

EMMER GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

1. Minutes of a meeting of the Association Committee held on Monday 12th October at 141 Peppard Road.

2. Present. Annette Fairweather (Chair), Bill Harper, Liz Lyke, Veronica Leeke, Margaret Ormonde, Barry Prior.

3. Apologies. Michael Denoon-Slater, Linda Glithro.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th August were agreed.

Events

5. BBC Visit. An application in writing must be submitted (Action LL).

6. Volunteer Reception. To be organised in the St Barnabas Parish Centre on a Saturday afternoon in the second half of January. Tea and cakes for up to 30 people. (Action BH,LL)

7. Promotional Material. The primary aim will be to provide publicity rather than a membership reward. The items need to be visible (e.g. key fob) rather than kept at home. It was agreed in principle to purchase an initial supply –say up to 200 – to try out the idea. Possible items and prices to be identified for the next meeting. (Action MD-S)

Flower Planting

8. Daffodils. RBC has provided the bulbs which need to be collected (Action LL). Planting will be organised for the morning of Saturday 24th October (Action MO).

9. Wild Flowers. Not permitted on the Grove Road Green. A possible site has been identified in the Recreation Ground. RBC to be chased up for a reaction. If favourable, Friends of the Earth to be approached for support (Action VL). March might be the best time for implementation.

10. Notice Board. The present marine plywood has deteriorated unexpectedly quickly. Dealing with staples remains a problem. A better replacement is required. The nature and performance of the present material to be examined (Action BP). A quote has been obtained for the supply of self-sealing pin board, but it is very expensive. Further information on actual experience with the material to be obtained if possible (Action AF). It might be worth seeking sponsorship from the local shops.

11. Village Sign. The original advice was to allow the sign to weather naturally, but there may be some doubt about the nature of the wood. The RBC's Dave Booth is to be asked for advice. (Action BP). It may be that staining would help with preservation and appearance.

12. Constitution. In progress for submission to the AGM (Action AF).

RBC Liaison

13. Environmental Visual Audit (EVA). This is an arrangement for RBC staff and Councillors to inspect a local area, with members of the public in attendance. The next EVA locally is on 5th November starting at Budgens. VL and MO will try to attend. Julia Naughton of RBC is to be asked for copies of reports produced on the visits (Action AF).

14. Love Clean Reading. VL had reported a plant growth situation which is now presenting a potential traffic hazard. There had been difficulty tracking the report and no action had resulted so far. A report will now be made to the Highways Dept. (Action VL). Details should be passed to AF and MD-S to be raised at the next NAG meeting.

15. Newsletter. The Committee would be happy for LG to produce the next Newsletter, but she will need contributions. Two new deliverers are being organised (AF).

16. Planning.

16.1 Information on CADRA's basis of assessment and action on planning issues had been circulated. This showed that EGRA's approach as described on the web site is satisfactory.

16.2 VL remains in contact with RBC about the poor performance and content of the planning web site.

16.3 The situation on the land sale at Surley Row remains unclear.

16.4 There is no Emmer Green input to be made to the RBC consultation on potential development sites.

16.5 VL hopes to attend a meeting on conservation areas on 4th December.

17. Treasurer's Report. BH reported on the few transactions since the last meeting. The balance in hand is £1861.

Local Meetings

18. NAG. AF's report on the last meeting had been circulated. The next is due on 20th October.

19. Caversham Globe. VL had attended a meeting. Attendance at the RESCUE they organised had probably been low because we only became aware of the date at a late stage. EGRA would be happy to help promote future events, but would need to pick up information earlier.

20. Surgery Patients Group. EGRA's offers of support for a defibrillator had been welcomed.

21. Local Groups. There is a proliferation of local group meetings, with some duplication. EGRA will not attend Caversham Globe meetings in future.

[Note. The members of the Committee subsequently agreed by correspondence to suspend the decision on Caversham Globe for further discussion at the next meeting.]

22. Blocked Footpath. It had been reported that the footpath between Kiln Road and Cherry Close had become impassable. VL will inform the Ramblers Association to see if they take

any action. Footpaths are a legitimate area of interest for EGRA even if they do not serve Emmer Green exclusively.

23. Readibikes. The proposal for a local station will be chased up now that the Thames Bridge is open (Action BP).

24. Recruitment.

24.1 Past activity on leaflet drops and attendance at local events had been reasonably successful. These will be continued when appropriate.

24.2 The possibility of schools distributing leaflets will be investigated (Action AF).

24.3 The practice of giving introductory letters to people moving into the area will be revived – using Committee Members in the first instance.

24.4 Any new activity that might events involve will be considered by MD-S and LL.

24.4 Moves to improve recruitment reinforce the need for a new volunteer to assist with membership.

25. Next Meeting. Monday 11th January, 7-9pm at 22 Marchwood Avenue, RG4 8UN