

Brettenham Village Association AGM Minutes

20th September 2012 8 pm

Present: David Carter, Ruth Fairbrother, Anne Townsend, Laurie and Gwinnie Rudder, Edith and Roger Bere, Lindsey Collings, Beverley Cronk, Ken Bound, Peter Truin, Charles Camp, Cathy Schofield, Paul Brinkley, Gary Roberts, Peter Knight, Chris Clarke, Mark Baker, Paul Bendall, Martin Dye and Tracey Brinkley

The Chairman welcomed Edith, Roger and Peter Knight

1. **Apologies**

Mark Smith, Wendy Wakeman, Carrie Dye

2. **Minutes**

No issues

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Front porch needs decorating	Volunteers required
Exterior of the hall requires cleaning/painting	See Minutes (under Caretakers report)
Interior of hall requires decorating	See Minutes (under Caretakers report)
Trustee paperwork	Ken/David. Carried forward
Cupboard/Store Room	How to make the children safe and comfortable if they are to continue to use the store room on event nights. Suggestions welcome from all villagers. Carried forward

COMPLETED ACTIONS (For Information Only)

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Black bin charge by Babergh	Peter to raise at PC meeting next year
Quiz	Date of 24 th Confirmed, see minutes for more info
Fireworks	Date of 3 rd Nov confirmed see minutes for more info
Burns night	See minutes
Safari Supper	Deferred until next year

3. **Reports**

a. **Finance Officer**

Balance £16,518.

The treasurer gave formal notice that he will not re-stand next April.

b. **Village Hall Caretaker**

The hall has been well used over summer, quieter more recently.

Thanks got to Stuart Kershaw for polishing the hall floor again recently.

The new cleaning schedule seems to be working much better.

Porch has been renovated and ventilation and a heater added, decoration is still required – volunteers welcome. Action Required All volunteers welcome.

The hall could do with decorating in the interior. David has received more quotes which were rather expensive. David reported that Brian Rookard has been approached and has quoted a very reasonable rate.

Post Meeting update: Peter and David have secured Brian's services, the decorating will start after Christmas. Colours to remain similar, but with a more durable paint being applied in certain high traffic areas.

c. **Booking Clerk**

No matters arising

d. Tax Task group

A reply to the HMRC has been sent.

4. Bar and Village In matters

The new water softener has made a dramatic difference in the cleanliness of the glasses. Beverly kindly asked that the volunteers behind the bar remove the scree tops bottles, so she does not have to do them before placing them in the recycling bins.

5. Past Events

a. Sports Day which is nothing to do with the Olympics

Charles reported a fantastic day out, with all enjoying the games and activities. Preston have expressed their gratitude, and discussed the possibility of making this a bi-annual event. David explained that there was still equipment left over, Charles said he would contact Preston to ask them to collect.

b. Cricket match v BPCC

Another super day, with the weather in our favour, although not the score, as the BPCC took home the trophy this year.

c. Party in the Park

A very disappointing turnout as it coincided with the Wimbledon final. The event did still turn a small profit, and Lindsey expressed her thanks to all the volunteers.

Ideas to attract a larger audience have been suggested at the PC meeting, such as a large screen TV to watch the tennis, moving the time to lunchtime etc.

Charles suggested making it an inter-village dance

Laurie suggested a Bob Dylan event

Any other ideas? – Please make them known to Lindsey.

6. Forthcoming events

a. Quiz – POSTPONED AS A SIMILAR EVENT IS ALREADY ON AT THORPE MORIEUX
~~24th November 7:30 for an 8pm start.~~

~~Guy will be the quiz master. David will place an advert in the magazine. Cathy will organise the nibbles and the teams.~~

~~The teams will be of 4 people. Call Cathy on 740338 to book a team or add your name to the list to make up a team.~~

Post Meeting Note: QUIZ POSTPONED as a similar event is already on at Thorpe Morieux

b. Fireworks

£ 2400 budget voted in unanimously. Charles to organise fireworks and liaise with the school re the event.

Paul Brinkley will organise the bonfire, please DO NOT take anything up to the school unannounced. Contact Paul to organise.

Ticket price same as last year £5 on the gate children under 5 free. Tickets offered at a reduced rate before the event, and will be on sale with Peter Truin at the Village Inn on Friday 5th October.

Lindsey will organise gate keepers

Paul/Charles will organise fire marshals

Cathy will arrange insurance with Suffolk ACRE

c. Burns Night

26th January confirmed. Fiona Camp has offered to cater.

Gary will organise a pipe player and drummer

Task group formed of: Peter, Chris, Fiona and Lindsey

d. Safari Supper

Deferred until next year.

e. Other forthcoming events and suggestions

i. Childrens Christmas party

1st December confirmed

Lynne Goulding and Penny Redwood-Smith (hopefully) organising. Meeting voted unanimously on £400 budget.

ii. Mulled wine at Christmas carol service

Meeting voted unanimously on £30 budget for mince pies and mulled wine for after the Christmas Carol service.

iii. New Years Eve party

Lindsey offered to organise. Helpers and suggestions are welcomed.

7. Playground equipment

Using the Section 106 money on the playground will involve engaging a contract with the landowner to secure the continued use of the field.

The Parish Council will undertake a survey to establish villagers (and schools) wish list for the area.

8. Faster Broadband

Martin Dye explained that County Broadband now have a more attractive scheme in place to enable the village to have a faster broadband supply. Martin has all the details, but in essence it involves paying £4375 up front to County Broadband, which is then paid back as more people join the scheme. If 50% of the village engage in the scheme, then the up-front money will be paid back within 12 years. This cover could include Hitcham. There is a £99 joining fee and then a sliding scale of monthly fees ranging from £10 for 4mb link, up to £35 for 32mb link.

County Broadband cites a 4 timescale lead time if the offer is taken up.

The suggestion was put to the meeting that the BVA supply the 'loan' of £4375.

A task group was formed of Paul Bendall, Peter Knight and Martin Dye. Who will report back to the next meeting.

Issues raised were:

What covenant would the BVA be under?

Would this affect our status as a members club?

Post Meeting Note: An anonymous benefactor has come forward to 'loan' the necessary amount. Martin Dye and Peter Knight hope to secure the new service by Christmas.

Please ensure you let Martin know if you will want to join the scheme, as it will affect the installation locations of the booster antenna in the village.

Secretary's note: Many thanks got to Martin for all his efforts in pursuing this solution, and to Peter for helping to secure the benefactor.

9. Date and time of next meeting

9th December 8pm – Please come along.

10. AOB

Ken expressed concern that the excess on the hall insurance is now £6,000, but the reserve in the BVA constitution is only £5,000. To be discussed at the next meeting

Charity Status: The Charity commissions input was overwhelming, Ken asked if James Hall or Birketts solicitors could be asked to investigate our status and options.

Mark Baker will look into the advantages and disadvantages and produce a short report.

Suffolk ACR was also suggested as being a useful contact who may be able to help on the issue. To be discussed at the next meeting

Meeting adjourned 21:15