

Minutes of a meeting of the Victoria Road Group on Monday 12 January 2015

Present: Paul (Chair); Sue; Anna; Gordon; Sally; Liz; Sam; Iona; Mary

Apologies: Ali; Jean; Barbara; Manda; John; Philippa; Mick; Sarah; Ali; Mike; Mireille;

Jonathan

Matters Arising from last Minutes:

Cuttleslowe Community Centre finances: they have reported that last year's fundraising efforts went well and that their budget for 2015 is looking reasonably good. Donations of £15,000 have been match-funded by one anonymous sponsor for 2015. They have also made a grant request for £40,000 to Children in Need for specific projects related to youth work. However, their operation is very much hand-to-mouth and they are still keen to have regular financial support from local donors. *Paul* suggested that the Seven Roads Group might choose to hold an event to raise money for this cause at some point.

Gordon had been to a meeting at the Community Centre and spoke about all the different events held there – all requiring funding as the fees received for renting rooms don't cover the costs. *Paul* suggested that we keep a watching brief on this and *Sally* says she will bring it to the upcoming Seven Roads meeting.

Film night: the discussion of this was brought forward until a meeting at which Jean and Mireille and Mike are present.

EVENTS:

Christmas Party The meeting offered thanks to *Ali* and *Sam* for hosting this very successful and pleasant event, and to *John* for organising the carol-singing, which was enjoyed by all involved.

QUIZ NIGHT – 28 February, 7.30 for 8.00pm

The Lower Hall has been booked and a sub-committee is handling the planning. Anna and Gordon have agreed to deal with the tickets again. The tickets will be £5. *Sam, Sue, Iona* and *Paul* will deliver the leaflets, which will also go to Hamilton and Kings Cross Road

Anna will be on the door

Mary will help to put people into teams on the night

Sam and Liz will organise the Bar and *Paul* will ask *Robin* if he can help with setting up and clearing away.

Set-Up: Paul, Mary et al

We could do with more volunteers to help with setting-up and clearing-up please

OXCLEAN – 6/7 MARCH *Sue* offered to co-ordinate this. *Sue* has now confirmed the date as the morning of Saturday 7th March and our 'patch' as Sunnymead Park.

GREEN BALLOON DAY – Sunday 10 MAY, 10am until 12.30pm.

Details to be discussed at next meeting.

GARDEN PARTY – 12 JULY (afternoon) at No. 42 (Mary McKnight)

To be discussed at a future meeting.

SAFARI SUPPER - This was a great success last year, so another will be planned for the evening of **17 OCTOBER**.

SESI

Sam told us about a company offering online ordering of household goods – cleaning and laundry liquids, oils and dry grocery goods (organic and/or Fairtrade), all of which may be decanted into one's own containers direct from the delivery van, thus saving the disposal of plastic bottles and packets. The website is: www.sesi.org.uk and their phone number: **01865 749803**. *Sam* is happy to co-ordinate the start of this and will email SESI about delivering to Victoria Road on a regular basis.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Blog: *Liz* volunteered to take this on and will hope to involve *Iona*. The blog address should be included on all communications. Paul to induct *Liz* into the mysteries of the blog.

Sam said that the Neighbourhood Forum is going to the first stage of planning. That document will eventually go to a Local Referendum, the result of which will go on to the Neighbourhood Plan. We will be getting a newsletter seeking feedback about potential issues. *Sam* urged us to read the newsletter and respond to it. One idea is that all mature trees should be preserved, provided that they are in safe condition (this is not a conservation area, so that is not presently the case).

The City Council has a draft Bio-Diversity Strategy, which Paul will circulate to anyone interested.

Next VRG Meeting is on 12 March (8pm) at No. 80 (*Iona* and *Alfie*)

VRG Blog: <http://vrgblog.wordpress.com>

Key Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of these key VRG dates for 2015

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| Saturday 28 th February 7.30pm for 8pm | Quiz Night | Church Hall |
| Saturday March 7 th morning | OxClean | Sunnymead Park |
| Sunday May 10 th morning | Green Balloon Day | In the Road |
| Sunday July 12 th | Garden Party | @ No 42 |
| Saturday October 17 th evening | Safari Supper | Along the road |

More details will be circulated nearer the date of the events.