



Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association

Registered Charity No. 279592

MINUTES of the User Group Meeting held on Wednesday 17 Jan 2007

Present:

Committee Members: Ian Millar (Chairman); John Pettet (Treasurer); Jane Foster; Loraine Martin; Kevin Hitchings; Barbara Hitchings; Anne Sole; Elizabeth Barrett (Secretary); Jan Dawkins (Bookings Secretary).

User Gps etc: Denise Tosdevine (Pre School Playgroup); Douglas Richardson (St Luke's); Sarah Levinge (Badminton); Gwen Hobbis (Friendly Club); Joan Millar (Dancing); Keith Taylor (BF Parish Council); Mark Brown + Pauline Biddle (Social Club)

1) Apologies: Committee: Ray Bennett; Rachel Skinner; User Gps: Geoff Sharman (OB Parish Council); Martin Letts (Winchester Probus); Angela Banks (Calligraphy); C. Wyeth (Yoga)

2 To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting of the Oct 06 meeting:

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by John Pettet and seconded by Keith Taylor.

3) Matters arising

Ian Millar reported that a further request to use the rear door to the Battery as an entry point to the building would be discussed by the Executive Committee at its meeting the following week.

Ian mentioned that the hatched area in the car park must be kept clear – to allow entry for emergency vehicles. Also - the gate at bottom of garden has been adjusted for easier use and made more secure, but it too must be kept clear for access.

4) Report from the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Ian's report covered the following topics:

Many improvements to the building have been carried out. These were commissioned by the Executive Committee in celebration of the 20th anniversary of building. Most of the improvements have now been completed apart from new carpeting which was due to be laid in a few weeks time.

Because of the new Fire Regulations, an additional clause had been added to the conditions of hire and this has now been sent to all Groups. The Executive Committee would appreciate the co-operation of all User Groups in ensuring that their members are aware of this. Each group should in place procedures for observing the new arrangements.

Rats – some were seen in the garden. The Community Association is going to supply rat boxes and Sainsbury's have agreed to add them to their existing maintenance agreement. The boxes contain rat poison not traps. They are designed so that the rats will eat the poison and take it back to their nests. Keith Taylor confirmed that the Parish Council is aware of the problem in the area and concerns will be raised with the City Council.

Ian introduced Jan Dawkins, our new Bookings Secretary, who is now in post.

5) Report from Badger Farm Parish Council.

Keith reported:

Rats – have been seen mainly in gardens that back on to open ground.

New signage has been approved for Sainsbury's front entrance. It is larger than the existing sign. There are plans for a new coffee shop at the other end of the shop.

Motor bikes on Bushfield are an on-going problem. The area is private property so police cannot intervene. It may be necessary to issue an injunction because of the noise the bikes are causing.

The Youth Worker survey has been suspended for winter but will restart when the light evenings arrive.

New R.S.O.'s are due to start work in the next month or so. They are support officers for police. They have limited arrest powers. The Badger Farm area is due to have three officers.

6) Report from Oliver's Battery Parish Council.

No report available as Geoff Sharman was unwell. Geoff had sent an email with his very best wishes for the Community Association's 20th Anniversary.

7) User Group Reports

Pre-school playgroup reported that one of the toilets is leaking and thought that generally the toilets had a down-at-heel appearance. Ian agreed that possible improvements would be discussed by the Executive Committee.

Other groups reported they were happy with how things were running.

Loraine Martin from Hampshire Wildlife Trust said that her group would like to be able to start their meeting earlier if that became possible. It was agreed that Loraine and Jan would discuss this.

Gwen passed on praise for the help her group gets from Merv the caretaker.

Mark Brown from the Social Club said how pleased they were with the improvements made to the building. It is planned to provide an awning in the garden near the bars when the smoking ban comes into force in July,

Some local pubs were being closed and the Social Club hoped that might mean some new members for them. Mark asked if it would be OK to put up a banner on the external wall to advertise the Social Club. Ian said that the Executive Committee would discuss this with Mark at their next meeting.

8 Any Other Business

There was none.

Date of Next meeting: Wed 18th April, 8pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm and was followed by a social gathering in celebration of the 20th Anniversary.