



# **Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association**

Registered Charity No. 279592

## **Minutes of User Group Meeting held on Wednesday 16 April 2008**

### **Present:**

Committee: Rachel Skinner (Vice-Chairman); John Pettet (Treasurer); Anne Sole; Jane Foster; Loraine Martin; Elizabeth Barrett; Jan Dawkins (Bookings Secretary.)

### **User Groups:**

Anne Sole (Pre-School Playgroup); Loraine Martin (Hampshire Wildlife Trust); Elizabeth Barrett (Tae Kwon-Do); Douglas Richardson (St Luke's Church); Keith Taylor (Badger Farm Parish Council); Representative from Winchester Country Market; Sarah Levinge (Badminton Club.)

### **1: Apologies:**

Ian Millar (Chairman); Joan Millar (Ian & Joan Millar Dancing.)

### **2: Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2008:**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2008 were accepted on a proposal by Elizabeth Barrett, seconded by Loraine Martin.

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **3: Report from Executive Committee Vice-Chairman:**

The Vice-Chairman reported:

The Community Centre would be holding an Open Day on Sunday 22 June 2008. A second meeting of all interested parties had been arranged for Saturday 10 May at the Community Centre at 11.00am. The Vice-Chairman said it was intended to hold a raffle on the day and asked for donations of prizes.

The Vice-Chairman reported that Kevin and Barbara Hitchings had now stepped down from organising the annual bonfire and fireworks display after 17 years having done a magnificent job. She said that new and experienced volunteers to take on this role were sought urgently otherwise it was likely the event for 2008 would be cancelled. An article would be put in the next edition of Community News.

The Vice-Chairman finally advised those present that the AGM would be held on Wednesday 16 June 2008 at 8.00pm followed by the next User Group Meeting.

### **4: Report from Badger Farm Parish Council:**

Keith Taylor reported:

The new Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) had been in the area (South Winchester and Twyford) for almost a year now. He believed that they had improved the level of policing, and yet we still suffered problems from nuisance and vandalism. Keith reported there was still local damage to property and some under-age drinking in the Parish, particularly round the Central Kick-about area. Badger Farm had become part of the alcohol exclusion zone in the city. This means that there are restrictions on anyone drinking alcohol in public places. In practice, this was not likely to affect many people, but it had given the authorities additional powers.

There had been several planning applications from Sainsbury's in the last year, concerning a car wash and some extensions to the store and petrol station. They were planning an increase in floor space by about 20% and various other new facilities. The work on the store was well underway, and should be complete in about three month's time. The work on the petrol station had yet to get its final approval. Keith said we have been kept fully informed by Sainsbury's about their plans.

A larger planning issue was the Local Development Framework. This was a "plan for a plan" concerning the future housing strategy for Winchester City and other areas. Our position was that the planned boundaries, including Barton Farm, would provide as good a solution to the affordable housing problem as would the "step change" option (which could involve a large new development near Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery.) If the existing size of Barton Farm is insufficient, then we propose that the size of development at Barton farm is increased

Another topic is the environment. On one level, there are concerns over dog fouling in the Parish, and in particular on Whiteshute Ridge. Keith had had representations from both sides on this issue and the question of providing more "dog bins" often came up. The siting of the bins is regularly looked into but they are very expensive to empty and maintain, and they have to be accessible by vehicles for maintenance. Keith said this would be looked at again but in the mean time he would put an item in Community News.

Also on the environment, Keith reported that Winchester got some bad press on environmental issues recently, but this should make us all the more vigilant on green issues. He had recently attended a meeting of Winchester Action on Climate Change, and said that Oliver's Battery were taking some action themselves. Keith understood there was a Green Party candidate in the local election, although David Spender was also active on green issues.

#### **5: Report from Oliver's Battery Parish Council:**

Geoff Sharman did not attend the meeting and did not submit a report.

#### **6: User Group Reports:**

*Badminton:* Sarah was happy and had no comments.

*HWLT:* Loraine was happy and had no comments.

*Playgroup:* Anne was happy and had no comments.

*Tae Kwon-Do:* Elizabeth was happy and had no comments.

*WI Market:* The representative from the WI Market said they were very grateful to Merv the Caretaker for all his help with the tables.

*St Luke's Church:* Douglas was happy and had no comments.

#### **7. Any Other Business:**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.10pm. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 16 July 2008 following the AGM.