

MINUTES OF THE CHESWICK GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AGM held on WEDNESDAY 4th May 2011

Present Brian, George, Pete, Gary, Paul, Margaret Dot, Ian, Barbara, Pat, Lisa, Len Creswell, Chris Noble, Denise Swain, Phil Radford and two guest members.

Apologies Ruth Stanton

Minutes from previous AGM

Minutes were accepted with no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

George opened the meeting and presented his report on the activities of the Residents Association over the past twelve months.

Treasurers Report

Margaret distributed a signed copy of the Residents Association accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011 showing a profit of £355.16 and a balance of £4683.69.

Margaret presented a report outlining our income and expenditure.

Len questioned some of the costs. An item of expenditure totalling £14.95 under the heading 'Village Hall Costs'. Margaret explained that the Residents Association had purchased a can of paint, 'Legal Advice' for £117.50 for which Margaret explained the Association had chosen to seek legal advice relating to a problem incurred at the Party In the Park that had now been resolved, Planters £47.80 but one tub had not been planted, Margaret explained this was postponed as it was proposed to plant a Christmas tree in that tub and that the Residents Association had not been in support of this idea due to the initial high cost of providing an electrical supply. Len also questioned the Item 'Magazine' £199 and Margaret explained that we have always paid for magazine entries above and beyond the limited free community space provided.

Village Hall Management Committee Report

Ian distributed copies of his report and read it out. He reported on repairs and improvements carried out, namely the replacement polycarbonate window panels and major overhaul of the heating system for which he thanked the Parish Council. He commented on the high standard of cleaning and Len congratulated the Cleaner saying it was to a better standard than that of Dickens Heath Hall.

Chris Noble offered that the Residents Association may use the newly installed letterbox for collection of subscriptions in future.

Ian thanked the Parish Council for arranging for the collection of Village Hall waste that was reported as a problem at last years AGM.

Ian thanked Denise Swain who has looked after the Village Hall accounts for so many years and Ruth Stanton for her roll as Booking Clerk.

Village Hall Treasurer's Report

Denise distributed a signed copy of the Village Hall accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011 and detailed items on it compared to the previous year.

Len queried the item 'Rates' £471.96 and said that Dickens Heath received a 100% rebate. Could we not get the same as Dickens Heath. Denise said she was not aware that it was possible to obtain a 100% rebate but would look into it. Len asked if we should consider increasing our charges in view of the increase in VAT and the increase this would bring to our costs. Denise explained that fees were reviewed on a regular basis and it was thought important to not put people hiring the hall in a difficult economic climate. Chris mentioned that the Parish Council was VAT registered and that should be borne in mind if any high

value items of expenditure were being considered. Chris reported that the parish council had had a very good response to its questionnaire on the provision of a 'Keep Fit' class for the over 50's. This should be starting soon. Chris requested that a replacement Tea Urn be purchased as soon as possible as it would be needed and the old one had been removed and was missed by regular users. It was decided that a replacement urn would be purchased along with 40 mugs.

Len reported that plans were underway for an extension to the hall that would provide increased storage space. It was also reported that the PC was looking at the benefits of installing solar panels.

Election of Committee Members

Residents Association Committee...

Chairman

Brian proposed **George** to carry on in the roll of Chairman and was seconded by Barbara

Vice Chairman

Dot proposed **Brian** and was seconded by Pete

Treasurer

Pete proposed **Margaret** and was seconded by Brian

Secretary

George proposed Ian and was seconded by Paul.

Members elected to remain members with the exception of Mike who was suffering ill health and was standing down but remained happy to produce the Magazine.

Phil Radford who has helped at events on many occasions said he would like to become a committee member and was welcomed as a new member.

Village Hall Management Committee

Chairman

Chris proposed **Ian** and was seconded by Len

Treasurer

Len proposed **Denise** and was seconded by Barbara

At this point Len and Chris said that there should be separation between the meetings of the Residents Association and those of the Village Hall Management.

Len said there should be separate minutes for the meetings and a separate selection of members on the Village Hall management group. George Ian said he did not see a need for any less than the whole membership as we did not have that many active members anyway and the current system worked well. Len said he would like a meeting between himself as the Parish Councils elected representative, Ian Sill – Chairman and Denise – Treasurer to choose committee members for the Village Hall Management Committee. took exception to this and Ian said he was not happy with this and there was some concern and indeed upset that this issue had been raised in such a way. It was pointed out that separate accounts had always been provided. Ian agreed that Village Hall matters were discussed as a separate item alongside normal Residents Association business. Len said he had not been invited to these meetings and should be as he is the elected representative of the Parish Council.

A comment was made that anyone was welcome at our meetings without prior invite.

It was not resolved as to who would attend future meetings of the Village Hall Management Committee at this time. Ian said it would be no problem to devote the first part of Residents Association meetings to Village Hall Management and minute those meetings separately if required to do so by the Parish Council under the terms of the

constitution. In this case the item Village Hall would be removed from the Residents Association Agenda.

Changes to the way the hall is managed and by whom was seen as exclusive by the rest of the Residents committee and did not take into account the vast amount of free labour and goodwill supplied by the current committee.

Margaret was particularly unhappy that the current arrangement was not thought good enough by the Parish Council especially in view of the fact that matters of finance were always separated at separate accounts maintained. Pat tried to calm things down but no solution was reached and management of the village hall was deferred until our next meeting.

The meeting then closed with no resolution.

A cheese and wine buffet was provided as a token of thanks for all who have supported the Association's work.

Minutes of AGM prepared by Ian Sill