

EAST RURAL NETWORK

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th November 2009 at The Rosins

Present

Cllr J Slater (Chair), D Hornby (Minute's secretary) D Dyer, T McCluskey, G Cooper, M Cooper, M Skipper and G Wild

In Attendance

T Birch, Revd T Dyer, K Bruce, C Tyrer, H Cooper, J Taylor and I Parkinson.

Apologies

L Lynn and B Bickerton.

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2009 were accepted as a accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

a) Footpath on Dukes Drive

D Dyer reported that the work on the footpath near school had been done last week-end, if there are any additional work that is required this will be done by Mackernies.

b) Waterside Footpath

Cllr J Slater reported that she had spoken to Simon Littler regarding the option of putting green tarmac as a foot-path on Johnson New Road the cost implications depend on the square footage required.

c) Footpath from Waterside to St Paul's Terrace

The option of clearing one side of the road to enable pedestrians to walk there is being investigated.

d) Old Saxon Road

The letter in support of the Bridleway Group's bid to access the Old Saxon Road as a Bridleway has been abridged by the Walks Sub Group and this draft was circulated. It was agreed that this version would be sent by D Dyer.

Margaret Jones is to speak to the four effected land-owners and make them aware that East Rural Network is sending the letter of support.

e) Vacant Poles and Missing Signs

It was agreed that D Dyer would mark the locations of the vacant poles and missing signs within the East Rural area on a map which she will send to Cllr J Slater to pursue.

f) Reservoir Fence

D Dyer reported that there was no progress to report.

3. Funding Issues

a) Britain in Bloom and Scarecrow Festival

D Dyer reported the fantastic news that she had made a successful bid on behalf of the East Rural Network to Cash for Communities for the sum of £250 to do newsletters and publicity for the Britain in Bloom and Scarecrow Festival. D Dyer can collect the cheque on 12th December 2009.

Potential dates for the Scarecrow Festival were Friday 2nd July 2010 for school judging, Saturday 3rd July 2010 for everyone else's judging.

D Hornby reported that Saturday 3rd July 2010 was the provisional date for the joint St Paul's Church and ERYCA Summer Fair, Revd T Dyer agreed to raise this with the Parochial Church Council at their next meeting in January 2010.

Action *It was agreed that a sub committee meeting would be held at D Hornby's house, 8 Earls Drive, Hoddlesden on Wednesday 9th December 2009 at 7.30pm.*

b) Family Fun Night

It was agreed that there would be a Family Fun Night on either Saturday 23rd or 30th January 2010 at the Hoddlesden Conservative Club (Cllr J Slater to book whichever is available). This will start at 7pm and will include stand up bingo, a quiz and supper. Tickets will be over 11's and adults £5, Primary School aged children £3 and under 5's free.

Action

Cllr J Slater to book the venue, D & S Hornby to design poster.

c) War Memorial

D Dyer reported that there is national funding available to clean up the war memorial, this is either 50% of the cost or £10,000 whichever is less! D Dyer to follow up on this funding as Funding Secretary.

The issue of the flower beds were discussed, T Birch and Cllr J Slater will draw up a small plan. T Birch will check the ownership and make contact with a gentleman called John East who may be able to offer guidance.

4. Projects

a) Local Walks

As all the local walks leaflets have been distributed it was agreed that we should do another print run. However, as amendments to the original walk booklet had been agreed between landowners and Margaret Jones, it was agreed that a revised version should be published and sponsorship be sought.

M Cooper reported that he is working on the walks for the second (different) walk booklet and would be approaching the businesses on the route of the second set of walks, it was agreed not to approach these for sponsorship of the first walk booklet.

b) Tram Shelter

D Dyer reported that the weather vane has gone on today. Ian Parkinson is doing the plaque and passed round a draft of the layout, a few minor amendments were made. It was agreed that D Dyer could proof the final draft and give the go ahead so that the plaque could be placed in the Tram Shelter in time for the grand opening.

It was agreed that the grand opening would be Saturday 5th December 2009 at 10.30am. D Dyer will do a raffle and Cllr J Slater will provide the float. There will also be a donation box.

c) Yate & Pickup Bank 'Chapel Wood' Project

G Wild reported that a 'Friends of Chapel Wood' Committee had been established that can now apply for funding and grants for seats information boards and bulbs, etc.

d) Britain in Bloom

D Hornby had circulated the information she had received by email. From the little information it was thought that the best category to enter this year would be 'community participation'.

Action It was agreed that Cllr J Slater would speak to the Millenium Green Committee Chair to see if they would be interested in joining in.

T Birch reported that the Amenities Department would like to help.

5. Members' Updates

a) Pickup Bank Parish Council

G Wild reported that several years ago the Girl Guides got verbal permission to erect a 'Height Nook' sign. Capita have now decided that this sign is illegal and have removed the sign. G Wild thinks that this is a mix up with and that the Girl Guide's sign did not replace the finger post which is 100 yards away.

G Wild reported that Footpath 78 which should be cut and cleared twice a year is over-grown.

Action Cllr J Slater to look into these issues.

b) St Paul's Church

Revd T Dyer reported that the Church's Christmas Fair was on Saturday 28th November at 11am in the school hall.

c) Eccleshill

M Cooper reported that the parish council are still looking at moving the bus shelter and the installation of '30' speed limit signs. The kids part organised by Eccleshill and Waterside Parish council will be on 12th December 2009. M Cooper also reported that the adoption of the Victoria Buildings road is now possibly moving forward.

d) Blacksnape

M Skipper said that the Blacksnaper website was now on line. He reported that the speed sign had blown down.

M Skipper reported that there is a walk from the Red Lion to the Strawberry Duck (for lunch) and back on 27th December 2009 at 11am.

Blacksnape Residents are trying to establish a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

e) T McCluskey

T McCluskey asked that the same road surface that has been placed on Queens Square not be laid in Pickup Bank as it was slippery when wet and not leisure horse friendly. She also pointed out that the camber is wrong. Cllr J Slater reported that she would look into the possibility of it being tarred and chipped on the bend. Someone else suggested that the road surface elsewhere in the Borough had been jet washed and that this had made the surface better. It was also noted that some of the cobbled side streets had white give way markings which were not there before. Cllr J Slater reported that she was aware of this.

Action T Birch to request that the new surface be jet washed.

f) Millennium Green

The Carols on the Green is on Sunday 6th December 2009 at 6pm.

6. Any Other Business

a) Planning Application

Cllr J Slater reported that Thwaites Brewery have appealed to the Secretary of State for permission to build five dwellings on the Ranken Arms' former bowling green (now the goat field).

b) East Rural Network Website/Blog

Cllr J Slater suggested that a website be established to include Belthorn and Blacksnape, the purpose would be to put East Rural Network minutes, Councillor notices and have a link to the council website.

Action It was agreed that Cllr J Slater, M Cooper and M Skipper would meet to discuss.

c) Visioning Exercise

T Birch gave notice of a visioning event for Darwen and Rural on Wednesday 25th November 2009 at 6pm at the Whitehall Hotel.

d) Welcome to... Signs

T McCluskey reported that I Parkinson had drafted some signs with a rough costing of various options which ranged from £527 to £1,800 plus planning permission costs. It was suggested that we may need to seek lottery funding for this project.

7. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 13th January 2010 at 7.30pm at The Rosins.