

Berkswell Society

Notes of Committee Meeting 7th November 2017 at the Bear Inn

Present			Apologies
John Thomas (in Chair) Graham Davison (Treasurer) Andrew Burrow (minutes)	Bill Bailey Alan Hanbury Graham Lock	Ken Shaw Jim Ellis	Jane Edwards Malcolm Hickin
Item No	Action		By whom
22/2017	Minutes of the meeting 24 th April 2017 were approved		
23/2017	Matters arising 1. Grants received 1.1. £500 from PC and £450 from Berkswell Charities 2. Planters for Berkswell village 2.1. Yet to be installed. Authorisation for the purchase of compost etc approved. John Thomas to organise 3. It was noted that Solihull in Bloom had been discontinued due to financial reasons by SMBC. Berkswell village were the last ever recipients of the best kept village award 4. There is no news on the village farm planning application and no notification of the date it will go to the planning committee has been received		JT
24/2017	Financial Report 1. Total balances in bank to the value of £2461.89 (see appendix) with a liability of the promised grant to the Scout House appeal 2. It was agreed to purchase 9 bricks for the scout house rather than make a conditional donation towards a specific piece of equipment. The Treasurer was authorised to do this at a cost of £540 3. It was approved in retrospect that the Treasurer was authorised to register the Society with the status of a charitable type body with respect of its bond holdings to meet the requirements of new financial regulations. The cost is £84 annually 4. It was agreed in principle that the society would meet the printing costs for the NGS brochure for the fund raising open gardens in 2018		
25/2017	Traffic Calming Project It was noted that the ARUP had produced final proposals for a comprehensive traffic calming and safety improvement project for Berkswell village. The parish council to discuss it at their meeting on 9 th November. Consultation would be required with SMBC Highways, conservation officer and tree officer to ensure that there are no objections in principle to any the 6 key elements of the scheme. Thereafter it is suggested that a round of further consultation with (1) villagers (all proposals) and (2) Balsall Common residents (with respect to the two parking proposals) will take place.		Parish Council
26/2017	Future Co-ordination of planters and bulb planting in Berkswell village 1. A vote of thanks was made to Bill Bailey for all of his work coordinating the planting activities in the village 2. It was agreed that GL would seek volunteers for a replacement		GL
27/2017	Berkswell Parish NDP It was noted that the consultation period on Issues and Options for an NDP had concluded. There had been 404 responses to the general questionnaire and 19 to the business questionnaire. Of the responses to the general questionnaire 66.9% were from Berkswell Parish residents representing about 10% of the electorate. The NDP Committee would start the work of analysis at its meeting on 8 th November.		
28/2017	Festival of Christmas Trees It was noted that the Parish Council had ordered 7 Christmas trees for placement around Balsall Common. Society volunteers and other residents will help with their erection.		

Berkswell Society

	It was noted that the parish council had authorised £100 to be spent on Christmas lights for Berkswell village following the generous decision by the PCC to pay for the village Christmas tree. Graham Lock agreed to discuss this with the shop owners who had purchased the previous set of light to ensure a coordinated approach and then seek to buy an appropriate set of lights in conjunction with the PC Clerk	GL
29/2017	NDP It was noted that the PC was almost at a position to commence an NDP for the Parish following the demise of the joint NDP with Balsall PC. An application had been made to SMBC to de-designate the joint area and establish a designation for Berkswell Parish. The PC had also been interviewing consultants to work with us. Timescale about 12 months to making application for external examination. Jane Edwards to be BS representative.	
30/2017	Helpers List Ken Shaw reported that he had compiled the helpers list in Excel format. Its purpose was that the committee knew who did what and this knowledge was not dissipated with individuals. KS and GL to discuss the best way of keeping is available and up to date	KS & GL
31/2017	Winter Planting 1. A budget of £200 was agreed for winter planting in Balsall Common 2. It was agreed to pause planting in Berkswell village. Photographs would be taken on where bulbs flowered in spring to plan for winter 2018/19	
32/2017	Berkswell Society Web site 1. It was noted that the PC was to create its own web site on its own domain and that the Church had already done this. This meant that the combined web site no longer had a purpose. Its technology was "old" and not easy to modify. 2. It was agreed to create a new web site for the Society (with links to the PC and Church sites). The site would be simple in purpose 2.1. "Billboard" to explain society activities 2.2. List of local organisations and contacts as present 2.3. Photos of activities which are changed annually 2.4. Limited capability to announce forthcoming local community events	JE/ASB
33/2017	Parish Boundary 1. It was noted that on 28 th November that the SMBC Governance Committee would consider commencing a boundary review involving Balsall and Berkswell Parishes. This follows the BCVRA obtaining the necessary signatures for a "legal" petition requesting a review based on merging the two parishes and establishing a single council with electoral wards 2. It was agreed that the role of the Society would be to remain neutral but take action to ensure that ensure that the residents of Berkswell were informed of the issues and options and were helped to make their views known. Possible activities could include 2.1. Organising public meeting in Berkswell village and Balsall Common, perhaps in conjunction with the BCVRA 2.2. Helping residents making their individual views know to the Governance Committee during the consultation period that SMBC will hold	
34/2017	Charitable fund raising at Balsall Common Festival It was noted that the Society had raised £30 for charity as an adjunct to its display of the Society's activities. It was agreed that the money would be donated to Little Ray of Sunshine, a alzheimers support charity based in Kenilworth . The Treasurer to organise this in conjunction with John Thomas	GD/JT
35/2017	Litter Pick It was agreed that mid March 2018 was an appropriate time. Sophie Lock to organise in conjunction with BCVRA	
36/2017	Various	

Berkswell Society

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was agreed that the church light sleeves was not a Society project but the Society was grateful to Philip Jagger's offer to fund these 2. It was agreed in principle to hang a directions sign for pedestrians on the old museum sign post directing visitors to the church and well. Bill Bailey to investigate 	BB
	Date of next meeting would be Wednesday 31st January 2018. Please will John Thomas organise the venue in Bear	JT

Berkswell Society

BERKSWELL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1ST JANUARY 2017 TO DATE

Balances as at January 1st 2017

Current account	1502.73
Deposit Account	772.88
	<u>2275.61</u>

INCOME

Berkswell Charities Annual Grant	450.00	
Berkswell Parish Council	500.00	
Dividend Oct 2016	287.44	
Dividend Apr 2017	287.44	
Dividend Oct 2017	287.44	
	<u>1812.32</u>	
		<u>4087.93</u>

EXPENDITURE

Andrew Burrow – Plants/Planters	354.13	
Rounthwaite – Plants Carol Green	27.67	
Shares Management Fee 2016/2017	80.00	
Charity registration fee	84.00	
SMBC – Tourist Board Sign	365.21	
Winner of Best Kept Village Sign	270.00	
CPRE	36.00	
Craddocks - Plants for Parish	409.03	
	<u>1626.04</u>	
		<u>2461.89</u>

Balances as at November 5th 2017

Current account	1689.01
Deposit account	772.88
	<u>2461.89</u>
Investment GAFLAC 7.7/8% Pref Shares	10850.00
	<u>13311.89</u>

Graham G Davison ACIB
Treasurer
05.11.2017

Commitments:- Scouts £500