

BEECHES COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL Meeting held on 13 November 2014

Present : Stuart Tarr (Chairman), Tim Killen, Peter Braidwood, Caroline Braidwood, Nick Bridges (Community Engagement Officer, Cirencester Town Council), PCSO Rennie Broad, Jenny Smith, Malcolm Lewis, Mike Jupp, Keith Handley, James Trotter (Bromfords), Paige Lilley, Brendon McFadden (Wilts & Glos Standard), John Burgess, Cllr Patrick Coleman (CTC) and Caroline Braidwood

1.	Welcome and Apologies Paul Maiden, Lynn Hilditch, Nigel Robbins, Alex Hoskins and Cllr Mrs Shirley Alexander
2.	Minutes from Previous Meetings 10 October 2013 Annual General Meeting Proposed: Malcolm Lewis Seconded: Peter Braidwood And UNANIMOUSLY agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman Special Meeting on 14 November 2013 Proposed: Malcolm Lewis Seconded: Peter Braidwood And UNANIMOUSLY agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman 18 September 2013 Proposed: Keith Handley Seconded: Malcolm Lewis And UNANIMOUSLY agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman
3.	Matters Arising from the Minutes that are not Included on the Agenda None
4.	Chairman's Report - Stuart Tarr <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It had been an eventful year with several Committee changes giving rise to uncertainty for the future of the Group. • Pleased to welcome Tim Killen as Secretary • Thanked Doug Emmott and Keith Handley for their continued work during the year. • Mulberry Court is doing well. • Campaign in September to limit the proposed development in Chesterton was well attended • Looking forward to the new primary school opening at Kingshill • The junction at the end of Burford Road is currently being remodelled and should improve traffic flow.
5.	Finance Report Caroline Braidwood gave a verbal financial report confirming that the balance at the bank remains at £231.88 Keith Handley asked about the Town Council Ward grant of £500 and the Chairman confirmed that this has not yet been claimed for this year and that a portion of it may be attributed to additional dog waste bins. It was noted that the Bank signatories need to be changed for the new committee.
6.	Election of Chairman Malcolm Lewis thanked the Chairman for his work during the year and Stuart Tarr was elected unopposed to serve until the Annual General Meeting in 2015.
7.	Election of Officers to serve until the Annual General Meeting in 2014 Vice Chairman Paul Maidens Proposed by Stuart Tarr and Seconded by Malcolm Lewis and UNANIMOUSLY elected unopposed. Secretary Tim Killen Proposed by Stuart Tarr and Seconded by Caroline Braidwood and UNANIMOUSLY elected unopposed. Treasurer Alex Hoskins Proposed by Stuart Tarr and Seconded by Peter Braidwood and UNANIMOUSLY elected

	<p>unopposed. Social Secretary Mike Jupp Proposed by Stuart Tarr and Seconded by Jenny Smith and UNANIMOUSLY elected unopposed. Caroline Braidwood agreed to continue maintaining the website.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Reports from the Group Community Speed Watch & Neighbourhood Watch - Keith Handley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One new group has been created on Pheasant Way following local incidents. • No Group in Kingshill Meadow despite trying. • Speed watch training has been carried out in Stratton <p>Litter Picking - Malcolm Lewis Reported that work is on going. 3 to 4 people are litter picking regularly and Doug Emmott does a specific route on old Beeches every Saturday morning. It is disappointing that Kingshill School has not been willing to work with the Group. The Chairman confirmed that the litter problem on Corinium Via is not too bad as it benefits from a private grounds maintenance company that clears any litter.</p> <p>Social Media - Caroline Braidwood and Paige Lilley It was confirmed that the Website has been updated. Paige explained that a Twitter account has been set up but she has been unable to develop it.</p> <p>Bus Gate Update - Mike Jupp and Stuart Tarr The Chairman advised that a meeting has been set up to look at the bus gate with the Police and everyone is welcome to attend. Currently the bus only services Mulberry Court via the roundabout and does not use the 'bus gate'. Mike Jupp advised that a Deed has been signed for a right of way adjacent to the bus gate and that parking provision is to be made. Drains will need to be raised following the safety audit but this did not consider the use of the gate by Council vehicles.</p> <p>Watermoor CofE Primary School Update – Caroline Braidwood Caroline Braidwood confirmed that the builders have not yet given a final date for completion but it is still hoped that the School will open after February 2015 half term. Mal Lewis asked for a report on the Community Rooms for the next meeting.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Police - PCSO Renee Broad September = 7 crimes October = 10 crimes Year to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total crime figure has dropped from 156 to 110 = 30% reduction. • There has been a spate of shed break-ins recently in gardens and allotments and warned to take special care. 20 Break ins at Haresbush Allotments were mainly damage and not theft. There have been a further 3 – 4 at City Bank Allotments • Car break-ins at Beeches and Watermoor • Residents are encouraged to dial 999 if they are aware of incidents in the middle of the night. • Halloween and Bonfire Nights were very quiet this year. • PCSOs went to Watermoor Reception class recently to introduce themselves. • Working with Victoria Road School on Kiddicop project to design a parking ticket to discourage Parents from parking on zig zag lines. • Residents may visit the Police Control room on dates throughout November – contact Renee for further information. <p>Mike Jupp complained that he had a parking ticket in Cricklade Street during an emergency appointment at the opticians. He claimed that Cirencester is the only place that enforces parking on yellow line on Sundays</p> <p>Town Councillors Cllr Coleman advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The long-term future of the Open Air Pool is close to being secured with the negotiation of 25 year lease. • An electric vehicle charging point is to be installed in Beeches car park. • He attended Planning training with the Planning Co-operative as national government is keen to push forward Local Plans and want 90% of brown field sites secured and built by 2020. • National Government is also encouraging Local Authorities to compensate for nearby development sites.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus services in the Town are inadequate and the Town Council is looking at providing funding to encourage more services • The Town Council is considering supporting a summer evening cycling racing event around the Town <p>Cllr Coleman confirmed that as a District Councillor for Stratton he was involved with presenting the Save our Cirencester Group petition at CDC ensuring a debate. The Campaign was shown to be reasonable and evidence based.</p> <p>The Chairman report that the new bins installed in North Home Road by the Town Council were not in the agreed location and will be moved.</p> <p>District Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Burgess advised that he has given up his seat at Cabinet after 10 years. He further advised that he was instrumental in Watermoor School being awarded £500 for a project commemorating The Great War.</p> <p>County Councillor</p> <p>A written report from Cllr Robbins had been circulated (attached).</p> <p>Mike Jupp raised the following issues:</p> <p>Item 2 road signs – congratulate Cllr Robbins for taking forward</p> <p>Item 3 – puzzled about traffic speed on the ring road.</p> <p>Others present advised that a reduction of the speed limit on the inner ring road and A419 approach at Preston Toll Bar, has been lobbied for by other groups / authorities for some considerable time.</p> <p>Item 9 – doesn't understand the problem of making meeting dates when they are set well ahead.</p> <p>Bromford</p> <p>James Trotter advised:</p> <p>There is concern about the condition of the surface of St Mary's and St Ann's Roads. Bromfords will apply for change of use of the ex-Playgroup building in Fosse Close to enable it to be developed into 2 bed bungalow. In addition the Community Room at the sheltered housing scheme will provide more housing.</p> <p>Cottsway or Sovereign Housing</p> <p>The Chairman advised that there are no current issues for Cottsway and Sovereign except for cutting back hedges and trees on London Road. Richard Gray of Gloucestershire Highways is investigating ownership.</p>
10.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Malcolm Lewis advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nick Bridges is doing an excellent job communicating with the community groups working one day per week. • The Golden Farm pub has changed hands. <p>Nick Bridges advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pathway along the river is part of the Town Council project working with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust to improve the pathway, which has become very overgrown. Friends of City Bank are overseeing the project and meet on the first Wednesday of the month. • The Neighbourhood Partnership will meet on Tuesday. The Police and Fire Brigade are suffering cutbacks in public spending and engaging with communities to help improve communications. <p>Keith Handley advised that there are many overhanging trees and hedges where residents are not taking responsibility</p> <p>Malcolm Lewis advised that Tony Cooper, previous Vice-Chairman is very ill.</p>
11.	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>8 or 15 January 2015 – to be confirmed - at Ingleside at 7 pm</p> <p>Once the School is operational it is hoped to meet in the Community Room on the second Thursday of alternate months – March, May, July, September & November 2015</p>

The meeting was closed at 9.00 pm