

# **BRADWAY ACTION GROUP Minutes**

Committee Meeting: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011, 7.15 pm. at the Old Mother Redcap.

Present: Peter Stubbs (Ch.), John Child, Stephen George, Kevan Holloway, John Kirkman, Phillip Righton, Andrew Tabor, Fiona Vallely.

**1. Apologies.** Apologies had been received from Peter Smithson, and John Pritchett.

## **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

The Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011 meeting were approved as a correct record.

## **3. Matters arising on the Minutes not covered elsewhere.**

(i) Minute 3(i): The Chairman reported that most of the shops were content with the proposal for Christmas lights but a response was awaited from the freeholder of some premises. Assuming the power supply to be out of reach, SCC's only concern was over the security of any brackets for Xmas Trees. The power issue still needed to be resolved.

(ii) Minute 4a(i): Nat West had made "clinics" available but there remains some confusion as to the service to be offered by the sub Post Office.

iii) Minute 4a(iii) No more complaints had been received about HGVs using Queen Victoria Road, but BAG would continue to monitor HGV routes through Bradway.

## **4. Reports**

### **a. Chairman**

(i) The Fun Day on 19<sup>th</sup> August had been a great success and the best ever financially but there had been a problem over access to the Annexe and the City Council had been informed. Changes for the future might include finding an alternative attraction to replace the climbing wall and putting on specific events at various times during the afternoon. (ii) An accident had recently occurred at Tinker's Corner. The City Council had been informed and a meeting to discuss possible safety improvements requested

All other issues were covered by later agenda items.

**b. Secretary:** The secretary apologised that he had yet to finish his analysis of the Localism Bill which will be circulated when complete. All other issues were covered by later agenda items.

### **c. Treasurer**

As the treasurer was not present he will give a full report to the AGM. The current year-end balance stands at some £6346.

### **d. Membership Secretary**

The membership stands at 36 individuals and 105 households covering 2 or more people.

**e. Community Hall:** John Child reported that the Hall is being well used.

**f. Other Reports:** Stephen George was still awaiting a response to his further letter to Nick Clegg regarding public liability insurance for voluntary groups working on behalf of the local authority (Big Society). He reported that it looks as if the proposed restructuring of local community policing will go ahead but both the NAG and Neighbourhood Watch were awaiting notification of final decisions. A speed camera could be borrowed from our PCO to assist in assessing problems with speed limit compliance. This might be worth using on Twentywell Road.

## **5. Planning Issues**

Conditional approval has been granted in respect of the revised driveways for 25/25A Prospect Road. The installation has been monitored and appears to be in compliance with the consent.

## **6. Old School Field**

The new picnic benches had been installed. Some youths had been reprimanded for damaging one of the willow trees. Some weeding had been done to the proposed garden area, pending approval to the idea in principle. New heavy-duty catches had been bought for the gates and would be fixed shortly. An application has been made to the NatWest Thriving Communities Fund for a grant towards resurfacing the play area. For this to succeed BAG needs lots of votes

so BAG members will be encouraged both to vote and to get friends and family to vote for BAG. The Village Green application is still very slowly being processed by the Registration Authority (SCC). A quote had been received from Creative Play for replacing the play area surfacing with a bonded rubber material. Once VAT was included the estimate was for some £9,500. A way of reducing cost might be if SCC, as site owner, could be persuaded to undertake contracting, with BAG meeting the costs, as this would take allow for costs net of VAT. Alternative quotes should be sought. As the BAG reserves would not cover the current estimated costs without some form of grant aid it was proposed that immediate action might be directed at repairing the broken fencing allowing more time for fund raising.

## 7. Bradway Bugle

John Baker is continuing for a little longer as Editor. Before the student volunteers can start to prepare the copy for printing some technical issues need to be resolved with the printer.

## 8. Consultations:

**(i) Sheffield Compact.** A consultation is under way over a revised "Compact" between the City Council, NHS and the Voluntary Sector. This appears to be primarily aimed at providers of Council or NHS services and as such does not reflect adequately the role of many small voluntary bodies in augmenting Council activities. The Secretary and John Child to consider the consultation paper, and circulate a draft response to the Committee prior to submission to SCC.

**(ii) SCC changes to revenue grants.** While BAG will not be affected directly it was noted that there could well be a knock-on effect for budgets from which BAG might previously have received grants.

**(iii) Boundary Commission proposals.** The proposed changes would reunite the whole of Bradway within one parliamentary boundary which might assist in securing future changes to local authority boundaries.

**(iv) 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector research project: Uptake.** The request for an online response was unsatisfactory as this limited scope for proper consultation. It was agreed that the Secretary should request more information and a survey form so that proper consideration might be given to any response BAG might wish to make.

**(v) Village Greens.** The Secretary reported that the application in respect of the Recreation Ground had been completed and was with the solicitor. It should be submitted by the end of this week. DEFRA is consulting on proposals to change the Village Greens registration procedures. While the changes should ensure that weak or vexatious applications are weeded out at an early stage, they would also exclude from the possible registration land proposed or designated for development in neighbourhood or local plans. Any changes will have little or no effect on land in Bradway as applications are already being processed for the only vulnerable open spaces. The secretary had responded to the Open Spaces Society request for information relating to applications for Village Green Status expressing concerns over the delays imposed by the Registration Authority in even acknowledging receipt of applications.

## 9. Ward Forum / South West Community Assembly

The last meeting of the Ward Forum on 7<sup>th</sup> September, chaired by the Totley Residents Association, considered proposals worked up by the Traffic Focus Group for areas within the Ward where 20mph speed restrictions might be justified within the current guidelines. Our three Councillors were present and now have ideas to take to the South West Community Assembly. There were differing views as to whether restrictions were appropriate or as to how widely they might be applied. The SWCA needed to provide the Council with proposals that would meet local needs and wider consultation was required across the Ward. Local community groups, publications, the Community Assembly Newsletter and notices in Libraries could all play a role. It is expected that any changes will be rolled out as part of the PFI project so that signage changes could be included along with other street improvements. People were encouraged to respond to the SCC consultation on Bin Collections. The Dore Station Park and Ride had received planning consent but implementation could take some time as the SYPTE had used most of its project budget on acquiring the site and could not afford to finish the job straight away. The next SWCA meeting is on 29<sup>th</sup> September. For details see the City Council website.

**10. Constitutional amendment.** The independent examiner had pointed out an inaccuracy in the constitution which refers to "audit" rather than "independent examination". A correcting amendment will be put before the AGM.

## 11. AGM

The agenda for the AGM was agreed. In the absence of any other expressions of interest, Stephen George agreed to allow his name to be put forward as Chairman for a limited period.

## 12. Future Activities and meeting dates

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Gardening [Bulb planting] and litter pick Old School Field.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October: Annual General Meeting

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Bulb planting

### **13 Any Other Business.**

It was agreed that there were no suitable projects within Bradway to take advantage of the Community Action Against Crime: Innovation Fund.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.17 pm.