



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BRANKSOME WEST
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

1st Floor, the Pavilion

Branksome Recreation Ground

Meeting 16th July 2014, 7.30pm

Attending:-

Chairman	Jacqui Wilson
Treasurer	Diane Wyatt
Committee Members	Andrew Borrill Ruth McCullough Trevor Wyatt Alex Wilson Lynne Drewitt Tom Brown
Appologies	Jill Coombes



1. Welcome and Introduction

Jacqui Wilson welcomed the members to the meeting.

Jacqui introduced Kate Mitchell from the Borough of Poole who is one of our guest speakers tonight. Jacqui also introduced Vicky Ashley who is our second speaker. Cllr Marion Le Poidevin will also give us a local update.

2. Matters Arising

None.

3. Guest Speakers

Kate Mitchell gave apologies for Jan Hill and Martyn Whitchurch who could not attend tonight.

Kate gave an introduction about 'Open Spaces' in Poole and how they are looked after by the Borough of Poole.

For Branksome Recreation ground, pots of money do exist for its development and this has been provided by developers over the last few years who have built in the nearby locality. Currently a pot of £50,000 is available for Branksome to be spent over 2 yrs, this year and next.

The current available funds could be used to repair/upgrade children's play equipment currently in use on the Recreation Ground.

These developer pots of money are important as the Borough of Poole only has a repair/maintenance fund of £25,000 for all open spaces in Poole. No capital funding is available, at the moment, other than the pots provided by developers. Hence funds are in short supply.

The Green Gyms and the children's Play Areas are on the same inspection/maintenance scheme.



As a Residents Association should we be asking the council for a pot of money to aid replacement of worn out facilities on the Recreation Ground?

Questions from the floor:

It has been noted that some 'Open Spaces' do get other funding such as 'Play Builder' funding. For example, Alexandria Park, are these available elsewhere in Poole? Kate explained how this works.

How long is equipment, used on our Recreation Ground, guaranteed for? Gym and Play equipment have a 25yr guarantee. Play surfaces not known. Kate will find out.

The Circus is visiting soon and in the past access gates have been left open during their stay. This is an invitation for Travellers to get onto the Recreation Ground. Can anything be done? The Circus will be reminded about their responsibilities regarding access gates and keeping them shut.

Who looks after events on our Recreation Ground? Jan Hill.

Kate has a number of issues brought to her attention which she does not immediate answers for. Kate will get answers and feed them back through Jacqui.

Vicky Ashley explained what she currently does in the Borough. She works to provide social development for disadvantaged people in Poole and Bournemouth and more widely in Dorset.

She is here tonight to explain plans she has for part of the Pavilion on our Recreation Ground. She is hoping, with others, to set up a Café and function/activity/community room(s).

Plans for this are at an early stage and she is talking to the Borough of Poole and thinking about funding.

The Residents Association committee have seen some outline plans for this. We will be talking to Vicky about this in more detail in the near future.



Vicky feels it is important that she has the support of the local residents in taking this plan forward.

Cllr Marion Le Poidevin gave a report on some local issues affecting us.

The issues with Japanese Knotweed have been mostly resolved and Marlene Rd should now be free from this plant as treatment has been carried out.

Some of the trees bordering the Cedars development are going to be pruned.

The ongoing road works in Ashley Rd are currently at the end of Churchill Rd. The new traffic lights and re-work at this junction are nearly complete after 3 months of work. Some exasperation expressed from the residents regarding the time taken to do this work as Churchill Rd has been one way only for the majority of the time.

Black refuse bins are being replaced with smaller black refuse bins across the borough. No exceptions other than for medical reasons.

As most residents probably know, the Jubilee Rd public toilets are now closed. There is an alternative scheme running with local traders such as Waitrose, Victoria Cross and Rosina's to provide facilities for the public.

A 20 mph zone has been widely implemented in our ward.

The Circus is in town shortly and will be on Branksome Recreation Ground. The council does hold a bond in case any damage occurs to the ground.



4. Chairmans Update

We are about to hold our annual Dog Show. All residents are welcome to attend with their dogs.

5. Treasurer's Report

Savings Account: £1201.28
Current Account: £62.30

6. Planning

Not a lot going on at the moment other than at the Cedars redevelopment. The site has been cleared and amendments to the existing plan are with the council.

7. Administration

We are in the process of leaflet production and distribution. The leaflet outlines what the BWRA does for the local community. We will be continuing leaflet distribution, to Branksome West ward roads as and when the leaflets are available and distributors can be found. We will attempt to keep this as a rolling initiative.

As always, local residents can find out more about our activities by looking at our website.

8. Events & Volunteers

Jill Coombes hosted a charity 'Big Brew' event in support of the RVS on the 3rd May. £70 was raised for the RVS.

Jacqui Wilson hosted a charity 'Carers Awareness Week' event on the 13th June. £176 was raised for Carers UK.

BWRA annual Dog Show takes place on the 19th July on Branksome Recreation ground. Registration from 1 p.m.



9. AOB

The Towns Woman's Guild are currently looking for new members.

There will be a Poole Carnival next year.

Hamworthy Park, the sailing/sports facility has been leased to Harbour Challenge. Some concern expressed as to how this was achieved.

Friend's of Poole Park, in conjunction with the Borough of Poole, are looking to obtain Heritage Lottery funding for improvements to the park.

Jacqui asked all members present if they are keen on the ideas presented earlier by Vicky Ashley. Members gave an enthusiastic response. We will be keeping an eye on how this develops.

Meeting concluded: 9.30 pm.

Next Residents Meeting: 15th October, 7.30 pm.