**Shadoxhurst Village Forum**

**Minutes**

* 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 a social feeling in the village
* To suggest things that will bring people together
* With a Vision to create and develop a positive community spirit.

**27th Village Forum Meeting**

 **on**

**Monday 13th September 2021**

**In the Village Hall at 7.00pm**

1. **Welcome and introductions -** those in attendance introduced themselves by way of name, location in the village and past occupation, to the group with six new attendees/members.
Attendees – David Ledger, Sheila Ellis, Peter & Lis Webb, Ron and Karen Battersbee, John and Hannah Collison, Colin and Val Carrol, Paul and Samantha Taig
2. **Election of Chairman and Note Taker -** these roles remain vacant
3. **Open Forum –** Meeting started at 7.10, six in attendance, with general discussion over how the group could progress the quiz (already written/date set for 4th December) and a Murder Mystery event in February 2022. Both events would be “a bring your own food and drink” style with Karen and Lis (respectively) co-ordinating table bookings. Meeting restarted at 7.30pm when a further 6 people joined.
4. **Coming out of the restrictions, -** The purpose of events was discussed and it was agreed that community involvement and participation should be the prime goal with raising funds secondary.
It was also agreed that a timetable events, ideally covering a rolling 12 months, should be created and published with the bi-monthly newsletter.
Events suggested for inclusion, in addition to the Quiz and Murder Mystery, should be a pre-Christmas craft fair (in late November – not to conflict with the Green Farm event), nothing in January then either a guest local speaker or a sugar craft presentation in March/the other in May (John & Hannah to determine). April should host a Music quiz (John to investigate/liaise with Cheryl Vander who has an existing contact).
The Queens Platinum Jubilee event is set to take place over a 3 day period in June within which the village should look to hold a commemorative event – possibly a “party in the park”(this needs co-ordination with the Parish and Ashford Borough Councils).
5. **December Quiz –** 4th December and already written. Karen and Ron will lead this event with support from the forum members
6. **Craft Fair event –** looking at end November, date to be confirmed once Green Farm event date know (to avoid a clash). Facebook to be used to source local businesses (free entry) or external ones (for a fee) – maximum utilisation of resources being the target.
7. **Village tidy and litter pick –** details to be determined – end October 2021 suggested as a diary date (David to progress).
8. **Village Fete next year** – suggested that Emma attend a Forum meeting to seek support from the Forum to organise something.
9. **Clubs and Groups news –** Existing clubs in existence within the village were discussed for the benefit of new to Forum/village members
10. **Parish Council Updates -** deferred
11. **Any Other Business –** All present agreed to the sharing of their respective e.mail addresses to aide communication**.**
12. **Date of next meeting –** Monday 18th October at 7.30pm in the village hall.

**Summary list of potential Forum promoted events subject to confirmation:**

13th November, non-religious remembrance event on Village Green

27th Craft fair in the hall (subject to clashing with Green Farm event)

4th December Quiz night (aiming for quarterly)

January – free month

February Murder Mystery Night

March Quiz night / speaker / craft Demonstration?

April Easter Vintage Fair and Community Fete Day

April / May possible music quiz night?

June Jubilee Weekend, possible street parties, picnic on the rec?

**Other ideas being considered**

Possible village garage sale?

Race night (John has a contact)?

July / August Garden Safari?

**Postscript:**

The village fete will not be going ahead this year and following an SPC site meeting held after the Forum meeting, there is likely to be a vintage fairground on the rec over next Easter. SPC are in negotiation and working on detail. On the back of this, it is envisaged to have a Community Fete Day on one of the Easter days with stall holders and fete type events. Early warning as this was only discussed on Wed. 15th Sept. Suggestions as to which of the Easter days are likely to be more popular are welcome, so as not to conflict with major sporting events that will be on television. Fair operating times Weds 13th - Sat 16th 12pm - 8pm / Sun 17th 12pm - 6pm / Monday 18th TBC. Portaloos will need to be provided.