Bedgrove Residents and Community Association

Registered Charity No. 1010279

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 13 June 2023 7.30pm

Church of The Holy Spirit Church Hall, Bedgrove

Minutes

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence:** Mark Broad, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies have been received

2. **Present:** Chris Gill, Linda Gill, Rosemary Saunders, Brian Saunders, Keith Barnett, Martin Kuhrt, Erika Rudd, Sarah and Josh Benger

   Committee members present: Mark Broad, Phil Droy, Jo Cheek, Trish Pullen, Chris Clarke, Julie Edwards, Jay Sasso., Stuart Twigg, Steve Davis

   Councillor members: Mark Winn, Tom Hunter-Watts *plus* Chris Ashton, Parks Officer from Bucks Council

   Apologies: Sabia Chogley (*Sabia has resigned from the committee. Mark has since taken her a card and some flowers to thank her for her contribution*)

3. **Minutes of AGM held on 20/6/2020: Matters arising**:
   a. **Community Speedwatch:** Mark Winn reported he is looking for volunteers to undertake the training and help run it. The training is an online course. There have not been many volunteers to date. Need to promote on social media.
   b. **Speed Signs:** Very faded but no action taken to date.
   c. **Parking on roads near schools:** Mark W reported that it is planned to place double yellow lines on corners. Dropped Curbs have been put in in some areas to assist with the disabled and those pushing prams, buggies, etc. They should also discourage parking as it is illegal to park in front of a dropped kerb.

4. **Chair's report: Mark Broad** reported another successful year for BRCA.. He has also been contacted by people who have been fined for exceeding the time limit for parking in Jansel Sq. This tends to happen to people who have visited twice in one day. People are advised to appeal the fines, explaining they visited on two separate occasions. Most people have their appeals upheld.

5. **Treasurer's report and presentation of accounts: Jo Cheek** Everyone in attendance was given a paper report of the Committee's accounts which at present show a healthy profit due to The Day in The Park profit and also from the Buckinghamshire lottery.

5. **Day in The Park 2022:** All agreed this was very successful, due in no small part to the weather being warm and sunny and also all the hard work put in by everyone, particularly Phil who organised all the stalls and attractions and worked hard marshalling traffic, etc. during the day. **Next Day in the Park is scheduled to take place on 13 July 2024**

6 **Newsletter: Jo Cheek is the newsletter Editor and Jay Sasso organises the distribution** We now distribute the newsletter twice a year to 3,000 households across Begrove, Turnfurlong and Cumberland Park. We desperately need more volunteers (Street Stewards) to help with posting the newsletters through doors. If you can help (even if just for your road or a couple of roads) please contact Jay on 07950796923

7. **Reaffirmation of Committee members:** All committee members present (see above), including two new members, Stuart Twigg and Steve Davis, affirmed their willingness to remain in their roles.

8. **Election of Committee Members: The following officers were elected:**

Name	**Role**	**Proposed**	**Seconded**
Mark Broad	Chair	Phil Droy	Chris Clark
Phil Droy	Vice Chair	Mark Broad	Jay Sasso
Jo Cheek	Treasurer	Mark Broad	Trish Pullen
Trish Pullen	Secretary	Phil Droy	Julie Edwards

9. **Councillors' Reports:**

a Tom Hunter-Watts:

- **Mobile Phone Masts**: These have been turning up in unwelcome places. One was sited in Narbeth Drive at the bottom of someone's garden. Objections resulted in Councillors making the decision it should be moved. Tom advised residents to look out for applications to site phone masts. These decisions are made by Councillors and have, on occasion, been turned down.

b Mark Winn:

- Discussed other **planning applications**. Some really "push the limits" as people try to encroach on open spaces, particularly if it adjacent to their properties.
- **The SE link road between Stoke Mandeville and Aylesbury**, joining up with the road through Hampden Fields will be dual carriageway and should relieve some of the traffic going through Bedgrove but it was pointed out that with all the extra houses being built there will be a lot more traffic generated anyway.

- **Parking near schools**: Continues to be problematic. Dropped pavements and double yellow lines have been proposed for some areas
- **State of Estate roads**. Mark said there is a programme of road repairs to fix the very many roads damaged by potholes across Buckinghamshire. The Bedgrove road from Brentwood Way down to Tring Road traffic lights to commence in June. Trish P asked when Cambourne Ave would be done but Mark didn't have a date. Trish also mentioned the footpath which runs from the top of the park, behind the houses and down to the crossing over Cambourne Ave to the Jansel Sq shops. It is in a really bad state of repair and difficult, even dangerous, for wheelchairs, disability scooters and baby buggies, etc. Mark said he was aware of this and it is being looked at.

10. **Proposed Bike Pump Track**: Mark introduced this item, saying there was real need to provide some facility for young people of all ages, to have some activity to do in the park, hopefully keeping them occupied and out of hanging around Jansel Sq. Sarah Benger (Resident) iterated that the group of youngsters wanting a pump track were not the same as those causing trouble in Jansel Sq. The group wanting a pump track. Including her son, Josh, were serious about the activity but the nearest track is in Woburn. They have tried Wendover Woods but just get shouted at by dog walkers.
It was agreed that a Pump Track in the park is a very worthwhile project and we need to get the young people themselves involved. What next? Jo has spoken to a couple of companies who have designed and built pump tracks. The costs will run into tens of thousands. Discussion ensued re raising funds. It was agreed that the £1500 remainder of the grant the Association received for the Covid Volunteer Group, and earmarked to be used for community benefit, could be put towards the pump track fund.
Jo is going to look at a just giving page. Stuart has some money from a charity which could be used.
Mark mentioned the Clare Foundation which (taken from their website) "*is a charity that brings together key stakeholders, partners, businesses and charitable organisations to facilitate and create positive change across society in Buckinghamshire".*
Once we have the go-ahead to use the park for a pump track, a small sub group, including interested young people, will meet in the park to discuss details.

PUMP TRACK UPDATE - SUBSEQUENT TO THE AGM
Jo is still waiting for official confirmation from the council that we have permission to use the land (this is with their legal dept!). Mark Winn and Jo have been working hard behind the scenes. They have met with the Clare Foundation and have been working on the business plan for funding bids. But these can't go ahead until we have the aforementioned council letter.

11. **A.O.B.**
    - **Stuart** raised **the trees planted for the Queen's Jubilee.** Chris said he had looked at them recently and they appear to be doing well. Some

vandalism, but otherwise doing well . The Committee thanks Steve and Stuart for working to maintain them. Discussion about possibility of planting more trees at a later date.

- **The demise of the cherry trees** on the path at the top of the park was noted. Mark said Councillors were not informed – it was apparently an insurance company who deemed them to be a risk to a nearby property.
- **Trish informed the meeting of the sad death of Josie Brown,** a long time Bedgrove resident who was well known by nearly everyone on the estate, having worked in Bishops/Budgeons and Co-Op for years. She was a larger than life character, a great lover of badges (pinned all over her uniform) and a Daniel O'Donnel superfan who travelled all over Britain to see him in concerts. Photos pinned all around her till attested to this! All customers received a Christmas card when they came in the shop at Christmas. (Sometimes more than one!)

Mark thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 9pm after which refreshments were served and conversations with the residents, councillors and committee members continued.

Date and time of next meeting (2024) to be confirmed