

Shaw Residents' Association

Minutes of meeting held on

5th September 2011

Present

Andrew Snowden
Kevin Fisher
Alistair Haney
Keith Williams (part)
Mike Godfrey

Apologies

Claire Walker
Gail Reeve
John Reeve
Sheridan Fisher
Marion Godfrey

Meeting held at The Village Inn @ 8:40pm
The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

Previous Minutes:

Proposed by Kevin Fisher

Seconded by Alistair Haney

1. Shaw Forest

Andrew introduced Stuart Searl from Swindon Borough Council. Stuart is a forest warden and his team has responsibility for the northern area of the borough, taking in Mouldon Hill, Shaw Forest etc.

Stuart is seeking to form a volunteer group to help with the upkeep of the forested areas, carrying out thinning and other duties. Stuart circulated an example annual plan for the proposed group.

He is looking for around 10-15 people to help, for 4-5 hours once a month, ideally on a Saturday or Sunday morning. The work will be ranger supervised so volunteers will be covered by SBC insurance.

Andrew will send an e-mail round to gauge numbers interested in volunteering.

Andrew will contact Roger Ogle about the insurance used by the Peatmoor Community Forest Group, and to seek further publicity for the new volunteer group. We noted that the volunteer group will need to avoid clashing with the time/week of the Peatmoor Community Forest Group.

2. Proposed bungalow on Old Shaw Lane

A number of Shaw residents joined the meeting to discuss the planning application for a bungalow on the grassy area opposite Lower Shaw Farm.

Everyone present was adamantly against the submission. SBC have put in for outline planning permission to enhance the value of the land prior to its sale. One resident commented that the land had been allocated as a play area some years ago.

It was agreed that the best method of objection was for everyone to submit individual objections. Due to restrictions the objections need to conform to certain types. It was agreed the key objections were:

- Loss of privacy/overshadowing neighbouring properties
- The loss of a soakaway area
- The impact on drainage
- Loss of amenity space/play area

At this point in the meeting, the residents concerned about the proposed development left.

3. Village Centre Gardening

Andrew has drafted an application for a Grassroots grant. Keith agreed to review it and Andrew will submit it before the end of September.

4. Proposed Housing Expansion

A further application has been submitted for 50 additional homes at the Moredon Bridge development. Kevin agreed to draft an objection to this on behalf of SRA.

The planning meeting to consider the Ridgeway Farm development has been moved to 19 October. Although Kevin would not be able to make the meeting, he volunteered to co-ordinate the car sharing for residents who wished to attend the meeting to object. Kevin also volunteered to contact Roger Ogle to get a further article in The Link as it is important that as many residents as possible attend the meeting to directly voice their objections.

5. **SRA Website** - Kevin has updated the website - it looks great and is getting regular hits.

Meeting Closed 10.18pm

Next Meeting: 3rd October Ramleaze Community Hall 8:30pm start.