

BRADWAY ACTION GROUP

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting,

Tuesday 11 October 2011 at 7.15.p.m. Bradway Primary School

Present: 27 members including Councillor Hill and one non-member resident of Bradway. The Chairman, Peter Stubbs, opened the meeting at 7.15 p.m. Apologies had been received from 7 members and two committee members absent for business reasons.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting 12 October 2010

The previously circulated minutes of the last AGM were agreed. There were no matters arising that were not covered on the Agenda.

2. Chairman's Report

Peter Stubbs reported that 2010/11 had been a frustrating year. The City Council refused to accept the petition calling for clarification of traffic priorities at Tinker's Corner and the highways department refused to accept that there was a problem. Then, despite a strong campaign by many local residents, our local councillors and BAG, supported by our MP and the full City Council, NatWest went ahead with the closure of our local branch in July. Twelve months on, despite much prompting, no real progress appears to have been made on our application to have Village Green status conferred on the Old School Field.

We have submitted an application for Village Green status for the Recreation ground.

Our efforts to improve our local environment have continued, with another 1500 bulbs planted last autumn and regular maintenance sessions on the Old School Field. We also planted another willow tree, undertook a general litter pick of the area in the spring, and restocked and maintained the planters on Bradway Road and Twentywell lane.

Several members and others contributed to keeping local footways clear of snow and ice during the winter, two having received formal training as snow wardens.

The year has seen two minor elements of the Traffic Action Plan put in place: the "speed indicator device" on Twentywell Lane and the advance stop sign on the approach to Tinker's Corner, though the latter seems to have made little difference.

We are also monitoring to see whether the introduction of the weight limit on Bocking Lane has had a knock-on effect on the number of HGVs using Prospect Road or Twentywell Lane.

An appeal to TM Travel failed to save the 293 bus route in its original form.

A quiet year so far as planning applications were concerned, with objections only registered in respect of concerns over drainage with the redevelopment of the site of No 25 Prospect Road.

Both Open Meetings were well attended, and the Fun Day was our best yet in terms of net income (£660), thanks partly to a generous grant from the City Council to offset our expenses. This included a large contribution towards the cost of the climbing wall, without which the wall would not have been viable.

During the school Easter holidays, some damage was caused to the fence around the playground and a spate of fires was started on the Recreation Ground. In June the picnic bench was burned to the ground after a prank went wrong. However, the perpetrators of the latter owned up, took part in the July litter pick and subsequently helped to construct two new picnic benches. Just a week later another group of youths was seen vandalising the older willow tree, but after they had been read the riot act, no further such incidents have occurred and the tree should survive more or less intact.

We continued to manage the distribution of the Bradway Bugle, and to explore options for increasing our involvement in its production.

The Ward Forum for Dore and Totley continued to enjoy our support and meetings of the South West Community Assembly were attended whenever possible.

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Once again our activities have been insured, thanks to a grant of £411 from the South Yorkshire Community Foundation, without which the high cost of insurance would take up a large part of our income.

Full copies of the report were made available and it will be posted on the BAG web site.

There being no matters arising, the Chairman's Report was accepted.

3. Treasurer's Report.

Peter Smithson presented the accounts, which had been independently examined by Peter Jones. He drew specific attention to:

- (i) The timing of the Fun Day meant some inconsistencies relating to income and expenditure as some of the costs and all of the income for 2011 would be shown in the 2011/2012 account.
- (ii) Income from the *Bradway Bugle* was up though distribution costs were higher than last year.
- (iii) Grants totalling £911 had been received from the City Council and SY Community Fund.
- (iv) Income from memberships and donations was down possibly reflecting the current economic climate. Currently, almost 150 households are members of BAG, representing over 250 individual residents. The more members we have, the more we can claim to represent the local community. There being no change the membership fee will remain at the 2010/2011 level.
- (v) The year-end balance, of some £6384, includes £455 received last year from the former Bradway Neighbourhood Association that is intended for Christmas Lights at the Twentywell Lane shops once necessary agreements and assents are in place.

4. Amendment to Articles 5.5 and 10.5 of the Constitution

It was unanimously agreed that at Article 5.5 the words "duly audited" be replaced by "independently examined"; and at Article 10.5 the word "audited" be replaced by "independently examined".

5. Election of Officers and Committee

The following were elected unopposed:

Chair Stephen George; *Deputy Chair* Fiona Vallely; *Secretary* Andrew Tabor;
Treasurer Peter Smithson; *Membership Secretary* Kevan Holloway.
Committee John Kirkman; John Pritchett; Phillip Righton; Lynn Smith; Rob Wilks.

6. Issues affecting Bradway Residents

(1) **Bus services.** In the summer Stagecoach took over the 293 route from TM and has run a service from Dronfield down Twentywell Lane to Sheffield. They have now decided on commercial grounds to withdraw the service. The Chairman had made representations to Stagecoach, and Councillor Hill to the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority, both to no avail. It has been suggested to TM that reintroduction of a Dronfield Sheffield service linking to Dore Station might now be a viable proposition and a response is awaited.

(2) **Ward Forum.** The Dore and Totley Ward Forum has set up a Traffic Focus Group to examine traffic-related issues on a Ward-wide basis so as to provide a co-ordinated community input to the South West Community Assembly (SWCA). The initial work has focused on the possible implementation of 20mph areas and parking problems. The SWCA has agreed to consultations to start in November over possible locations for 20mph areas, though this may be overridden by the City Council's decision to fund a year-long, city-wide examination of the benefits of introducing 20mph speed restrictions and where these might best be located. Budget constraints are likely to play a key role in any decisions with the possibility that some 20mph areas might be linked in to the Road Maintenance PFI initiative.

BAG will continue to work with the Focus Group and Ward Forum to press SWCA for action.

(3) **Bradway Bugle.** John Baker will continue to edit the *Bugle* and is considering extending its distribution to include parts of Greenhill and Beauchief. Now that the *Bugle* will not be sharing content

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with *Dore to Door* it needs to generate more items of interest to local readers. All readers are to be encouraged to submit either articles or ideas that might be worked up into articles.

(4) **Bradway Annex.** BAG is seeking to improve the area around the entrance by developing a flower bed. The ground has been dug over and a few plants introduced but more are needed. Any contributions welcomed. The next issue of the Bugle will seek plants to be delivered on an agreed time so that a properly planned planting may be undertaken.

(5) **Snow Wardens.** There are three trained snow wardens in Bradway but we understand that the Council have no plans to recruit and train any more this year. The snow shovels provided proved excellent last year and if more could be obtained for BAG use this would be very useful.

(6) **Environment.** Those interested in environment issues may like to attend the next presentation by the Environmental Law Foundation, details of the date will be circulated once it is known.

Finally Councillor Hill moved a vote of thanks for all Peter Stubbs's hard work as Chairman over the past years, which was unanimously supported. A small presentation was made by his Committee colleagues.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Our thanks to Fairways Estate Agents for copying most of the papers for the meeting.