

## Minutes of VRG Meeting 11 November 2015

**Present:** Paul (Chair); Pen; Jessica; Alfred; Gordon; Anna; Mike; John; Sam; Sally; Mary

**Apologies:** Ali; Sue; Jonathan; Stéphane; Mick; Philippa; Manda; John C.

### **Matters arising from the last Minutes**

Paul reminded everyone about using the **VRG Blog**; the current address is: vrgblog.wordpress.com; user name: vrgblog and the password: [*hidden in the published minutes, available from the Chair on request*].

The blog can be registered with a different, more obvious address – vrgblog.com, at a cost of \$18 per year (approximately £12). The meeting voted to do this.

**Noticeboard** Peter was going to build an additional noticeboard in the front garden of No.84, but he has not yet had time to do this. Mary will give him a gentle reminder.

### **Film Night**

The first Film Night is on Friday 20 November at No 56 (Ali and Sam's house) at 7.30. The film is *The Truman Show*, and seats are still available. Anyone interested in going should contact the Clarkes directly, to avoid overcrowding: [sam.clarke@dial.pipex.com](mailto:sam.clarke@dial.pipex.com)

### **Safari Supper**

Very many thanks were offered to Sally, Jonathan, Sam and Ali for organising this hugely successful and enjoyable event. It was particularly pleasing that several people who have only recently moved into the road took part. There was a discussion about why more people did not take part (particularly those who had enjoyed it last year), and one suggestion was to include children, although that was generally thought by the meeting to be a complication too far. One suggestion was to hold it at lunchtime but, as many children have weekend commitments, that seemed no easier. Sunday was suggested, but that probably has the same difficulty.

### **Future Events**

- 1. Christmas Drinks** This is due to be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00, with the customary carol-singing in the road at 5.15. Alfred and Jessica (no 68) have kindly offered to host this event. Paul will buy the wine, Mary will buy supplies for the mulled wine and Pen and Mary will prepare the mulled wine. The invitations for this will go out next week; Paul will have them printed, and Anna, Sue and Pen will distribute them. John Clarke will prepare the carol sheets and Paul will lead the singing (unless John is available to do so.)
- 2. Media Madness** It was agreed that the end of January would probably be a good time for this; Anna suggested that this time it should be held on a Sunday. As this holds the same problem of weekend morning activities, and would exclude churchgoers it was suggested to hold it in the afternoon. Sally (No. 59) has offered to host it on **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 2.30pm.**

### New Chair

Jonathan has agreed to take on the Chair of VRG in the New Year. Sam thanked Paul for chairing the Group for the past 18 months.

### Any Other Business

Sally raised the issue of the plot of the newly renovated No.27 having been apparently subdivided, with a fence down the middle of the garden and a new number – 29 – having been added. Planning permission for a new house has not been granted. Paul reminded the meeting that the VRG does not intervene in planning issues but suggested that individuals take action if they feel strongly about it.

*NB Since the meeting we have been notified that a planning appeal has been made about the demolition of 364 Banbury Road and the erection of 2 x 4 bed dwellings. The appeal reference is APP/G3110/W/15/3134857.*

Paul asked the meeting whether or not it is appropriate to use the VRG email list to advertise events not related to VRG or goods for sale/wanted. Anna suggested that they should just go on the blog; Jessica felt that it was fine to use the email list, provided that the address list was always as blind copies. Sam suggested that we should ask everyone on the email list whether or not they wanted to hear about other local events (concerts etc), then create a separate list for those who are happy to receive them. It was agreed that items for sale should only be advertised on the noticeboard(s) or the blog.

### **Finances**

Anna reported that the Group currently holds £415.99; this is after paying the annual insurance.

### **Spring Event**

Paul suggested another **wine-tasting/quiz**, or asking a wine expert to devise a ‘fun’ event. Our standard **quizzes** are always very successful – enjoyed by all and good fundraisers, but they are a lot of work. Sally expressed willingness to organise, with help. It is a few years since our last **Musical Evening**. These are always extremely enjoyable, but a great deal of work to organise, but there was general enthusiasm in the meeting, particularly as, once again, there are quite a few children in the road who might be persuaded to perform. It was agreed to discuss this at the January meeting.

### **Next Meeting: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January at No.59**

### **Dates for your diary:**

Friday November 20 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Film Night (book in advance)	@ no 56
Sunday December 13 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Christmas Drinks	@ no 68
Sunday January 31 <sup>st</sup> 2.30pm	Media Madness	@ no 59

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

