

Victoria Road Meeting, 15th September 2016

Notes of meeting

Apologies:

Jonathan, Gordon, Anna, Mike, Mireille, Stephane, Jessica, Alfred, Bob, Vicky, Mick, Pen, Liz, Ali.

Minutes: Virginia M. Lladó- Buisán (1A Victoria Road)

Minutes from last meeting: approved.

Past events review:

1. Garden party:

The party was very well attended and people mixed well, there was good food, kids played well in the garden as there was plenty of room for them and also some games. It was overall a very well organised event, and a note for improvement would be to serve food in the shade next time (it was very sunny that day). There was a discussion about finding other possible locations for this yearly event, preferably gardens with a side entrance and with capacity for 30-40 people. A decision on the venue would need to be reached before March 2017. ACTION POINT: to inform people that we are looking for a garden to host this event.

Future events:

1. Safari supper (Saturday, 1st October 2016):

Sue, Mick, Liz and Sam are the organisers. A minimum of 9 hosts will be required for this event, and at the moment there are only 8. Virginia offered to cook a Spanish dish to bring to one of the venues, although she is not able to host the event at home due to childcare logistics. ACTION POINT: encourage neighbours, especially those who aren't on the mailing list, to participate and host.

2. Christmas drinks and carols (11th December 2016):

This will start at 18:00 or 18:30 hours. There will be another neighbours meeting in November and it is expected to confirm the hosting venue then. Number 56 and 59 respectively have offered to host thus far, but we are still looking for more proposals. Carols have always been organised by John but he cannot make it this year, so Mick has volunteered to organise this. By unanimity, it is proposed to ask John and Manda as honorary residents to join us that evening.

3. Book exchange day:

It is not yet confirmed how this will be organised.

4. Green balloon day:

The group discussed how to make this event more exciting and encourage participation, perhaps organising it in one location only rather than several along the street. This is about neighbours getting together and therefore tea/coffee and cake are always attractive to enhance the event.

5. Quiz:

We need to decide if we are going to organise one this spring. It was ascertained that this works better if the group of participants is large, so this will also require encouraging people to join in. no specific month/date was suggested. ACTION POINT: to send a message (Sally) to "Seven Roads Group".

AOB

- Sally suggested to organise informal coffee "open doors" gatherings during a number of set dates during the year, in order to encourage residents to socialise and learn about each other. This was a very well received suggestion by the group.
- Another idea was to organise a competition of front gardens...
- The group acknowledged the need to find another Chair for 2017. It was suggested that people interested could talk to Jonathan. ACTION POINT: to find a way to express our gratitude to Jonathan for all the work he has done during his Chair tenure in 2016. Sam agreed to chair for the next meeting.
- Hosting arrangements for meetings: there was a suggestion to communicate neighbours that they should not feel an obligation to bring drink bottles to the meeting's hosts' houses.

Next meeting: Monday, 14th of November at number 59.