

Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited
Notes from 34th General Meeting
Braywood Memorial Hall – Thursday May 14, 2015 @ 7:30 pm

Attendees (14)

Grenville Annetts (Chair)	Sandra Annetts	Bill Collier	Basil Embery
Doreen Embery	Barbara Frame	John Francis	Paula Grevett
Rita Haynes	Robin Howard	Rod Lord	John Moores
Louise Shenston	Ann Watkeys		

Apologies (5)

Alison Brayshaw	Cllr. David Coppinger	John Foulger	Robert Horler
Michael Seagrief	Ann Taylor		

1. Introductions

Grenville Annetts Chaired and opened the Meeting and welcomed the Attendees on a wet and windy night. The *Chairman* reminded everyone that this was a *General Meeting* and one of the two or three held each year in Addition to the *AGM of the Association* in September. It is less formal and an opportunity for anyone/everyone to come along and find out about the activities of the 8 Work Groups made up of Volunteers, give feedback and volunteer to help!

2. Update on Activities

⇒ *Bray Parish Council Elections – 3 Vacancies out of 15 Councillor positions.*

As reported in the recent OGAFCFA Newsletter, the Chairman confirmed that there were no Candidates to fill the two Vacancies representing the Oakley Green and Fifield Ward in the recent Bray Parish Council Elections on May 7th. Also there were no Candidates to fill the one Vacancy in the adjoining Alexander Ward. For a period of 35 days after the Election, the Parish Council are able to Co-opt Councillors to fill Vacancies. After that time, a By Election will be needed.

The Chairman urged Volunteers to come forward and apply to fill the Vacancies so we are represented locally.

⇒ *Drainage – Rod Lord (Joint Spokesperson Environment WG)*

Rod reported that the drainage situation is really in pause mode at the moment while we wait for the results and recommendations of the consultants appointed by Streetcare to look into local Flooding issues. At a meeting with the consultants in early February, Rod undertook to provide information on ditches and pipes that were not appearing in the data they had available to them at that time. It was actually a larger task than Rod thought. He has assembled a single detailed base map of our area from the 6 supplied by the consultants - adding the data as overlays which was very time consuming. He delivered it to the delighted Consultants two days ago.

Additional Wet Spot? - An Oakley Green Road resident has pointed out that in the past there has been a flooding problem along the southern side of the road flowing west and then down the slope opposite the chapel and the school towards the low spot at the Cricket Ground. Until now no residents have come forward to describe this or highlight it. So it is not on our list of 9 "wet spots" and therefore has not formed the basis of any study or report. Rod asked if any residents living along this stretch of road are aware of this and can describe what happens we would be very grateful if they contact us via the ENVIRONMENT page at www.ogafcap.co.uk or by phoning 01628 784441 to arrange a convenient time for a site visit.

A drainage summary and status of all 9 current wet spots is available via the ENVIRONMENT page at www.ogafcap.co.uk and is regularly updated.

Finally, Rod said he would like to emphasize yet again that we urgently need someone to step forward to take on this drainage role. There is still much useful work to be done but he thinks that 6 years is really quite enough and at the 2015 AGM he will step down whether anyone else has come forward or not.

⇒ *Environment* – **Barbara Frame (Joint Spokesperson Environment WG)**

Barbara highlighted the recent growth in hedgerows and the need for their Owners to keep them cut so Footways and Paths remained passable.

The last Newsletter carried an Article about the possibility of installing Village Gates in our area to make the Village Boundaries. So far there has been no response to requests for ideas.

Barbara reminded everyone to report any issues with Styles – either to us or RBWM direct.

⇒ *Roads & Transport* – **Louise Shenston**

Louise said that the feasibility study for a possible new Roundabout at the Junction outside the Memorial Hall was still on the RBWM's to do list. But it will not be soon due to capital constraints. Traffic Speed still appears to be a concern for local Residents and we still plan to pursue reducing the limit on Forest Green Road to 40 mph. Paula Grevett said she would raise the subject again as the local Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG).

⇒ *Local Planning Issues* – **Grenville Annetts**

We understand that the *Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan (BPNP)* first draft is nearing completion and a Public Consultation exercise will begin in early July. It is important that local Residents respond and have their say on the proposals in the document.

The RBWM Local Plan draft is also nearing completion and we understand that almost all Green Belt Sites listed in the previous Consultation have been dismissed as potential sites for Housing Development– the exceptions being the two local Garden Centres at Wyevale and Squires.

The 4 year Temporary Planning Permission to allow the two Pitches on land opposite the BP Petrol Station on the A308 ran out on January 31, 2014. The Owners belatedly made a Retrospective Application to extend the permission and make it permanent. This was turned down by RBWM Planning Department. An Appeal by the Applicant is likely.

We can expect a new Application by Farmglade for their Bray Studios Site in Water Oakley Development. They purchased Bray Studios and the adjacent land in August 2014. They are the Developers who were granted Outline Planning Permission to build 44 Houses next door at Water Oakley last year. The previous Owner of Bray Studios (Neville Hendricks) already had Planning Permission granted in 2011 for the Renovation of the Main (Listed) House and Conversion (from Offices etc.) back to one large Dwelling + 7 new Houses + a Media Centre + removal of all the outbuildings and concrete yard. We understand that Farmglade want to restore the Listed Main House (which is an ever deteriorating condition), but convert it into 8 to 10 Flats and build another 16 Houses in the area after taking down all the old Studio Buildings. The Site would be connected up to and accessed by the same Drive as the recently Approved Development for 44 Houses at Water Oakley.

The Tenant of the Fifield on Fifield Road – conducting the illegal (in Planning terms) Logging Business - appealed against an Enforcement Notice issued by RBWM. Since our last Meeting in

February, we have learned that they dropped their Appeal and left the Site. But unfortunately the Owner of the Field was left with a large amount of Logs and Rubbish. The Site is being cleared now.

On the Open Space and Play Area Proposal which was part of the Fifield Village Survey at the end of 2014, the OGAFCA Committee has requested to see all the Comments made by Residents before deciding what to do next.

⇒ *Fifield Fun Day* – **Louise Shenston (FFD Organising Committee)**

Louise reported that the Organising Committee are meeting regularly and working hard to organise yet another successful Fun Day. Volunteers are required though – so please come forward and offer to help out.

⇒ *Social & Recreational* – **Grenville Annetts**

As suggested at the last Meeting, the Work Group investigated the possibility of holding a Street Party to mark the 70th Anniversary of VE Day Celebrations (and possibly the Royal Birth) over the weekend of May 9/10. We approached the Fifield Inn to see if they would be willing to support such an Event - using their Car Park and closing the Fifield Road outside of the Pub. But they were concerned about the potential adverse impact on their Sunday Trade. Given the popularity of the past 2 Street Parties, we will look into possibilities of other Venues and Dates in the future. For an Autumn Event – a Barn Dance may be a possibility and is being looked into.

⇒ *OGAFCA Volunteers* - There are a number of Vacancies at the moment

- Children & Youths Work Group Spokesperson
- Drainage Spokesperson
- Communications Work Group Spokesperson
- Webmaster
- Directors x 2 of OGAFCA (Initially Co-opted then Voted in at AGM)

3. Any Other Business

⇒ *Memorial Hall* – David Embery had asked the Chairman to say that they are looking for a Booking Secretary.

⇒ *Golf Society* – Mark Armitage had contacted OGAFCA to ask if there may be any interest in setting up a Golf Society. The Chairman said he would invite Mark to write an Article in the next Newsletter due out at the end of July.

⇒ *Future Focus of OGAFCA* - The Chairman said that the original Community Action Plan was published at the end of 2009 and the Committee were considering if the Plan was still relevant or if OGAFCA should now be focusing on other local Issues.

He invited the Meeting Attendees to there and then to each write down three Areas/Issues/Problems which they considered worthy of future efforts. These were collected in and are summarised at the end of these notes.

⇒ *Next General Meetings to which everyone is invited*

The AGM will be held on Thursday September 17, 2015 at Braywood Memorial Hall starting at 7:30 pm.

4. Closure and Refreshments

- ⇒ There being no additional topics to be discussed, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 9:00.
- ⇒ Refreshments were provided by Sandra.

5. Actions Summary

What	Who	When by
Write up Notes of the Meeting	Grenville Annetts	May 21
Volunteer to help with Fun Day on August 1 by contacting Louise Shenston	Anyone/Everyone	ASAP
Sign up for / Renew OGAFCA Membership	All Residents please	ASAP
Submit Articles for Summer Newsletter to Editor Alison Brayshaw	Anyone / Everyone	Jun 26
Attend AGM in Braywood Memorial Hall	Anyone / Everyone	Sept 17
Provide Website Updates to Rod Lord	Anyone / Everyone	Every Friday

Future Focus of OGAFCA – List of ideas put forward at end of Meeting

Environment

Overhanging Trees and Bushes and Pavements on Fifield Road
Clear Pavements of Rubbish and Trees
Litter – Ditch Clearing

Floods outside Braywood Cottage – opposite Alison
Flooding
Flooding Assessment

Access for Horse through Windsor Forest
Bridlepaths to take Horse Traffic off the Roads. Unfortunately we seem to have hit a Brick Wall

Roads & Transport

Danger of Fifield Cross Roads and need for Mini Roundabout
Roundabout – Forest Green Road / Fifield Lane

HGV Vehicles in Fifield Village

Speed Limit on Fifield Road
Must stop Cars going too fast!
Speed Limit of Forest Green Road
Traffic Speed on Oakley Green Road

Poor Bus Service (Reduced)

Footway between Manor Grove and Coningsby Lane
Improved Footways
Extend the Footpath along Fifield Road – before and after Coningsby Lane
Footpath – Polo Club and Fifield near Pond House

Social & Recreational

More Social Events

Community Get Together. Important for Old and Young to meet

Communications – Get a Facebook Page to gradually take over from the Website. Chance of much better interaction with the Community

The Pubs disappearing in the area – RIP Sun & Stars. What about Red Lion. What can we do?

Farm Shop. Excess Fruit and Vegetables grown by Locals and given voluntary

Local Planning

Creeping encroachment in the Green Belt. Watch the developers like a Hawk!

Logging Activity of Fifield Road

General

Lack of Volunteers for OGAFCA – Get involved – need to get the Villagers more engaged

Try to get more Membership by approaching the Village Door to Door