



Marlow Bottom Valley Residents Association



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MINUTES OF THE MARLOW BOTTOM VALLEY
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 11 RAGMANS CLOSE, SEPTEMBER 7TH 2005

THOSE PRESENT

Alan Jedras
Pat Thomas
Steve Tilbury
Michael Sloane
Chas Snare
Paul Kay
Jennie Browning
Mike Williams
Phil Kirkley
Peter Borrows

107/05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Crane *
Marshall Lawton *
Steve Woodbridge *
Robin St.John Smith *
Beverley Tilbury *
Stephen Fox *

108/05 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed off by the Chairman. Paul Kay requested a minor correction to 105/05, in as much that “the excellent presentation” referred to the AGM presentation, and not the efforts expended at the Rose Carnival coconut shy.

109/05 MATTERS ARISING – There were no recorded matters arising.

110/05 CORRESPONDENCES – Alan Jedras - Wycombe District Council had invited MBVRA to the forthcoming Waitrose Development discussion in Marlow. Mike Williams remarked that the meeting was already cancelled, and that all 3 proposals had been provisionally rejected by the acting Development Control Committee.

Mike had been planning to speak at the meeting, but it was likely that there would be no public speaking. Peter Borrows commented that Waitrose had been handing out leaflets in the local store regarding re-furbishments to the existing site, and could be perceived as a signal to show intent to remain at the current site and not push forward with the proposed development <conjecture>.

Paul Kay had received correspondence from a valley resident regarding the recent smells emanating from the dump. Dr Stuart Marshall had spoken with Paul regarding the complaint and had appeared to be very keen to help resolve any concerns. The High

Heavens site manager is called Benjy Anderson, an enthusiastic and forward looking individual who is always looking to improve the smooth running of the site. The site is to stay and they want to learn how to run the site effectively.

Mike Williams and Chas Snare had visited the site recently and both commented that at certain points you could definitely smell something obnoxious, but certainly not all the time. Peter Borrows remarked that naturally occurring Mepaptans and Ketones could be part of the cause. The composting clamps carried a vast amount of waste, and this is where most of the smells are created. Chas Snare remarked about the method of turning the waste (in the open air), and added that this appeared not to be the most effective method of doing so. Mike had also had occasion to phone Benjy Anderson regarding a bad smell one weekend, and stated that he had been able to react quickly to the matter and locate the source of the problem.

The waste water holding tank was what had caused the malodorous smell, this has now been covered with a tarpaulin. The addition of food waste means that the system has to be run at a much higher operating temperature, and it is generally not the most efficient way of reducing the bulk taken in. WDC may have taken the wrong approach to tackling the waste, but the approach was deemed the correct one at the time the decision was taken. All composted batches are tested before distribution to ensure that the waste is treated correctly and that it prevents no hazard to health or environment.

The next arranged visit will be around the 3rd week of September. Mike Williams to orchestrate the gathering of interested parties for the next visit via email. Anyone wishing to visit the site to see the operation themselves should make contact with Mike Williams at their earliest opportunity.

111/05 TREASURERS REPORT – No report submitted owing to Treasurers absence

112/05 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Chas Snare remarked that the WDC website carried all of the information regarding the redevelopment of the town centre. June consisted of various applications, notably 119 New Road, an application has been lodged to build in the existing grounds there. Woodland Trust's John Brown had been contacted, he was not aware of the proposed development. Helen Billings (WDC) stated that the proposed development has already been allowed, and that there were no reasons not to permit the development. Chas argued the point, but to seemingly no avail.

The Highway Department were not concerned with the proposal. Parish Council were non-committal, and seemingly non-responsive. According to a Jane Blooms, there had been one previous application and one modified application that had now been agreed and accepted.

MBVRA's point of view was that there was no defined boundary, and that the land-owner could possibly encroach on the woodland area during the ensuing build. The Woodland Trust has approached the land-owners solicitor, and allegedly asked them to prove ownership if they can. The build may still go ahead subject to certain conditions being met.

Paul Kay, "MBVRA gave money to Woodland Trust to buy the land, why is the ownership of the land now in question?" Site plan shows boundary belonging to Woodland Trust. Land Registry shows the original boundary belonging to the Woodland Trust. Chas Snare – "Can we obtain a plan of the area showing boundary status?" Mike Williams "Who pays for the clearance if the ownership of the refuse dumped there cannot be proven?"

WDC had previously placed an order to clear the abandoned cars in the woods around Mr Redgrave Snr's property on safety grounds, so it was likely to be the District Council that paid for the clearance.

Other Applications:

80 New Road – little back garden development, to be enlarged and this was refused, now gone to appeal. Objected to by neighbours regarding overlooking issues. 68 Marlow Bottom Road have replaced their existing garden shed with a log cabin. 102 Marlow Bottom Road, objections to application, this has subsequently been withdrawn and now re-submitted for a different proposal. Objections were mainly centred around cars and car parking.

Meadow View – plot of land has been subjected to an application for a new build, and this has been approved for the building of a new 4 bedroom house. 20 Badgers Way – large extension planned, but no objections lodged by neighbours. 8 Andrews Way - new conservatory planned. 20 Hill Farm Road - 2 storey extension, similar to existing property. 57 Beechtree Avenue - sun lounge conversion from garage. 208 Marlow Bottom Road - changes to existing application – **Refer to WDC website for further details.....**

Nigel Jameson – Owner of house and land being developed at the valley entrance. The extension looks rather large, and with a new front door? Is this to planning application?

113/05 SIR STEVE REDGRAVE PROJECT

Onyx Landfill Tax Credit Scheme – Regional Panel meeting on the 29th September. Decision time! Alan and Jennie volunteered to attend the meeting to speak if required. A mention of thanks goes to Eileen Court (Marlow Parish Council) and Councillor Malcolm Blanksby for their invaluable assistance in getting the necessary correspondence resolved.

114/05 SUCCESSION PLANNING

There were no volunteers present at the meeting. We continue to look for a new Chairman elect to ensure the well being of the association.

115/05 WEBSITE MATTERS

Content required in order to bulk up and improve the site. All donations gratefully received! Chairman asked reference hit counter, worthiness questioned owing to low number of actual unique visits.

116/05 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - No further business was raised by those present.

117/05 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12th October 2005, 8.00pm sharp at 25 Munces Road, Alan's Residence.

Minutes prepared by Steve Tilbury. In case of query or correction, please contact me using either r3skt@btinternet.com or telephone me on 01628 471288 during evening hours.