

BAKERS MILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 4th June 2014

PUBLIC

Present	Apologies
Gareth Cole (GC) (Chairman) Jo De Boos (JPDB) Lee Prentice (LP) Glen Mansbridge (GM) Anne Offord (AO) Richard Robins (RR) Peter Philpott (PP)	Ian Stuart (IS)

1. Apologies
Apologies were received from Ian Stuart.
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 th January 2014
The minutes of the meeting held on 8 th April were AGREED with a couple of amendments. Proposed: Glen Mansbridge Seconded: Anne Offord
3. Chairman's Report
GC referred to the notes from the meeting with John Pritchard, Homes & Watson (H&W) and the budget. The free holder of the apartment blocks had been confirmed as Barratt Homes although H&W were still awaiting confirmation of the freeholder of the grounds. The committee asked that in future H&W include timescales against any actions. <u>ACTION:</u> GC <u>Budget</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reserves will be built up to deal with the Ash trees that are suffering ash dieback and which will need to be dealt with within the next two/three years.• Reserve fund is also being built up to fund internal decoration and community areas. There seems to have been no money forthcoming from OM at this moment in time. The committee proposed that any money that is returned be kept within the budget areas from whence it came. <u>S106 Monies</u> Still pursuing the idea of purchasing a bus to follow a circular route from the estate via the station and new health centre and back to Dove House Meadow.
4. Leaseholder's Sub-Committee's Report
PP confirmed that compensation money for the work undertaken on the roof will be paid direct from Barratt Homes to H&W and reimbursed to the relevant residents <u>Bakers Court</u>

- In need of a spring clean. Residents were frustrated at the amount of money being charged for little/no return.
- Grounds maintenance – more planting. A better standard of work is expected.
- Cobwebs to be removed.
- Lighting to be dealt with asap but specifically before the nights begin to draw in again.

Parking

Discussion took place on the car parking problems at Bakers Court and possible solutions.

5. Grounds Sub-Committee's Report

GC confirmed that the bridge to link the estate to the meadows has gone back to planning to ratify those changes we have already been consulted upon. It is hoped that the bridge would be in place by late summer.

GC had invited the Environment Agency to the site to get information about the type of native plants we could plant around the millrace and alongside the river. He was impressed by what we had already and the care we were taking of the site and its habitat. Giant Hogweed (a dangerous and notifiable plant) was identified and has now been dealt with. The presence of otters was found in the hollowed out tree in the area of non-disturbance which is good news but it does mean we will not be able to replace the hawthorn hedge with a mixed planting scheme. But he agreed that it would be sensible to keep the height of the hedge at about 1 metre to deter people going into the area and to remove the laurel section of the hedge as described in the original planning application. This work to be done in the autumn when birds are no longer nesting.

The area needs a general tidy up and a notice board (cost for the latter approx. £250) as the previous one was removed by an unknown individual.

Post meeting note. GC is arranging for Suffolk Wildlife and Environment Agency to come to a joint meeting so that we can finalise our planting plan.

ACTION: Agreed this would be an item for discussion at the next meeting.

Other issues:

- Planting scheme for court yard at Bakers Court.
- Planting to take place near 1 DHM using plants from under the boardwalk.
- Nettle bed should be 6ft from the water's edge. Needs cutting back, whilst keeping drain pipes covered.
- Area planned as wild flower meadow identified.
- GM witnessed a boat being launched from the river bank, which is not allowed. Does any action need to be taken?

Sub-committee meeting will take place early in July. **ACTION: GC**

ACTION: The existing programme of work for the maintenance of the estate grounds needs to be revisited.

6. Treasurer's Report

Contribution from 'friends' is £615.00. There is still no response from Suffolk Housing and Linnet Homes to a request to contribute.

7. Social Sub-Committee's Report

GM reported that the recent talk had been very well received. There had been a deficit of £31.85 which would be covered by sponsorship from Bill Adams.

The art group taster class had unfortunately been cancelled because the minimum number of people to attend had not been reached. The social committee was in touch with a local artist to see if they would be interested in setting up classes.

The summer barbecue will take place on 6th July - £7.50 for adults and £5.00 for under 12's.

Currently in discussions with the River Stour Trust for a talk on the river combined with a river trip into Sudbury and refreshments.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The meeting on 26th June is cancelled and the next meeting will take place on 9th July.