

Victoria Road Group
Minutes of a Meeting held on 16th July 2012

Present: Mary (in the Chair), Paul, Jonathan, Sally, Ali, Sam, Jelly, Mick, Philippa, Gordon, Anna, Manda, and Betty

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Barbara, Mireille, John, Nick, Sue, Bill and Diana

2. Minutes of last meeting and approval of minutes

The minutes were approved with one correction: Jelly's apologies should have been recorded.

3. Events

(a) Garden Party

It was agreed that the party had gone very well. Games had been provided for the children who attended: Peter was thanked for providing the mice (with Paul's assistance), and Jonathan and Sally were thanked for donating supplies. It was agreed to highlight the appeal of the event to children in next year's publicity to encourage more families with young children to attend. It was also agreed that the invitation to the party should go out quite near to the event with a RSVP, and that there should be regular reminders throughout the year about forthcoming dates. Finally the group wished to record their thanks to the Leighfields for being gracious hosts for the event.

(b) Seven Roads Party

Again this had been a great success and the weather had been superb. It was agreed that Victoria Road, both members of the Group and other individuals in the street, had made a major contribution to it. The fact that the street had a community group in existence was surely a factor in the level of participation.

(c) Media Madness

Scheduled for 17th November. Mary would ask Heike and Dominic (No. 53) if they would be prepared to host it. If they declined, Bill and Diana would be approached.

(d) Christmas Party

Scheduled for 9th December. Jonathan and Sally (No. 59) agreed to host it, with Sam and Ali prepared to offer their house if for any reason that fell through.

(e) Other events

A quiz was proposed and agreed. 23rd February was agreed as target date [Post-meeting note: this is clear of half-term and enquiries have been made of the hall] with 2nd and 9th March as alternatives.

At Mary's prompting, John Leighfield had agreed to offer another talk about his area of expertise, old maps, to the Group, but it was felt that this would be of wider interest and might be something that the Seven Roads Group would wish to offer. This would likely take place in the New Year and after the Seven Roads Group had met up.

4. New Chairperson

Manda was proposed, and agreed unanimously, as the new Chairperson for the Group for the coming year. Mary was thanked heartily for her year as Chairperson which she had carried out with great dedication and efficiency.

AOB

It was reported that Oona was standing down as Neighbourhood Watch contact for the road after serving since 1985. It was agreed that it would be nice to acknowledge this and Ali volunteered to buy flowers and circulate a card. If there were any other ways to formally acknowledge her work they would be pursued. It was agreed that the Group should try to find a successor, and Sam volunteered to contact the police for a job description of the role. In the future it was thought that it would be good if messages could be reduced in number and targeted more on the immediate area as there was a danger that relevant messages were being deleted because of the quantity received.

Manda asked if there were any new neighbours to contact with a Welcome Pack: No. 35 was suggested, and it was reported that there would be new neighbours at 102 (next to Mick and Philippa) shortly.

The skip had arrived and was outside No. 102a. Anna reminded the group that donations should be posted through her door (54), or given to Mick and Philippa (102a): £10 for a medium sized item; £20 for a large piece of furniture. No rubble or soil was allowed and Mick would put a notice up to that effect. Jonathan would notify the 14 houses not on the email list.

It was agreed it would be a while until the next meeting and that if the weather looked fine in September it would be good to meet up informally for a barbecue. Mary and Paul offered their garden as a venue.

Date of next meeting: 2nd October, 8pm at No.102a (Mick and Philippa's).