

BOWERHILL RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP (BRAG)

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th March 2023.

The March meeting of BRAG was held through Zoom.

1. Start:

The meeting started at 19.00.

Present:

Mark Blackham (chair)

Sharon Pike (Deputy Chair)

Sue Tweedie (secretary)

Amanda Slade

David Pafford

Apologies were received from Dale Robinson, Cllr Nick Holder and Cllr David Morley.

The meeting was chaired by Mark Blackham.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by all as previously read.

2. Falcon Way issue

Mark met with residents in Martlett Close who were deeply unhappy with the way the area on the eastern side of Falcon Way had been left.

Mark attended the MWPC Highways meeting with other resident to state the case. The council seemed supportive and would be looking to find a mutually agreeable solution.

3. Picnic Area

Mark met with the team to discuss the seasons maintenance.

The removal of the plastic sheaths has begun and will need to continue.

David Sutton had put in for a grant to repair the lecterns.

Mark is using his DIY skills to take measurements and potentially repair.

3 .Brabazon Way Community rewilding project

A rough plan for planting has been discussed. The purchase of Hawthorn shrubs is planned and will be purchased from Barthers of Chapmanslade. Sharon will be purchasing yellow rattle plugs. A gardener from Ide Verdi was mowing the area and Sharon spoke to him to reiterate that only a path is to be mown. Sue to contact the Wildlife Trust re bat boxes.

5. Litter Picking

Litter picking is to be scheduled for 22nd April.

Those available are

Sharon, David, Amanda and Mark.

Mark agreed to post on FB and David Pafford would contact Melksham Oak to encourage volunteering. Sharon to contact Brownies and cubs' leaders to ask for volunteers.

6. Treasurers Report

Full report circulated

All outstanding bills paid.

Balance of account after all bills paid is £3561.12

£1000 grant from Shell towards ongoing running costs and lectern repairs.

£1000 ringfenced for Brabazon rewilding project.

Picnic area costs are likely to be higher due to fuel increases. It was proposed to raise the amount from £250 to £300 by Mark Blackham and seconded by Amanda Slade and Sharon Pike

Strimmer repair £142.08

A grant of £450 has been confirmed from MWPC

7. MWPC updates.

No updates other than Falcon Way issue and speeding at the oak school. David Pafford informed the committee that BRAG should be commenting on the proposed housing development at Snarlton Farm. The response was that as a new committee we were not aware that this is something that we should be doing, nor did we realise that the area in question comes under Bowerhill.

Mark to speak with Dale.

David Pafford agreed to keep BRAG informed

7. Any Other Business

David Pafford to be added to admin on FB.

A discussion arose regarding dwindling members and lack of people attending meetings or becoming actively involved.

It was suggested that BRAG meet up with other community groups such as Shaw and Whitley and Berryfield. Berryfield were holding a meeting on 3rd April and Mark Blackham would attend.

8 Next Meeting

Sue to check date of last AGM as the next meeting is likely to be the AGM.

Closing

The meeting closed at 7.45pm