

**MINUTES OF THE CHESWICK GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
WEDNESDAY 8th October 2009**

**Present** George, Margaret D, Brian, Mike, Dot, Garry, Ian & Barbara

**Guest** Dominic Smith from Solihull MBC to talk about transport in Shirley along the A34

**Apologies** Pat, Ken & Margaret W, Pete and Lisa

**Minutes From Previous Meeting**

The minutes were approved with no issues but Children's Christmas party needs to be added to the agenda. Ken asked if the PCSO's wages were paid in part by the parish council. Brian confirmed a contract was in place to part pay for local policing and that this was to be reviewed at the next parish council meeting.

Ken and Margaret were away on holiday but everyone had a great night out at the bangle Lounge and Saxon. Big thanks to ken for organising it. We are looking forward to the next social gathering.

**A34 Traffic Survey**

Dominic Smith from Solihull Council came along to talk about in Shirley and in particular the stretch along the A34 between the M42 junction and the border with Hall Green.

Members made comments and suggestions most notably mentioning the badly laid out traffic island near Staples.

**Children's Christmas Party**

Provisional date for this years Christmas party is Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December (to be confirmed. It was decided that it should be along the same lines as last year with 3-5's party between 2-3pm and 6-11's between 4-6pm. A budget of £400 was agreed for food, entertainment and gifts.

**Play Area, Shops & Car Park**

Mike pointed out that the shrubs around the village hall need trimming again as they were last trimmed in late June. Mike to arrange a date and phone/email for members assistance. It was noted that the shrubs in front of the shops had been tidied up after Ken's telephone call to Solihull MBC.

George pointed out that nothing has been done to repair the turf in front of the goalposts. This is down to the parish council.

The youth shelter / gazebo has now been repaired by the residents association.

Thanks given to George, Ian and Mash for doing this. George to be reimbursed for materials purchased from B&Q for in order to make repairs.

Mike suggested that a waste paper bin at the top of the Green near the junction of Greenside and Spinney Drive would be a good idea. Mike said he would approach Solihull MBC.

**Village Hall**

Ian reported that a meeting had taken place on the 30<sup>th</sup> September at the request of councillor Cresswell to discuss the terms of the agreement between the new parish council and the management committee of the village hall. Also discussed were flood prevention measures being considered by the parish council of which our approval for removable barriers on all three entry and exit doors was reported. It was reported that we members did not feel it necessary for work on the air vents as they were considered

to be above any flood level nor that modifications to the toilet pans was needed.

Discussion on the terms of employment of Barbara Sill employed as the cleaner and Ruth Stanton, employed as the booking clerk also had taken place.

Regarding the agreement between the management committee and the parish council, a draft agreement similar to the one proposed 3 years ago was proposed, and a copy of this was discussed but as it was quite a lengthy document Ian agreed to email members the draft for them to consider and comment on at the next meeting scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup> 2009. Minutes of the meeting dated 30<sup>th</sup> September are being prepared by councillor Creswell, the parish council's appointed representative on the village hall management committee.

Barbara drew members attention to the fact that the new method of wheelie bins being used by Solihull MBC to collect rubbish now made it impossible to put out black bags containing rubbish from the village hall. Previously these had been collected as they were placed with those of local residents. However this was no longer an option. Brian had spoken to some shop keepers to explore the possibility of sharing a collection and contributing towards the cost. Dot agreed to contact the new owners of the Saxon to ask if they would allow up to 2 bags of rubbish per week to be collected along with their rubbish and at what payment would be required, maybe £10 per month would be acceptable? The difficulty of having our own collection was discussed as there would be problems of access and security for any type of wheelie bin.

As of yet we have had no contact from the local firm engaged to undertake replacement guttering and fascia's. Work should have been done by now in time for winter. Margaret said she would contact them to see if they still want the job.

### **Planning Applications**

Brian gave details of applications received but there was nothing considered to warrant our intervention.

### **Magazine & Website**

Ian submitted an invoice for £19.32 for renewal of the CGRA website for the period of 12 months. Margaret gave Ian a cheque for this amount.

### **Tubs Planters**

Nothing to report

### **Police Matters**

There is currently a problem with 'boy racers' using Tesco's car park.

### **Any other matters arising**

It was reported that Barbara Lintern had passed away on Sunday. Barbara had been served on the resident's association for many years as both treasurer and secretary. We were all terribly sad to hear of her death and our thoughts go out to her husband Brian and family. As soon as details of Barbara's funeral have been received they will be passed on to members. Margaret and Barbara Sill to arrange for flowers.

Meeting closed at 10.15pm – Next meeting arranged for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November