

Shadoxhurst Village Forum

Notes from the Village Forum meeting held in the Pavilion

on Tuesday 27th March 2018

- To maintain the quality of life for all in the village
- To generate issues that could be put to the Parish Council
- To re-kindle community spirit and engender friendship
- To build social feeling in the village
- To suggest things that will bring people together
- **With a vision to create and develop a positive community spirit**

1) Welcome and Introductions

14 people attended the meeting.

Cheryl welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Open -Forum

There were no items added for consideration at the end of the meeting.

Ian suggested that the new village speed limit should become an agenda item nearer to its implementation date.

3) Minutes from the Forum meeting on 22/2/18

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

4) Rural Means Rural campaign group.

4.1) Funds raised

The RMR open day held on 17th March had been well received, very informative and well attended.

Funds of £306.60 had been raised for RMR as follows: £139.60 from cakes & teas; £84 from raffle; £834 from donations (including an anonymous donation of £40 left at Colin's house).

Funds of £~~124200~~.44 had been raised for the village campaign from the sale of posters and car stickers, and a couple of donations – the actual printing costs were £316.37

It was felt that we needed some more A4 posters and perhaps 3 or 4 more aluminium banners if we can find places for them. Will & Viv will contact a few people to see if they are willing to site a banner on their property, then let Cheryl know the outcome.

Anyone wanting to donate to RMR can do so via direct debit. We could perhaps have a collection box in the village, but we will need to keep some of the money raised for our own village campaign.

4.2) Next Steps~~Keeping the Momentum going~~

Sally was unable to attend tonight, but had sent a message encouraging people to write more letters, engage with the media, and update Facebook. She recommends deferring to David and Ian regarding contact with our MP.

There was surprise that the Hams-Street Oopen Dday, whilst busy, had not been busier given that its population is so much larger than that of our village. Ailjeene suggested that it may be because they had held a referendum and now thought that was the end of the matter. ~~Ian said that people need proper representation, not a referendum.~~

4.3) Unclaimed raffle prizes

The following tickets from ~~our~~the RMR Oopen Dday raffle remain unclaimed:

62 yellow; 71 yellow; 14 pink; 4 pink

If you have one of these tickets please contact Cheryl to claim your prize.

5) Matters Arising

5.1) Parish Council News/Update

David has signed in to speak at the public inquiry for the Local Plan hearing. RMR are promoting a Landscape Protection Plan, and Shadoxhurst is promoting one personalised for our village.

There is still time to respond to the planning application at the end of Farley Close. The decision will be taken by the planning committee and you can send in any comments until then.

Drainage work has been started on the pub field site, although the conditions for this have not yet been signed off. David has informed the local planning office about this. Regarding the two proposed LPG storage tanks to be sited on the green space at the pub field site, we are hoping that they will be going underground so that they're not an eyesore. Kent Ceounty Ceouncil have agreed to extinguish part of the public right of way on the pub field site, on the basis that a nice new pedestrian pavement will replace it, which is ~~exactly not~~ what we did not wanted-, as its not the same thing at all, and pavements can be closed at will (ie digging the road up), whereas public rights of way cannot be easily blocked.

A village advisory group is looking at drainage issues on both the above sites, and has asked to meet with Kent Ceounty Ceouncil about village concerns. Aline said she has a meeting with Southern Water in April and is willing to raise any issues about sewerage on the Farley close site, so please let her know how she can help.

Nothing has been formally heard about the Greenvolt development yet.

Regarding infrastructure, services and Chilmington Green, ~~apparently~~ Kingsnorth Medical Practice will not now be involved in delivering medical services at the new development. They are unsure whether proposals will be sufficient for the new development, ~~let alone for anyone outside of it,~~ and general sentiment is that it is fraught with issues, so feel it is unviable. The Practice ~~have~~will be already closing their books to new residents of Chilmington Green because they do not want to put their ~~existing-existing~~ high level of service to their current patients at risk.

The ~~N~~ewsletter will be going out the first week of April – let David know if you have anything to be included.

David, Carol and Colin will organise to meet up to consider the FOI situation, and report back to the Forum.

5.2) Village Events

5.2.1 Village Fete

This has been scheduled for Sunday 30th September on the Recreation ground. We are currently considering plans to prevent ~~keep the~~ field ~~free from~~ damage and safe for vehicle movements. Volunteers will be needed to help on the weekend – for set up, the fete itself and for set down. Please let us know if you can help, we can assign specific roles/tasks ~~to that~~ suit individuals.

The Dead Horse Morris have pencilled us in their schedule and will be pleased to come along, we haven't heard anything back from our local Woodchurch Morris yet. Whoever we use, we want to have an upfront fee arrangement so our costs are nice and clear. Morris dancers will need to purchase any food or drink that they consume.

Cheryl is researching 'safeguarding' for the fete committee.

5.2.2 Murder Mystery Evening

Back by popular demand, a great night out happening in the Village Hall on Saturday 28th April. Buy your tickets from Lis 01233 732901 £10 per person, includes fish / sausage / vege bake and chips supper. First come, first served! Only two tables left at time of writing.

5.2.3 Showcasing Shadoxhurst for Business 21 April

Due to unforeseen circumstances, this event has been deferred to later in the year, when more time can be devoted to drumming up interest. Interest sSo far had been minimal there hasn't been enough interest for this event to run. Carol has kindly agreed to ensure that the Village Hall is listed as available for others on that day.

5.2.4 Dementia Friends

Sarah has offered to present a 45 minute programme about how to become a 'dementia friend'. Perhaps this is something we can run immediately before or after a coffee club meeting.

Colin informed everyone that our local Age UK were cutting back on all their services due to cuts in grants from Ashford Borough Council. He felt that we should ask service users if there is anything we can do as a community to help. Aline said that the pop-in club in Woodchurch now has physiotherapists and podiatrists in attendance – if Shadoxhurst did something similar, it might evolve like this naturally. [We would need some sort of screening where treatment is involved.](#)

5.36) Possible Future Events

[Christmas Party for Children of the Village](#)

Vanessa (football club) [already](#) runs two children's parties at Christmas. [We would like to Perhaps this can be opened this up to other children living in Shadoxhurst, who do not play football.](#) It would be nice to help run a children's party in the village hall, [and a co event would need minimal cost from the Forum but Vanessa would need more help, which should not be a problem.](#) Nearer the time we could ask for volunteers to help her. [As soon as the children go back to school in September we will start organising this in earnest.](#)

Val [and Colin](#) will be organising a strawberry tea for the Coffee Club anniversary this summer. Also, we need to consider whether we extend the coffee club by 30 minutes now that the evenings are getting lighter, or do we wait for warmer weather?

As part of national 'Dying Matters [Awareness Wweek](#)', on Monday 14/5/18 David is going to run a community event 'A matter of Life & Death'. Bereavement touches all of our lives and it's important to talk about options and alternatives. The event will give information and allow people to talk about planning funerals and helping people towards the end of their lives. The event is for 1 ½ hours, in the afternoon at 2pm then repeating in the evening at 7pm.

Generation Zap - a film made in America about the effect of microwaves in the air on our health and well being. David will organise a showing of this, although he's not sure how long the film lasts for.

67) Financial – Update and Future Forum Arrangements.

Cheryl informed the group that currently [all](#) the money from fundraising events in the village are held in the Shadoxhurst Parish Council bank account. She told us that Judith, the parish clerk, has felt a bit uncomfortable with these arrangements and that the auditors were not [totally](#) happy [either](#). Cheryl [had](#) therefore agreed to look at possible alternative arrangements. One idea is an unincorporated community group (for example Ark Drama, separate from, but affiliated to the Church). To get a bank account we will need a constitution, 3 officers [\(chair, secretary and treasurer\)](#) and a committee. [Cheryl will draft a Constitution for consideration.](#) Will and Viv have an appointment at Santander, it's a fact finding mission to find out about accounts for community groups. [We need a proper plan](#)

~~for the AGM.~~ What do people want to do? [The Forum members voted to explore the alternative as a way forward.](#) The existing process is quite bureaucratic, we could transfer existing ring-fenced money from the Parish Council into any new bank account, the account would be free unless we used an excess amount of cheques. People would need to be happy that we go down this route [and a properly formulated proposal must be available at the AGM.](#) The AGM is on Saturday 12/5/18

78) Clubs

Cheryl asked if village clubs would provide a paragraph about what's been happening [for them](#) over the last year for the Forum AGM.

Sheila wondered [eds](#) if anyone is interested in setting up a gardening club? We could advertise in the village newsletter and see if there's any interest. Jean is willing to offer advice about setting up the club.

89) Closure of Tally Ho Road

The road will be closed from the 3rd to the 9th of April. David will ask Kent County Council what's happening.

910) Date of next meeting

The AGM is on Saturday 12th May 2018, 2.30pm – 4pm in the Pavilion. [Everyone welcome. Light refreshments provided.](#)

110) Future Dates for 2018

Thursday 21 June; Tuesday 7 August; Thursday 13 September; Tuesday 30 October.