OF CHESWICK GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 5th MAY 2017

THOSE PRESENT:

CGRA COMMITTEE

George
Greg
Barbara
Ian
Martin
Lisa
Becky
Mark
Debbie

RESIDENTS

Peter Davidson
Piers Cockcroft
Brian Brown
Graham Roberts
Dot Lambert
Margaret Gosling
Denise Swain
Mick Swain
David Lechmere

AGENDA ITEMS:

WELCOME & APOLOGIES

- George welcomed all present to the meeting,
 - Apologies were received from Helen and Phil

APPROVAL OF THE 2016 AGM MINUTES

- Although not available at the meeting, the 2016 AGM minutes were approved.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- None reported.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- A busy year was reported with mention of Party In The Park, the Free First aid courses, the Christmas Party, the Lights Competition and the new treasurer along with the challenges both of and to the Parish Council.
- For the coming year it was put forward that the CGRA reach out to neighbouring Residents Associations and forums and also that, whilst it was right to challenge matters that have an effect upon Residents, the current fraught relationship with the Parish Council was of no benefit, the way forward from which was perhaps to avoid completely, certainly for the next three to six months.
- Thanks were given to all members for their continued support.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

- With the significant exception of the repairs to the roof, the year was reported as otherwise unexceptional, and that bookings had again continued to rise.
- Noted also was the Parish Councils expressed desire to have a greater involvement in the operation of the hall.
- The Chairman was critical of the Parish Council for their ill-mannered approach over repairs to the Village Hall Roof and advised that he personally wanted no further involvement with the Village Hall Management Committee.
- George advised that further Residents Association involvement with the Village Hall would be finalised at the CGRA June 2017 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT - RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

- The increase in income (from Party in the Park) largely funded the Children's Christmas Party.
- Current assets show a small increase.
- An anomaly of c£15 exists which is being investigated. The accounts were duly accepted.
- Book-keeping for the coming year has been converted to an excel based file to facilitate easier entry and balancing.

TREASURER'S REPORT - VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- It was reported that essential repairs to the village hall roof resulted in the building being out of action for around two months with a subsequent loss of revenue. The accounts show an increase in water charges which was due to a leak.
- Despite the above, income and profit were up on the previous year with the major contributors being Slimming World, fitness and yoga classes.
- The accounts were duly accepted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- On behalf of the committee, Greg thanked the Chairman for his guidance and leadership over the last 12 months.
- The following positions were proposed, seconded and duly accepted:-
 - Chairman - George (proposed Greg, seconded Barbara)
 - Vice Chairman - Greg (proposed George, seconded Barbara)
 - Secretary - Helen (proposed George, seconded Debbie)
 - Treasurer - Becky (proposed George, seconded Greg)
- Pete Carr has resigned from the Committee. All other members present agreed to remain in place.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- The Parish Council's General Power of Competence was queried. Brian Brown advised that it was a qualification achieved by the Parish Council Clerk and not by the Parish Council itself.
- With regard to Party In The Park, George queried why the Parish Council were now asking for an arbitrary £100 deposit and a more comprehensive Risk Assessment. It was felt that the Parish Council's attitude was putting at risk the biggest community event of the year. Mark offered to prepare an enhanced Risk Assessment in line with the Parish Council's request.
- The Parish Council's imposition of a 41.7% increase in fees was raised. Greg queried why a recent Parish Council newsletter had denied receipt of a notification to determine residents strength of feeling and that Parish Councillor's expenses were being increased. Brian Brown advised that Parish Councillor's expenses were now being waived and that while he acknowledged receipt of an email, he said that an email and a letter were not the same thing. The latter comment was met with great exasperation and derision.
- Representatives from the Residents Association and Parish Council had met to discuss their working relationship. However, due to recent events, it was agreed to suspend discussions for 3 months.
- A number of attendees raised the serious issue of speeding vehicles within Cheswick Green Village. In readiness for the next meeting, Martin was asked to provide details of how the situation could be addressed with residents taking the lead. Peter Davidson agreed to manage the programme.
- It was brought to the Committee's attention that an H Frame pylon had been sited directly behind and in close proximity to a house in Saxonwood Road. All agreed that assistance should be given to the householder in question and Greg was asked to take the lead. Brian Brown asked that Anne Brereton from Solihull Council should be involved.

The formal meeting closed at 9:30am