

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Woodbury Salterton Residents Association

Meeting held at Diggers Rest Woodbury Salterton at 7.30pm on 13 01 2015

<b>Present</b>	Norman Gordon, Dave Rose, Aran Brown, Diana Wackerbarth, Geoff Jung, Frank Mulholland, Pricilla Trenchard, Nigel Edwards	
<b>1. Apologies</b>	Ian Hunt, Diana Wackerbarth, Stuart Honour, Keith Phillips, Ben Jones	
<b>2 Previous Minutes</b>	The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed Mrs Jan Owen from Woodbury Residents Association which has recently been established.	
<b>3. Introduction of Jan Owen</b>	The minutes of the WSRA on 11/11/2014 were agreed and signed as a correct record	
<b>4. Matters Arising</b>	There were no matters arising	
<b>5. Correspondence</b>	All matters will be dealt with in the fabric of the meeting	
<b>6. Treasurers Report</b>	Due to the treasurers absence there was no report.  David Rose reported he will be handing in an invoice for the bulbs which had been planted on the Parkhayes Plantation .	
<b>7. Woodbury Residents Association</b>	Jan Owen explained that the Woodbury Residents Association was set up following 130 residents attending a meeting in woodbury regarding 2 planning applications on Globe Hill. Heritage Homes and Blue Cedar Homes. The Bank account has been established and a committee has been formed and will hold their first meeting on Wednesday 14/01/2015. They have had pledges for donations to help the challenge of these 2 applications. Jan thanked the WSRA committee for the material and advice in helping in setting up the WRA.  The Secretary hoped that the two similar bodies will be able to work together on issues which affect both villages.  Jan thank the WSRA Committee for inviting her to the committee meeting	
<b>8. Membership Secretaries Report</b>	Frank Mulholland that there are 114 paid up members with a 165 residents on the email list. The results on the survey carried out in Nov and Dec last year ; <b>WSRA Satisfaction Survey results highlights</b>  Total number of questionnaires started 54 Total number of questionnaires completed 41  <b>1. Are you aware of the following projects currently being undertaken by the WSRA?</b> A very strong, positive, response showing a good knowledge of the activities of the WSRA with a greater than 70% awareness of what we do.	

	<p><b>2. How informative are our communications?</b></p> <p>Emails and Flyers were the most informative with our Posters and Notice Board scoring less than 30%.</p> <p><b>3. How about the frequency of our communications?</b></p> <p>More than 80% of respondents thought that we had it just about right.</p> <p><b>4. And the length of our communications?</b></p> <p>Again more than 80% were happy with the amount of detail.</p> <p><b>5. Do you find the WSRA website useful?</b></p> <p>Greater than 80% said "OH YES!!!"</p> <p><b>6. How frequently do you visit our website?</b></p> <p>41% look at it monthly and around 25% less often and 19% more often. However some 15% have never looked at it at all.</p> <p><b>7. Do you have any suggestions for improvements to the website? This can include anything such as the appearance of the website, ease of use, content provided or suggestions for additional information which would be of use/interest to you.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. More details of local events held by the WSRA.</li> <li>b. Better archiving of older content.</li> <li>c. More regular updating of the web content.</li> </ul> <p><b>8. How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the WSRA?</b></p> <p>95% of people were either Very Satisfied or Satisfied.</p> <p><b>9. Are there any other activities which you would like the WSRA to organise or become involved?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. More social events.</li> <li>b. More content pushed to the Woodbury News.</li> <li>c. More effort could be made to encourage younger residents to become active participants in the Association and/or the Village</li> <li>d. A Phone Box Library???????</li> <li>e. Traffic counts on our main lanes.</li> <li>f. More community projects aimed at new residents and those less active.</li> <li>g. More Bulb planting.</li> </ul> <p><b>10. Do you have any suggestions for changes which you would like to see to the WSRA?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Organise more WSRA events for all age groups to encourage community spirit.</li> <li>b. Three comments praised the good work.</li> </ul> <p><b>11. Do you think the £3 annual subscription is good value</b></p> <p>More than 40% would support an increase to £5 with 55% saying it was just about right.</p> <p>It was agreed that a similar survey will be carried out each year.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the committee would endeavor to fulfill the activities requested by the members. These items will be included in the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>9. Report on Village Scene Projects</b></p>	<p><b>Parkhayes Plantation</b> Copy of a report from a meeting at Parkhayes Plantation with Kate Tobin on the 10 December 2014 which had been circulated by Diana to the committee members earlier</p> <p>Kate Tobin, Sally Elliott, Geoff Jung, Dave Rose, Diana Wackerbarth, Aran Brown in attendance.</p>	

	<p>Kate Tobin was (at the time of the meeting) the Making it Local Project Development Worker at Devon County Council, for the East Devon AONB area. She also has personal experience of managing a similar project in her own village. Through contact with Geoff and Sally, she agreed to meet us at the Parkhayes Plantation to discuss management and funding issues.</p> <p>She described the present vegetation as 'rank' – a technical term for tall coarse grass, cow parsley etc. We know that the soil is rich because of its history as a waste tip, and wild-flowers require poorer soil, so a lot of the discussion centred around ways of keeping the present vegetation under control and gradually developing woodland-edge-type planting – within our resources of time, energy and finance.</p> <p>Her main recommendation was to get the cutting under control.</p> <p>We also discussed preparation of the ground on the slope before planting the Woodland Trust saplings we have received, and other potential planting and enhancement of the site.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Woodland-edge planting</b> – Kate recommended that the saplings be planted in clumps or drifts rather than as a hedge, in the more shadowy areas along the bank below the trees and alongside the path. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to maximise woodland-edge habitat</li> <li>- to retain open views between the path and the higher, wooded level</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The ground needs to be cleared of nettles and brambles and dug over before the saplings are planted. Regular weeding thereafter would help to reduce the nettles.</p> <p>Alternatively, glyphosate (which is biodegradable) could be applied to an 18" diameter around the base of the trees, but has to be done by someone with a pesticide certificate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cutting and composting</b> – Kate suggested a BCS mower and min-baler. On public land a certificate is needed for this – also for brush-cutters, chainsaws, anything with a blade, and pesticides. The cuttings could instead be raked off by hand and composted on-site.</li> </ul> <p>Kate recommended that for rank grass, cutting down to the ground between August and Oct. A spring cut will also encourage summer flowers. The grass cuttings can be retained in a compost heap on-site but take a long time to decompose. Also leaves and mulched nettle make good compost. She suggested we would need a big enough compost area with two or three compartments.</p> <p>Cutting along the paths needs to be done very regularly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wildflower planting</b> – This would require stripping off the turf to leave just thin soil. We could cut the whole lot, or – more realistically – could decide on zones in sunny areas to develop one at a time. We could cut each autumn to see what comes up, or we could dig over and sow wildflower seed. The higher end of the central wooded area seems to be the best candidate for this.</li> </ul> <p>Margaret's Meadow between Sidmouth and Sidford has been developed in this way, and would be a good place to visit in July for inspiration and to gather seed of Yellow Rattle – a plant that helps to control coarse grass.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fruit trees</b> – We discussed suitable locations in the more sunny spots for planting fruit trees in future – perhaps in clumps of 3 or 4 at each end of the main path.</li> <li>• <b>Entrance from Lower Road</b> – We also discussed re-designing this entrance, to enhance the impact of the site and to make the most of the view across to</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Woodbury Common – perhaps to provide a seat, relocate the salt-bin, and rationalise or remove the metal fencing/gate that seems to have no purpose.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wood pile</b> – Kate suggested re-locating it against the bank at the back of the site.</li> <li>• <b>Notices</b> – Generally Kate proposes notices that start with an explanation of what we are doing and welcomes people in – rather than ‘Keep-off/Leave-alone’ (eg. ref wood pile)</li> <li>• <b>Clambering trails for children</b> – eg up the rear bank among the trees</li> <li>• It was decided that there should be some clearing and planting days arranged after Christmas with involvement of other neighbours and perhaps of the school, in order to plant the saplings (currently in Diana’s garden)</li> <li>• A rough planting plan needs to be drawn up</li> <li>• Geoff will pursue with Priscilla the idea of an artist’s impression/plan of the site for the notice-board.</li> <li>• Other plans for planting and infrastructure to be discussed in future, depending also on outcome of further funding .</li> </ul> <p>Following a discussion it was agreed that group would strim the area required for planting ready for rotovating within the next few weeks</p> <p><b>Play park</b> The Secretary reported that the contractors working on behalf of the Woodbury Parish council had completed the task of fitting the new Play and Sports Equipment. There are a number of further tasks to complete with refurbishing the old equipment, putting more grass matting down and constructing a covered seating area.</p> <p>A Grand opening is to be organised in the spring with sports events and other activities with a date to be arranged with EDDC and Woodbury Parish Council.</p> <p><b>Book Exchange</b> Pricilla reported that the book exchange was very popular and the call for children’s books resulted in a good supply</p> <p>Pricilla reported however that due to the number of books being donated she has had to take some to a charity shop. She proposes to send out an email asking residents only to deposit books if there is sufficient shelf space.</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>PT</p>
<p><b>10. Update on planning and parish issues.</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Issues</b> The secretary reported that Clyst St Mary have set up a group to challenge a number of planning applications. The total number of dwellings would increase the village by 120% One site is on the Friends Life site which is now empty, and another proposal at the Cat and the Fiddle Pub.</p> <p><b>Hugo Swire MP Meetings</b> The secretary reported that he had received a telephone call from Hugo Swire’s assistant proposing a joint meeting between the villages of Clyst St George, Ebford , Woodbury and Woodbury Salterton at Clyst St George village Hall. The secretary pointed out that the village hall would not be able to accommodate the number of people who would like to attend and suggested that there should be 2 meetings one in the parish of Clyst St George/Ebford and another in Woodbury Parish to include Woodbury Salterton.</p> <p>The meeting for Clyst St George has been arranged for Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January from 6.39pm to 7.30pm and the Woodbury meeting is yet to be arranged.</p> <p><b>EDDC Local Plan.</b> The secretary reported that he has not received any news on when the long awaited local plan will be presented to the full council. In a statement made in November it was said to be in January 2015 that the document would be ready. The Secretary said he will inform the committee as soon as he has further information</p>	

	<p><b>Woodbury Parish Council N.hood Plans.</b> The secretary reported that the N.hood plan had been completed by the editor hired by the Parish Council. It had been proof read by the steering group and at a WPC meeting on the 12/01/2015 the Council was informed by Ken Perry on behalf of the steering group that the document had been printed and arrangements for distribution was in hand.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the previous work on the N.hood plan. The secretary reported that early in 2013 four separate groups of residents were set up to deliver different segments to the plan. Each group had a chair who then attended Steering Group meetings attended by the three councillors on the steering group, a facilitator and sometimes a district councillor.</p> <p>The Secretary was asked when Tim Paterson was co-opted on to the steering group but the secretary who is also a councillor told the meeting that he was never aware he was in the steering group. The other two councillors on the steering group were Ken Perry and Graham Gerdes.</p> <p>The Secretary had read the full draft document and had noticed a number of errors especially in the maps shown within the document. He also considered that a number proposals were somewhat controversial but taking it on balance he considered that it was better the document was being sent out, to enable residents to read it and for the feedback and answers from the 72 questions to enable a more robust and thorough plan that reflex the wishes of most residents. It was very important to complete the task of completing the plan as soon as possible.</p> <p>Aran Brown asked if the N.hood plan would help in planning matters, and the secretary reported that an approved plan would prevent any developer from applying for planning permission if it was not included within the N.hood plan.</p> <p>Aran Brown also asked if it was possible to carry out an Association response similar to the responses which the Association submit for planning applications. The secretary informed the meeting this can be done, but it was important to encourage all residents to take part in the submissions.</p> <p>It was agreed that the committee will read the report and return to the subject at the next committee meeting.</p> <p><b>14/1821/MOUT</b> Sages Lea. The 14 page response regarding the further information sent by the developers agent has been sent to EDDC and is now available to view on the WSRA website and the EDDC Planning Website under Documents. The Secretary reported that DCC Highways had again recommended refusal to the proposed development.</p> <p><b>Wood Yew Waste</b> The secretary reported that the 10 page response to the Planning Appeal has been received by the Inspectors dealing with the Appeal) It is expected that a decision my take up to 6 weeks. The committee is opposed to a third stream of recycling product to be added at the site.</p> <p><b>14/1818FUL</b> The planning application at Greendale Business Park for two Residential Caravans has been withdrawn.</p> <p><b>14/2064/FUL</b> The planning application at Greendale Business Park for an Electric Generation Plant Building has had further information an updated response has been sent. The committee are opposed to this application due to the location being close to residential properties</p> <p><b>14/2233/RES</b> The planning application at Greendale Business Park (Retrospective) for a 2 story Unit and Yard The developer wishes to change the wall cladding colour, but the committee consider that the unit should be clad in Green to comply with the outline planning permission in 2009</p>	
		KP
		DR
		GJ

	<p><b>14/2843/FUL</b> The planning application at Hogsbrook Farm (Retrospective) for PV Array to be sited on an open field, next to Hogsbrook farm. The committee is opposed to this application as an application in 2013 (13/0358/FUL) proposed to site the array on the cattle shed roof. Therefore as the placing of PV array on a roof is more preferable than in open farmland the original plan should be carried out</p> <p><b>14/2843/OUT</b> Bridge Farm. Outline application for a single house in a residential garden. This application was refused but the applicant has appealed to the Planning Inspectorate. The Inspector report gave a suggestion that if the applicant used a shared drive for the new dwelling he considered that the LPA may look more favourable on the proposal. The committee considered that they would make no comment on the application.</p>	
	<p>Ben Jones who was unavailable to attend had made a proposal for organising a “Ceilidh” A type of country dance with a possible barbeque, bands and bar on a field opposite the Parkhayes Plantation.</p> <p>It was agreed to ask Ben to bring a more detailed proposal with costings to the next meeting</p>	
<b>Next meeting</b>	<p>The Meeting concluded at 9.15pm</p> <p>The next meeting will be at the Diggers Rest at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10/02/2015</p>	
<b>Signed</b>		