



# Wookey Hole Residents' Forum

Committee Meeting, Wookey Hole Club Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

**In attendance:** *Hugh Talbott (Chair), Julia Scarth, Roger Hancock, Louise Burton, James Lewis, Mary Gaunt, Dave Hudsmith,*  
**Observers:-** *Councillor Ed Danson* **Apologies:-** *Gary Amos, Nicky Amos, Chris Britton, Councillor David Ball*

1. Minutes of the committee meeting 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chair.
2. **Matters Arising.**
  - a) **Monthly Coffee Mornings**

This is still felt to be a worthwhile project. As yet Roger has not found anyone willing to take on overall responsibility for organising it. Dave Hudsmith will find out if the Club Cttee would agree to the Club being made available in the daytime for this once a month event. A responsible keyholder would need to be nominated.
  - b) **Monthly Village Evenings**

Dave Hudsmith reported that the Club Cttee were in favour of having a designated night once a month for a "Village Evening". It is quite likely that other events such as skittles or darts will also be taking place so the playroom at the back on the groundfloor may be a quieter venue. The first one is planned for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> of February. David offered to bring his album of historical postcards of the village. He will also get a notice about it included in the February What's On.
  - c) **Noticeboards**

It was agreed that the sub committee of Hugh, Mary and Roger would go ahead with organising the purchase and placement of 1 noticeboard. Current preferred locations are in the vicinity of the Club or on the verge near the entrance to Coombe Brook Field where it joins the main road, opposite the Tetley's house.
  - d) **Vice-chair**

Hugh will check with Nicky if the vacancy has been advertised.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** £520 is being held on behalf of Neighbourhood Plan group, £91.65 remains of the Community Garden Grant. **The balance for use by WHRF is £745.04.** The bank balance stands at £1356.69.
4. **Public Liability Insurance** Hugh has spoken to Somerset Community Council (SCC). They advised that when we organise events we should make participants aware that participation is at their own risk. Roger has obtained a quote of £115 from Zurich who are the company that (SCC) use for their own insurance. It was agreed that WHRF should in any case take out public liability insurance. Roger will look further into what exactly we would be covered by the Zurich quote. The desirability of undertaking risk assessments for the events that we organise was also discussed. Roger will find out if the insurance company have any pre-existing check list/tick box forms that we could make use of.
5. **Planning** As far as we can tell the new system for recording planning applications on the WH website is working. It should however be made clear that there may be applications that have not been listed on the Parish or District Council lists.
6. **Arrangements for forthcoming events** Hugh volunteered to head up a working party for future social events. Butcombe Brewery will not currently take bookings as far ahead as October. St Cuthbert's Mill, for reasons of Health and Safety are not in a position to organise tours. John was not present to report back on a possible picnic in the Caves.

Bring and Share 6pm Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> All tickets have been sold. Nicky has the arrangements in hand. Anyone who is available to help with setting up should be at the Community Hall at 3.30 pm. Mary will organise a raffle. Adam, Louise and Polly have agreed to play some low key folk music. They would welcome any other musicians who are at the event and would like to, to perform a piece as well. Julia will ask Francis Fraser, a saxophonist, if she would be willing.
7. **AGM.** Roger has agreed that there are sufficient funds to offer wine and cheese at the AGM. It was decided that we would not invite anyone from outside the village to give a talk however if someone from the Caves, such as Daniel, were available that would be good.
8. **Update from Working Groups** - see attached
9. **Any Other Business.** James asked if anyone knew anything about the disappearance of the fingerpost at the bottom of Titlands Lane. No one did but Ed knew of a good, useful link to report such things on the SCC site which he will pass on to James. Concern was also expressed about the condition of the finger post at Glencot Lane.
10. The next committee meeting will be on **March 22nd** at 7.30pm at the Wookey Hole Club with the AGM on **21<sup>st</sup> April**. Nicky will book the Club.

## **Working Party Reports**

### **Buses + Footpaths**

**Mary Gaunt**

Bus services are severely under threat once again. Mary attended a meeting in Wells on Saturday. The mantra is that all bus services should pay their way and be economically viable.

### **WP2 Pyrolysis Plant/St Cuthbert Mill**

**Roger Hancock**

Roger reported that when the paper mill had been sold it was to Les Moore's son for £850,000K. The paper mill has another 5 years of its lease left. It is not known what will happen after that.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

**Vacancy**

Ed was able to update us that Matt Gilson a St Cuthbert Out Parish Councillor for South Ward has stepped up to head the Neighbourhood Plan. It is partly being held up by the wait for Mendip's final proposal for their Local Plan. The next step is to undertake a housing needs survey focusing on social housing.

### **Elm Close Developments**

**Chris Britton**

Chris Britton advises that with regard to West of Wells development – that has gone to appeal. With regard to Elm Close development, this will re-emerge.

### **Wookey Hole Website**

**John Grange**

Roger has some suggestions for improvement of the website and will be invited to attend the next website working group meeting.

### **Additional Post Box**

**Hugh Talbott**

The preferred site for the reinstatement of the post box, removed from the former Post Office, is still subject to probate.

### **Maintenance of Memorial Trees**

**David Scarth**

No developments since last meeting.

### **Notice Boards**

**Hugh Talbott**

See point c in matters arising

### **Campaign for Dark Skies**

**Gary Amos**

No developments since last meeting

### **WH What's On**

**Jenny Lewis**

Items for the 'WH What's On' must be received by the deadline if people want their event publicised. The deadline for the February issue is January 27th

### **St Mary Magdalene Community Garden**

**Julia Scarth**

Initial designs for an overall reordering of the church including the grounds has been submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee. It is one of the items on their agenda for their meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January. We await their comments before moving to the next stage. Ed advised that there was a risk of losing the School Hill106 funds that are being held by Mendip unless we make a request for it.

### **Litter Pick up**

**Ed Danson**

Ed will look into the 'Clean for the Queen' campaign to see if it would tie in with a village litter pick up.