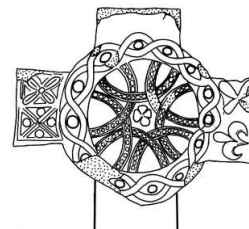


# **MACA**

## **MITTON AREA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**



### **Minutes of General Meeting** **Held at Mitton School on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009**

#### **Present:**

Committee members: Chris Thomas (Chairman), Geoff Butcher (Secretary), Nigel Holberton (Treasurer), Neville Gyngell, Bob Rackstraw, Andy Beadle.

A register of other attendees may be inspected upon request.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from: Mary Butcher, Fred & Pat Butcher, Carrie Sermon, Jill Mooney, Jean Thomas.

#### **3. Chairman's introduction**

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited suggestions for AOB.

#### **4. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record with the proviso that £174 cash in hand should not have been included in the financial statement as it was not yet verified. There were no other objections to the minutes.

#### **5. Secretary's report**

A letter had been received about the poor state of the footpath in Carrant Road, near the shops.

#### **6. Treasurer's report**

The Barn Dance takings were £701.96, there was an outlay for food and drink of £66.27 leaving a balance of £635.69. The cost of the band was £275, leaving a net balance of £360.69 to be split between MACA and the playgroup. £180.34 went to MACA funds and £180.35 less £17.50 (£162.85) to be given to the playgroup.

MACA funds currently stand at £1960.41.

#### **7. Social Committee's Report**

Sarah Peters mentioned the success of the barn dance. She also thanked Carrie Sermon for organising the pomander-making evening.

She also said that the social committee would like new members to provide ideas and help organise future events.

The chairman proposed a vote of thanks for two valued members of the social committee, Jo Holberton and Annette Merrick, who had had to resign due to other commitments.

#### **8. Notification of new Committee members**

At the last committee meeting the following four volunteers were co-opted: Breda Gamble (main and social committee), Jeanette Morgan (main committee), David Bate (main committee) and Kim Gough (social committee). The chairman thanked them for their support.

#### **9. Vote of thanks to litter-pickers**

The chairman thanked all the volunteer litter pickers who helped to tidy the estate at the recent litter-pick.

## **10. Community Land Survey**

The chairman reported the overall result of the recent survey about the use of the community land at Rosefield.

676 Residences were surveyed, there were 439 returns (66.92%)

389 were in favour of a village hall (88.61%), 186 (42.37%) in favour of a grassed area, and 275 in favour of a play area (62.64%). Some of the votes for a grassed area or a play area were given as second choice to a village hall.

The chairman noted that a number of Rosefields residents had been angered by the MACA survey, as they had bought houses on the understanding that the space would remain as a grassed area. They have formed their own residents association and will take up their case with the developers.

The results of the survey will be passed to the Borough Council via Cllr. Mike Sztymiak.

The chairman thanked all the canvassers and also all the residents who responded.

The chairman mentioned the possibility of joining forces with another community association with a view to establish a community hall at a different location.

Elaine Hancox is trying to obtain clarification as to the status of the community land, such as when the deadline expires before it is returned to the developers.

## **10. Condition of Estate**

It was noted that paths were lifted near some sewage manholes.

Also that the fence on the foot/cycle path needed repair. This is the responsibility of the Borough Council. Nigel Holberton suggested that this path should have a name, and asked for ideas that could be put forward.

## **11. Any Other Business**

### **a) State of burnt-out shop**

Elaine Hancox stated that the burnt-out shop had been the subject of a visit by the Borough Enforcement Officer. It was found that the building structure was sound, so it was not possible for the Borough Council to take enforcement action.

### **b) Toilets**

Cllr. Sztymiak said that two planning applications for the new public toilets in the Spring Gardens car park have been submitted. One is favoured by the Town Council and the other by the Borough Council. The Town Councils proposal would provide separate male and female toilets, whereas the Borough Council proposal was for unisex toilets. The Borough Council proposal was the one that was approved. Cllr. Sztymiak is going to urge the Town Council to appeal.

### **c) Joint Core Strategy**

Cllr. Sztymiak gave a brief overview on the Joint Core Strategy: this is a general work plan for overall development of the region, regarding housing and other developments up to the year 2026.

## **12. Date and time of next meeting**

The next General Meeting is due to be held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 7.30pm in Mitton School.

*[Post-meeting note: the date has been changed to Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March]*