

## Victoria Road Group

Notes of the meeting held on Monday 12 February 2018 at Paul and Mary's, no.46

Present: Philippa(Chair), Mick(notes), Mary, Sally, Sam, Ali, Mireille, Mike, Anna, Gordon.

### 1 Apologies

Received from Paul Lewis, Sue Bates, Jean Knox, Jessica and Alfred Osbourne.

### 2 Notes of previous meeting

Those present agreed they were a proper record.

### 3 Matters arising from the previous meeting

#### Welcome Packs

Jonathan delivered Welcome Packs to nos. 41 & 37. It was agreed that VRG members should notify Jonathan of any newcomers to the road so that he could provide a Welcome Pack.

### 4 Finance

Anna reported that we have a balance of £217.57.

### 5 Events since previous meeting

#### Christmas Carols & Drinks Party

The carol singing along the road (with an appropriate fall of snow) was well attended and Bruno Sgromo recorded the event with some very nice photographs which were shared online. Paul and Mick were thanked for organising the event.

The carols were followed by the Christmas drinks party which was hosted by Andrew Ritchie. It was a great success with a large number of guests in attendance. Philippa will send a letter of thanks to Andrew.

**Action: Philippa**

#### Media Madness

There was a good volume of media, mostly books and a good choice of CDs, vinyl and some DVDs. It was felt that although the attendance was down on last year, socially it was very successful and fulfilled the aim of bringing people together. Sally appreciated the idea of using three different rooms as it allowed visitors to mix in different spaces, rather like a party. Philippa and Mick were thanked for hosting.

### 6 Future VRG events

We discussed the timing of Seven Roads & VRG events and after exploring various options (including reducing the number), decided to simply space events so that they did not occur too close together.

#### Green Balloon Day

Last year's GBD was a first in that it took place outdoors which involved closing part of the road. Socially it was judged a success but it was felt that it could have been better attended. The set-up took some time to arrange and it was thought that we could improve things this year by giving

helps a specific time to start and finish thereby spreading the workload more efficiently. Also, despite being held in early May, the weather was rather chilly. Taking this into account it was agreed that this year's event should be moved to early June. Gordon had concerns about rainy weather so it was decided that the event would be advertised as taking place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June with the possibility of being moved to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June if wet. Ali will speak to the Council to arrange for the closure of the road.

**Action : Ali**

There were a number of ideas for the coming Green Balloon Day.

1. An area with tables & chairs so visitors have the option to bring and share lunch.
2. A well-stocked plant stall selling plants and facilitating the exchange of seedlings.
3. A bar exchanging alcohol for donations to VRG.
4. Children's games with the addition of hopscotch and skipping for this year, and table tennis.
5. Recycling household items.

These would be more fully explored and planned at the next meeting.

#### Garden Party

In view of the timing of the 7RoadsGroup Summer Weekend it was agreed to hold the Garden Party in early September. It was discussed and agreed that the Garden Party will take place on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Mary will ask Robin if he would be willing to open his garden for the event.

**Action : Mary**

#### Film Night

Jean Knox had again offered to host this, on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Mar 2018 at 8pm. The film would be 'The Party'. Jean had a very few places left at the time of the meeting.

Sam and Ali offered to host another Film Night in April or May.

**Action : Sam**

#### Quiz night

Anna noted that we do not currently have a dedicated fundraising event and suggested something like a Quiz Night as it usually generates a good income for VRG.

#### **7 AOB**

Sally commented that the information on both of the VRG noticeboards is in need of tidying up.

**Action: Paul**

#### **8 Date of next meeting**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March at Mike and Mireille's (no. 50) 5pm**

**The meeting adjourned at 9.15pm after thanking Paul and Mary for their hospitality.**