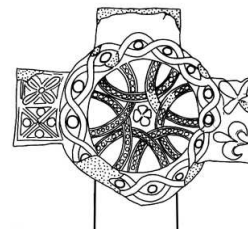


MACA

MITTON AREA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Minutes of General Meeting

Held at Mitton School on Tuesday 18th November 2008

Present:

Committee Members: C Thomas (Chairman), G Butcher (Secretary), Neville Gyngell, Jo Holberton, Bob Rackstraw, Jean Wiseman.

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, Barbara & Tony Fedrick, Hazel Knight, Margery Watts, Audrey Barker, Jill Mooney

2. Chairman's introduction

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and invited suggestions to be considered under AOB (see later)

3. Minutes of last meeting

Copies of the minutes of the last general meeting were distributed: no one present raised any issues regarding the minutes so they were accepted without a vote. The minutes of the last committee meeting were also distributed for information.

4. Severn & Avon Combined Flood Group

The Chairman introduced Dave Witts, secretary of the Severn and Avon Combined Flood group, who gave a brief progress report about the work of the SACFG. He notified the meeting that Prof. Cluckie and Simon Fox will be giving a seminar backing the SACFG's flood report to members of Tewkesbury Borough Council and others on the 10th December. This seminar will not be open to the press, public or members of SACFG. For this reason the seminar is to be repeated immediately after the public General Meeting of the SAVCFG, which is at 7.00 pm on the same day at the Watson Hall. This will be open to everybody and is likely to be full – arrive early so as not to be turned away.

Dave also invited anyone who had had problems with sewers to see him after the meeting, as the Flood Group were compiling a report on the sewerage system problems. Many sewers in the town had not been adopted by Severn Trent.

5. Secretary's report

A letter has been received about the appeal against the development of 23 new houses in Bredon Road. Also a letter from Chris Shaw asking if we could supply two or three representatives to be given emergency planning training to help deal with future floods and other emergencies. Training is to take place on 26th November. We have also received a letter from the Gloucestershire NHS Primary Care Trust about the proposed plans for a super-surgery development in Tewkesbury. This will combine all the GP surgeries and possibly a new hospital onto one site. Neville has been representing MACA at their meetings. Nothing concrete will happen until they have located a suitable site and prepared a business case.

6. Treasurer's report

Unfortunately Nigel Holberton has had to stand down as Treasurer due to ill-health. The Chairman spoke for the whole group in wishing him a speedy recovery. His son Lee has very kindly taken over the treasurership temporarily.

The running of the 100+ club will be shared between a few volunteers.

The Chairman presented a balance sheet to the end of September which showed a total income of £1647.10, expenditure (including 100+ club prizes, stationery, donations and sundries) of £533.12 leaving a balance of £1113.98 cash at bank.

7. Talk by Jean White

The Chairman introduced Jean White, who gave an informative talk about Neighbourhood Watch.

8. Mitton Manor Playgroup Appeal

Jo Holberton warned that the playgroup may be forced to close in 4 years if insufficient funds can be raised to replace the existing building. £57k is currently available but replacement will cost around £200k. Efforts are being made to obtain grants wherever possible. Members are asked to support any fund-raising efforts as much as possible.

The Chairman suggested that some MACA funds could be used to support the Playgroup. The committee will check whether any constitutional change would be necessary to do this. Some joint fund-raising events were being organised already. A point from the floor was that any such events be advertised as heavily as possible.

9. Social Committee's Report

Unfortunately the event planned for the August Bank Holiday had to be cancelled, so the summer period was very quiet on the social front.

Jo Holberton mentioned various activities planned for the winter period which will be advertised properly in due course.

10. Any Other Business

New road junction: plans for the new junction were exhibited. Most members favoured a roundabout but it seems that traffic lights are to be installed instead, so as to provide for pedestrians. The County Council are going to monitor Digby Drive in case it gets used as a rat-run; if so then traffic calming will be installed.

Concerns were raised about anonymous letters regarding the traffic situation that were being sent to various people. The Chairman appealed for whoever was responsible to come forward and present their concerns through the proper channels.

11. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be the AGM.

Post-meeting note: the originally proposed date of the AGM (24th February 2009) had to be rescheduled to 30th April 2009 at 7.30pm at Mitton School. A General Meeting will follow the AGM at 8.10pm.