

Minutes of a Meeting of the Victoria Road Group On 30 April 2017

Apologies: Barbara

Present: Sam (Chair); Sally; Jonathan; Anna; Gordon; Jessica; Alfred; Philippa; Mick; Sue; Paul; Mary

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed

Matters Arising:

New Logo: Peter has not had a chance to do much work on this, but people like what Jonathan had done for the most recent flier. *Philippa* will encourage Peter to go further with his design.

Welcome Pack: Jonathan hadn't got much further with revising this and said he felt that it's too long and rather out of date, and that it might be better just to offer various web addresses, etc. However, Jessica and Alfred, the most recent recipients of it at this meeting, said that they had been very impressed by it in its present form and had found it very useful and that it is a Welcome in itself. So *Jonathan* will go ahead and update the existing version.

Big Green Balloon Day

Sam hasn't had much feedback from the first green notice about it – offers of help, etc. He reiterated the plan – road closure, activities listed, who is running or helping with, each activity.

Recycling on the Day: Everyone will be asked to bring their goods to recycle to the front drive of No.88 (*not sure about Andrew's number Sam*) *Paul* will organise it, and people will be asked to bring stuff from 2.00. Anna was concerned about things being taken before the event itself opens, but there will be plenty of people setting up in that area to keep an eye on it.

Auction: *Ali* will run this and she suggested giving examples on the next notice, also the fact that we can't sell electrical goods. Mick was worried about an auction conflicting with the whole idea of Green Balloon Day being about recycling. People will be asked to contact Ali about items to auction.

Drumming workshop: *Paul* will organise this and it will be in the middle of the road, under a gazebo in case of rain.

Cuttings Workshop and Plant Stall: *Mary* will give advice on taking cuttings and people will be encouraged on the notice to bring plants they want to propagate. Any plants to be recycled will be in the same area. She asked for CLEAN plastic pots and *Jonathan* and *Philippa* offered some. *Mary McKnight* has offered to help with the plants.

Bicycle Repair Workshop: Sam has tried hard to find someone to run this, without success. He himself will offer basic advice and help, and pass on a list of shops that repair bikes.

Games: *Mick* is in charge of these and he stressed the importance of getting cars moved from the road-closure area the evening before the event. *Ali* will sort that out. Mick thought it might be useful to have a piece of artificial grass to use for some of the games. *Ali and Sam* have a piece of this. There will be a table-football table (which needs to be held down); Pin the Tail on the Donkey; games with bean-bags; outside Jenga, which Mick will borrow from Derek; and possibly skittles, quoits and boules. Mick will make a request for more games via the email list. Sally suggested throwing balls into buckets and Philippa suggested Hula hoops. Paul reminded the meeting about the Mouse-hunt game.

Pet Show; *Philippa* is in charge of this and Sue will help her. Philippa has been thinking of categories, a few of which will be advertised on the notice. 'All shall have a prize' (modest) which Philippa will buy.

Tea and Coffee Stall *Sarah and Jane* will be running this on Jane and Peter's drive – No.77. *Mary* will liaise with them about supplies, equipment, etc. We will ask for cakes on the notice. *Ali* (early shift); *Jessica* and *Sam* (late shift) offered to help serve, also Jane Grindey, who has already offered. The notice must remind people to bring their own cups.

Bar: we have so far failed to find someone to organise this, but *Ali* will ask Jean and *Mary* will ask Andrew; *Sam* is a fall-back, and *Sam and Paul* will buy the supplies.. The Clarkes have the VRG glasses.

It was suggested that we stop the tea stall at 5 pm so that we can set up the bar

Ali will deal with Road-closure signs.

Setting-up 1.30pm outside Andrew's house: *Anna; Sue; Philippa; Alfred; Mary (plants) Mick; Paul; Sam; Illy*

Tidy-Up: 7.30 *Ali; Anna; Sam; Mick; Jessica; Paul. Sam* will ask John if he will help and *Paul* will ask Jonathan.

Anna asked what we will do with left-over stuff; *Sam* will put things for Oxfam in his car.

We have four gazebos available. The Bromleys, who will be away, will leave their chairs, gazebo, etc where we can get them (they also have a scruffy table we can use. *Anna* has 6 chairs we can use and *Alfred* also has six. *Paul* will provide chairs for the drumming.

Tables: There are 2 VRG trestle tables + the scruffy one at the Bromleys' house; 1 from the Clarkes; 1 folding plastic one from the Lewises and 2 in the garage at No.89. One table might be needed for the pet show.

BBQ: Paul said it should be made clear in the notice that this is a Bring Your Own event but the Lewises and the O'Connors will provide the BBQs. We must make sure that safety is well observed.

Sam asked if we need a PA system, but it was decided that we don't.

Publicity: The final leaflet will go out on Friday 5th. **Paul and Sam** will write it, **Jonathan** will print it and **Mick and Philippa** will deliver it. **Ali** will deal with asking people to move their cars on Friday night off the area of road to be closed. Anna and Jonathan offered parking spaces.

Weather: It was decided that it is too complicated to move the event to Sunday, in the event of wet weather on Saturday. If it is wet we will shrink the number of activities to those that can be managed, i.e.: the drumming and auction can be held indoors, the plants and bicycles can still be outside under a gazebo and the tea can be under gazebos. Notices will be posted to tell people not to bring their recycling stuff. (Mick has a tarpaulin to cover things overnight).

We will look at the weather forecast the night before to make a decision.

Jonathan thought that we should cancel if the forecast is terrible, but Ali disagreed: as this event happens only once a year, people might forget what it's all about if two years pass between Green Balloon Days. We will meet up the evening before to make a decision. Mick suggested that we could start at 5.30 and just have the bar and some food.

Sue and **Sarah** will cover First Aid between them.

Thanks to Sally Jonathan for hosting this meeting.

The Next Meeting is on 9th June at No.56