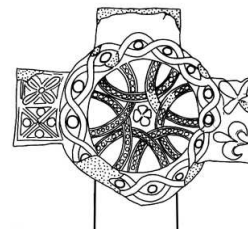


MACA

MITTON AREA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Minutes of General Meeting Held at Mitton School on Thursday 15th May 2008

Present:

Committee Members: C Thomas (Chairman), G Butcher (Secretary), N Holberton (Treasurer) & Neville Gyngell

A register of other attendees is held by the secretary and may be inspected upon request.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Fred & Pat Butcher, Bob Rackstraw, Martin Wright & Jo Holberton.

2. Minutes of last meetings

AGM: Acceptance proposed by Sarah Peters, seconded by Adrienne Skelt

General Meeting: Acceptance proposed by Nigel Holberton, seconded by Lionel Perry

There were no objections to the minutes of either meeting

3. Secretary's report

Letters are being sent to those parties responsible for the sewerage system in the new developments. They are being asked if they would attend a public meeting to discuss the possible impact on the existing Mitton system if they are connected. Tewkesbury Borough Council and the Environment Agency have been contacted replies received. TBC are willing to send a representative but the EA feel there is no more they can add following the public meeting concerning the flooding situation. I am awaiting contact details for Severn Trent and the developers themselves.

The chairman read a letter from Chris Hyatt, headmaster of Mitton School, thanking MACA for the recent donation

4. Treasurer's report

£467.10 was brought forward from 2007, the prize draw has raised £416, fund-raising £58.25 and donations £19.90, making a total of £961.25.

Expenses were: £200 prizes, 79p stationery and donations made of £79.57 – a total of £280.36.

The net current funds therefore stand at £680.89

5. Talk by Mr Sam Eedle

Sam gave an interesting illustrated talk entitled "From Haywards to the Western Front" which was the story of the life of one Tewkesbury man who fell in the Great War.

6. New Development: Sewerage update

The chairman read various letters and emails between Tewkesbury Borough Council and interested parties. TBC have been asked to arrange a public meeting between Severn Trent, the Council and the developers to discuss the implications of connecting the new pressurised system to the unpressurised Mitton system. Severn Trent have recently been seen to be inspecting the Mitton sewerage system. Cllr. Vernon Smith said that the cost of upgrading the Mitton system to a pressurised system would be £1.25 million.

It was decided that it might be worth individuals writing to Severn Trent about this.

Mike Sztymiak indicated that a trip to London was being proposed to protest about building on the flood plain. On a show of hands 15 people out of 44 indicated that they would be

prepared to make the journey should it go ahead. The recently prepared flood report is available on the NACRA website. (There is a link to this site from the MACA site at www.mittoncommunity.org.uk).

7. Future Community Facility

The committee intend to produce a questionnaire in the autumn for circulation to everyone within the MACA catchment area to gather ideas for any future community facility such as a village hall, and what people would like to see. The chairman said that at the moment there appeared to be two options for a new building: one was to use the piece of land that had been set aside on the new housing development, and the other was to perhaps join forces with the playgroup to raise funds for a dual-purpose building. The second option would mean that the building would only be available for community use during the evenings and school holidays. Separate toilets would be required and there were other implications. The first option would be expensive and there may be parking and noise issues. Feedback from the community is essential: this is what would be collected by means of the questionnaire.

8. Social Committee's Report

Carrie Sermon reported that the Ladies Night was very enjoyable there were 37 attendees and 13 stalls. A raffle was held. The main purpose of the evening was not to raise money, but to help foster a sense of community.

The next event will be a family picnic on Monday 25th August, which is the bank-holiday. It is hoped to arrange a litter-pick beforehand.

The following ideas have been suggested for future events: Coffee Morning, Open Gardens, Plant Swap, Line Dancing, Barn Dance, Cheese and Wine supper, Pudding Night, American Supper, Yoga, Girls Night Out in town, Scarecrow Competition, Wii Night, Beetle Drive, Bingo, Wine Appreciation, Coach Trips/Outings and Ballroom Dancing Lessons. Ten people were interested in a Barn Dance.

Any members are invited to attend the Social committee meetings if they have any ideas.

9. Any Other Business

Vernon Smith gave a flood report update: the Severn and Avon Valley Flood Group's report has been endorsed by the Hydrology Department at Bristol University. The Association of British Insurers (ABI) is also supporting the report. There is pressure to include rainfall in the calculations of flood risk assessment, which is not the case at present. It is felt that the Local Authority is failing in its duty of care to residents. The ABI is contacting Zurich, Fortes and Ecclesiastical Insurance companies to get financial support to fund research into ways of solving the flooding problem for the future. Vernon Smith was warmly applauded for his efforts.

10. Date and time of next meeting

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