

*NUTBOURNE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION*

*MEETING MINUTES*

*Held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at The Barn, Long Platt*

**ATTENDEES**

**Committee Members:**

Brian White (BW)	<i>Chairman</i>
Bob Allison (RA)	<i>Treasurer</i>
Carole Martin (CM)	<i>Secretary</i>
Andrew Moffat (AM)	<i>NHW Coordinator</i>
Jilly Marcusson (JM)	<i>Alternate Secretary</i>
Ruth Simmonds (RS)	<i>Social Secretary</i>

**Residents:**

Lynne White	Chris & Jeanette Brickell
Robin Martin	Peeta Keown
Rod & Gil Wilson	Barry & Heather Davis
Frank Riddle	Andrea Lawson
John Wellard	Peter & Linda Williams
Mary Smithers	Mike Sherwood
David & Sarah Faithfull	Bob & Tess Hicks

*Vanessa Green*  
*(Neighbourhood Warden)*

**Apologies:**

Bridget Gladwin	Trevor & Audrey Rose	Betty Sherwood
Penny Turrel	Roger & Susan Burroughs	John & Nadine Guest
Liz Solomon		

**WELCOME**

The Chairman (BW) welcomed residents and expressed pleasure at the good turnout.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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**1. MATTERS ARISING**

- **1.1 Broadband for Nutbourne - Update**

BW asked for residents' views on how they were getting on with the faster broadband. There were quite a wide range of speeds experienced by people, from 50 mbs to single figures. People were reminded that they needed to contact their providers to set up a new contract if they hadn't already done so which could account for some of the apparent problems.

Rod Wilson (RW) mentioned that his contact at Open Reach would be happy to be contacted if any technical issues arose, which were not the responsibility of the broadband provider. BW congratulated RW and Mike Sherwood (MS) once more for all their efforts.

- **1.2 Parish Neighbourhood Wardens - Report**

Vanessa Green (VG) presented her report which is summarised below :-

Key points:

- Three people referred last month for link alarms
- One referral to the visiting scheme
- One social behaviour referral
- Dealt with dog left in a hot vehicle
- Hi-vis patrols continue and information passed to police on a suspicious white van
- Work on 'scamming' issues continues
- Further work with some adults with very complex needs
- Attending monthly farmers' market in order to meet new people
- A number of safety interventions and attendance at community safety team meeting

VG has a PowerPoint presentation which is proposed she present at the next AGM.

Peeta Keown (PK) thanked the wardens for phoning her several times following a potential scam she experienced.

BW reported that he had contacted the wardens recently regarding a missing puppy, as well as circulating details to those on the NHW list. Thankfully the puppy has now been found.

- **1.3 Travellers' Site – Lane Top**

BW reminded people that at the last meeting, he alerted residents to the HDC consultation paper on identifying a number of sites in the parish, to be set aside

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permanently for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling show people. Lane Top was one of those proposed but the people living there now are not happy as originally this site was identified as a temporary site for this family's lifetime only – not a permanent site.

It is believed by many residents, that this location is not suitable as a permanent site, as there is very narrow access and a shared drive. What's more, the mere fact that it is listed as a potential site has meant that it is now being seen by travellers as available and a fait accompli. Sarah Faithfull (SF) told the meeting about a very unpleasant experience she had recently at Lane Top and she will send the details to BW who will in turn forward it to PPC and HDC.

#### **ACTION SF and BW**

Andrew Moffat (AM) stressed the importance of vigilance on this matter whilst recognising the council does have a target to fulfil.

#### **1.4 Social Events 2017**

Ruth Simmonds (RS) reported on the money raised so far for charities this year. A total of £485 was sent to 'Action Medical Research for Children' coming from events held in the village and reserves. In addition Ruth and 3 other local residents took part in the Brecon Beacons Challenge raising a fantastic £2655 for the same charity.

Further events still to be arranged for later this year include the Pumpkin Roll (date TBC) and Christmas carols (Sunday before Christmas at the Rising Sun). RS would welcome ideas for potential charity beneficiaries.

#### **1.5 Drilling on our doorstep - Update**

BW reported that it would appear that significant quantities of oil have been found at Broadford Bridge and drilling is therefore considered to be commercially viable. A planning application to drill for another 12 months to allow for further testing and extraction has been lodged. PPC has voted on the application and raised no objections, although strong views were expressed on both sides, ending with the chairman's casting vote.

Penny Turrel (PT) has prepared a number of papers which include her concerns, and some cards for people to fill in should they wish to lodge an objection with WSCC. These were available at the meeting. Mike Sherwood (MS) expressed his support for the scheme and felt that the Government and Environment Agency would have considered these issues scientifically. Bob Allison (BA) agreed and felt that the only genuine reasons for objection would be the increase in traffic, which remains an unknown.

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A heated discussion followed, but the conclusion reached was that the NRA should **not** lodge an objection as a body, but people should feel free to do so individually.

Also, West Chiltoningon Parish Council has a link on their website where UKOG has agreed to answer questions posted by local people. BW will investigate and circulate said link. [www.ukogplc.com](http://www.ukogplc.com) and [www.wchilt-parishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.wchilt-parishcouncil.org.uk)

**ACTION BW**

**2. Mobile Telephone Signal Issues**

Everyone agreed that the mobile phone signal in Nutbourne, regardless of network, is almost non-existent. Even O2, the best available, is poor. John Wellard (JW) felt that in this day and age, we really do need good mobile coverage. Frank Riddle (FR) however was worried that 4G is interfering with his TV channels. BW asked if residents wished to mount a campaign to improve reception but the general feeling was that it probably wasn't a battle we could win.

**3. AOB**

3.1 Jeanette Brickell (JB) asked for clarification on the Nutbourne conservation area. BW advised that there is a map available, published in the Village Design Statement 2006, which defines the boundaries. Essentially, it runs from Bourne End to The Camber, to Mill House.

3.2 Barry Davis raised the issue of visibility when driving around the Ragman's Corner bend, and wondered if it would be possible for the hedge to be cut to improve line of sight. David Faithfull (DF) said he would have a word with the owners. **ACTION DF**

3.3 FR asked whether they were having any difficulty receiving Channel 4 as he felt 4G radio waves could be interfering with his signal. Most people however, had no problem.

3.4 FR raised the issue of the plant, Himalayan Balsam, running riot on riverbanks nearby and wiping out native plants. The seed pods explode and spread everywhere. Andrea Lawson (AL) said that it was not on the 'noxious plants' list at present, unlike Japanese Knotweed. Chris Brickell (CB) said that a new list of 'noxious plants' was soon to be published and if Himalayan Balsam is on it, the PPC will have a responsibility to report sightings of the plant to the appropriate authority. CB will get an updated list from the RHS and AL will take the matter forward as required. More information and a photograph of the plant can be found at [www.pitchcare.com/shop/iguide/himalayan-balsam](http://www.pitchcare.com/shop/iguide/himalayan-balsam) **ACTION CB/AL**

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3.5 AM believed from the last NRA meeting, that it was proposed to invite the Head of Finance from PPC to ask about the money being spent on the precept. He expressed a desire to know what discussions take place when spending decisions are made. BW said that he believed some of the money was spent on the Neighbourhood Wardens and the Youth Worker, which people fully support. AL said that the Neighbourhood Wardens were not part of the current precept spending, and would therefore need to be funded for the future. She said that Councillor Clark, Chairman of the Finance Committee, had hoped to come to this NRA meeting but was unable to. It was suggested that he is asked to attend the next meeting. Following a show of hands, the majority wished to issue the invitation. **ACTION BW**

**4 NEXT MEETING**

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October in The Barn, Long Platt, at 7.15pm.**

**Accepted as accurate**

----- **Chairman**

----- **Date**