

See also [www.blacksnape.co.uk](http://www.blacksnape.co.uk)

Blacksnape Residents' Group

Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> Feb '10 Red Lion

Present: Susan Holden (Chair); Martyn Skipper (Minutes); Keith & Cath Holmes; Andrew Mead; Josie & Colin MacIntosh; David & Christine Robinson; Sarah West; Jane Cook; Sue Skipper; Dawn & Andrew Robinson-Walsh.

Apologies: David & Christine Neville; Sylvia Berry; Lindsay & Heath, Denis Keskin

- 1) Minutes of previous meeting approved as a true & accurate record. Matters arising:
  - a. Four Neighbourhood Watch signs have been ordered. Carol Hendeby confirms they have been delivered to BwD. Expected installation 2-3 weeks. Thanks were recorded to the residents who made contributions. It was suggested that residual Neighbourhood Watch literature be distributed, along with a covering note, to homes not displaying stickers (i.e. on the assumption they were not present at the launch of the scheme). Susan H to draft note. Andrew M volunteered his son to distribute literature
  - b. Copies of meeting minutes to be distributed to residents not on line, and a copy posted in the village notice board (Martyn now has a key)
- 2) Volunteers invited for next Chair on rotating basis. Jane Cook agreed to chair meeting after next. SH to remain in chair for next meeting. Agreed that departing Chair would take minutes, and as many residents as possible would be encouraged to chair meetings in order to "get involved".
- 3) Website Updates.
  - a. Attention was drawn to the correspondence re the road closure. MS read an email from Capita declaring the current status. In summary: Drainage work completed ahead of schedule. Road to open until 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, then to close outside peak hours for resurfacing work (but would be open before 9.30am and after 4.15pm)
  - b. Residents (and friends, colleagues and families) encouraged to register votes on the Bovril Great Outdoors website in support of the East Rural bid for dry-stone wall repair
  - c. Thanks to Sarah's family for the very interesting material on local history. Again contributions of interesting or relevant material to add to the website are encouraged. SH pointed out the amount and diversity of information already on the website and reminded residents to view regularly for updates.
- 4) ERN Scarecrow Festival. Work is well underway. Sub Group meeting 8<sup>th</sup> March, Carus Centre.
- 5) Constitution discussion. Broad consensus was to defer any formal constitutional organisation as the informality of the current set up has appeal. Meeting recognised that any applications for grants etc would almost certainly require a formal constitution and bank account. MS has a number of model constitutions (thanks to Cllr Julie Slater & Dilys Dyer/ERN) that he will work into a proposal document & post on the website for discussion.

- 6) Residents' Subscription Discussions. Financial commitments have potential to be a cause of friction. Agreed to defer any such commitments until and unless need is perceived for any scheme that needs money.
- 7) Walks
  - a. Proposed to walk to Dog Inn at Belthorn on Good Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April. SH to get map of suggested route and try out with her dogs! Suggestion to depart approx 10am, have a drink at Dog, then return for lunch to Red Lion. Timings to be confirmed and Shaun to be warned of expected numbers.
  - b. Sarah & David suggested a guided walk across Morecambe Bay. David to check if May 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> are possible. If all in order transport would be arranged to & from Blacksnape.
- 8) AOB
  - a. Parking by playing fields. A significant problem with poor road courtesy, reduced pedestrian access etc. MS to write to PC Hambley / Councillors and raise concerns. Believed that traffic control, if required would have to be funded by the event organisers (e.g. match organisers). Again questions raised about other facilities on the playing fields (tennis courts?). Topic for future meeting. *[Note from Chair- since the meeting the Chair has raised concerns that a too-high-profile campaign may risk prompting BwD (now or in the future) to reconsider using the playing fields at all- which may put them in jeopardy. MS to try low-key telephone conversation with Phil Hambley to begin with.]*
  - b. Speed sign. Existing sign may not be working properly? MS understood that previous sign may be re-installed once repaired. Residents feel that current (cheaper) sign is actually better if fully functioning. MS to seek clarification from BwD / Capita.
  - c. Wall near pub a hazard. SH to contact Poulson's farm to ask if it is their responsibility. If yes, to ask for repairs / maintenance.
  - d. Heys Lane dog fouling. Dog mess down length of Heys Lane. MS to ask for bins. *Update: Julie Slater says poop bins are not BwD responsibility but she will ask for litter bins at either end*
  - e. Letterhead. Sarah offered to get printed notepaper should it be required for any official correspondence. MS noted existing logo was designed by Olivia. MS to post on web invitations for alternative suggestions. Should no alternatives be forthcoming this logo will be adopted
  - f. Road surface. MS explained that a recent claim on BwD for tyre replacement due to potholes was rejected. Response was "BwD not negligent as inspection regime is sufficiently frequent". MS to seek clarification. Residents urged to ensure any damage is brought to attention of BwD to obviate the possibility of this as a defence in any future claims
- 9) Date of next Meeting March 24<sup>th</sup> 2010, 19.30 at the Red Lion. Susan Holden, chair; Martyn Skipper, Minutes