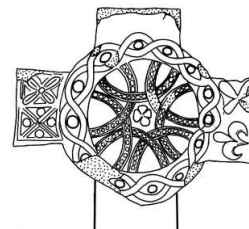


MACA

MITTON AREA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Minutes of General Meeting **Held at Mitton School on Thursday 28th February 2008**

Present at this meeting and/or the AGM at 7.30pm

M Butcher, E Perry, L Perry, O & J Workman, A Beadle, M Sanders, K Sanders, D & J Green, G & N Sprackling, J Scott, J Thomson, J Pittman, K Powell, J Elliot, R Hogan, S Hogan, J Holberton, R C Emmet, E Pritchard, D Pritchard, S Goodchild (guest speaker), R Rackstraw, W & P O'Donovan, M & P Jones, B Barker, R Smart, P Smart, C Barradell, A Skelt, R Skelt, P McQuillan, M McQuillan, V Ellis, H Knight, P & K Bedwell, B Fedrick, A Ashpole Goodwin, D & H Maul, H Swait, J Neville, M Powell, J Ferrier, E & P Wood, K & I Jefford, J Wiseman, J Mooney, S Peters, A Merrick, M Sztymiak, D Witts, V Smith C Thomas (Chairman), G Butcher (Secretary), N Holberton (Treasurer), G Evans, C Thomas (Chairman)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Carrie Sermon, Jim Scott, Jean Thomas, Phil Merrick, Frances Gyngell, Tony Federick & Pauline Elliott

2. Notification of AOB

Letters regarding planning application for additional houses – Chris Thomas

Update on objections to Post Office closure – Mike Sztymiak

Names and residential locations of TBC planning committee members.

3. Minutes of last meeting

Lionel Perry proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Mr Sanders and passed without objection.

4. Secretary's report

The secretary informed the meeting that at some point during the coming year a questionnaire would be produced to gather views from all local residents about possible uses of the community land that has been set aside on the new housing development.

5. Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported that in March 2007 MACA opened an account with the HSBC in Tewkesbury. Our opening balance was £89.48. Total income for the year was £730.96, with expenses of £263.86, leaving a closing balance of £467.10.

Following amendments to the constitution passed at the earlier AGM: all membership renewals will be aligned to 1st July each year. Recently-joined members will have their membership extended to 30th June 2009. Also there will be a reduction in membership fees for all those over 65 years of age, to £1 each per year.

6. Talk by Steve Goodchild

Steve Goodchild gave an informative talk about the Medieval Festival, including the detrimental effects of the floods last year. Steve can be contacted on Tewkesbury 294939. If anyone would like to help in producing the flags for the festival they can join in every Thursday from 7.30 to 9.30 at the Annexe in Barton Road.

7. Social committee report

Jo Holberton reported that three events were currently being proposed:

A ladies evening on Saturday 10th May at 7.30pm. The cost will be £2.50 to include one free drink.

A family picnic on 25th August (Bank Holiday weekend).

An auction.

There will also be some more coffee mornings.

Further details will be announced in due course, and published on the MACA website

8. State of Bredon Road

Cllr Mike Sztymiak acknowledged the poor and dangerous state of the Bredon Road and footpaths. He said that the Town Council have been trying to get the County Council to carry out the repair work. The developers of the new houses have contributed over £200,000 to improve the road, but the County Council have still not spent the money. He has been assured that the work will be done in the coming financial year. Comment was also made by Mr Sztymiak and from the floor about the wall at the Carrant Brook bridge being dangerously low.

9. Sewage system on new housing development

A question was raised about the connection of the new sewage system into the existing Mitton system, which was obviously never designed to take all the additional sewage from the new pumped system. Mr Brewster, who has had 21 years experience of sewerage and drainage operations for the council, gave an informative description about the existing system together with its inadequacies. His opinion was that connecting the two systems will cause considerable trouble and overflowing unless the existing system is upgraded.

Cllr Vernon Smith added detail about this, and pointed out that according to the outline planning permission for the development specifically stated that *no building should take place until the new sewerage system had been approved and accepted.*

It was suggested that the committee try to arrange a meeting between residents, council officials and representatives of Severn Trent, the developers and the Environment Agency. It was agreed to contact the various parties and ask if they would be prepared to attend such a meeting. Cllr. Sztymiak agreed to try to furnish contact addresses.

Action: Secretary/Mike Sztymiak

10. Flooding

Dave Witts pointed out that it was proposed to build a further 2900 houses in Tewkesbury and that the present planning considerations gave very little weight to the flooding issues.

11. Post Office Protest

The meeting approved Cllr Sztymiak's proposal to produce a large number of postcards for residents to send to the Post Office and to the Government to protest about the proposed closure.

Jo Holberton reported that the recent survey had received 216 replies, all supporting the retention of the Mitton Post Office.

12. Planning/Licensing Application for 14 Mitton Way

Cllr Sztymiak informed the meeting that the Council had received 130 letters of objection to the licensing application, which is a record. One hundred of these had been accepted as valid objections, the remaining thirty could not be counted as they had no names and addresses. The licensing application will be considered by a sub-committee of three councillors on Thursday 20th March.

13. Parking

The Town Council are producing a questionnaire to be circulated to local residents. The information collected will be presented the Borough Council as solid evidence of local opinion.

14. Date and time of next meeting

The next General meeting will be held on Thursday 15th May at 7.30pm at Mitton School.