

Barkway Forum
Meeting held on 23rd June 2010 @ Village Hall

Present

Chairman -	Richard Atkins Church Bellringers
Temp Secretary	Bob Davidson Parish Council
Nicholas Tufton	Village Hall
Tom Luckock	School
Robert Bonfield	Social Club
Molly Childs (Laura Childs also present)	Youth
Hannah Methven	Youth Club
Vince Styles	Youth Club
Diane West	Barkway Gardeners
Paul Marina	Police
Mirjam Foot	Church

Apologies

Sarah Hillman	Church
Mark Kingston	Chapel
Kate Beale	Parish Plan
Sonja Dipple	Playgroup
John Digby	Bowls
Jo Cockerton	Parish Council & School
Jean Pooley	Community Group.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed upon.

Matters Arising

Bob Davidson reported that baseball net on rec. had been replaced and the Parish Council would seriously consider request to paint climbing frame at next Parish Council Meeting.

Nicholas Tufton reported he is still working on a diary of events for the village hall.

Police

Paul Marina reported recent crime wave in Barkway caused by one individual had seeming come to an end following the offender being prosecuted. There will be a Neighbourhood watch meeting in the village on 1 Sept 2010 which will be well publicised. The police newsletter compiled and circulated by PC Marina, will be expanded to include news from PSCOs in the surrounding areas in East Herts. There is no sign, under government cuts of the current police team in our area being broken up, or diverted. Community policing seems to be the future under the new coalition government.

Neighbourhood watch does not appear to be attracting much interest in the village, probably due to the feeling with a lack of crime it is not needed, or indeed, neighbourhood watch principles may be misunderstood. Vince Styles to consider article in Diary/website to explain NHW in simplistic terms.

Bob Davidson informed PC Marina about Community Speed Watch and that Barkway PC had concerns over the package as being offered by Herts. Police, but were not against the program in principle. A very limited number of volunteers and a coordinator have come forward but progress is slow.

Youth Club

Youth survey progress to be checked up on. It is felt this may have stalled, therefore Bob Davidson will ask Jo Cockerton what progress she has made and seek someone to take this matter up. Laura Childs suggested that the children themselves could create the questions if given an indication on what information is sought from the youth.

Community Group.

Activities are suspended for the summer, apart from a summer walk in August led by Graham Penning. Invitation to use the display stands purchased using grant funding. Barkway recipe book to be revived and planned to be launched at a dinner on 12 November in the Village Hall.

Social Club

Successful Derby Barbie held on the eve of the Derby. Night at Harlow Greyhound Stadium planned for 10 July, for members but places can be available for non members.

Church

Attendances at all churches in area are dwindling so church is seeking the comments from the community as to why they think this is happening and how to change the trend. Comments are welcome to either Anne McCormick or Mirjam Foot. Mirjam will also consider an anonymous questionnaire.

17.7.10 Church Fete in the Dimsdales garden

25.7.10 Special service with guest speaker , special anthem performance by choir and wine after the service

24.9.10 John Ray to talk on "Archaeology and the Bible"

Church room is being used more often now for meetings. Contact Mirjam to make bookings.(free)

Rear of church to be converted to a child area, and the clock face and hands are to be repainted/gilded.

Village Hall

AGM will be held on 21. July and the annual quiz night on 20 November 2010.

In summer the reboarding of the external walls will be carried out and the drive entrance will be reshaped and repaired.

Gardening Club

Membership is around 20-25 people from not just Barkway, but cost of guest speakers eats greatly into funds so more members sought.

Royal British Legion

Profits from the Derby Barbie had been donated to the RBL. Tom Luckock reported that numbers were dwindling so an affiliation with Royston Scouts was likely to happen, with the hope the Scouts will become the standard bearers for the RBL at armistice parade.

Bellringers

Down to 7 members so really keen to recruit more. Bell ringing open to all ages but the mid age range is more sustainable for the club, as they are less likely to move on away from the area. Barkway Handbells are also struggling to recruit new members. Bob Davidson suggested they conduct a display at public events in the village, and not just at church events.

Parish Council.

Bob Davidson updated the forum on recent events. Reading room work expected to be completed by end of August and reopened in September. APM was a success and any suggestions to improve further are sought, long with suggestions for guest speaker. CSW meeting very poorly attended, but a core group is possible to start off the program. Golf Course appeal against Planning permission was discussed and agreed to be of great concern to all. All forum members encouraged to write and object if they had not already done so or had a point of objection they may not already have made.

Christmas tree – Bob asked if we should consider raising funds for a living Christmas tree that could be planted next to the pond and lit at Christmas, possibly with electricity from the school. Idea agreed in principle and it was suggested to approach Robert Dimsdale to discuss acquiring a tree.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

A provisional date of Wednesday 15th Sept 2010 8pm at the Village Hall committee room. Any apologies / changes of date proposals to Jo Cockerton/ Sonia Dipple please.

Rotating Chairman

Jean Pooley was proposed as chairperson for the next meeting and unanimously elected.