

THE GREEN CHARITY BARRINGTON

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held in the Village Hall on April 19 2005

Present: Councillors Day, Cook, Fletcher, Hardman, Priddle and Tookey (Chairman)
Curator of the Green: Brian Northrop
45 Members of the public

The Meeting opened at 7.30 pm.

1 **Apologies for absence** : S Woodward (Barrington Football Club).

2 **Chairman of the Trustee: Review of the year**

The Chairman's Report for 2004-2005 had been circulated to all residents in advance of the Meeting, together with the Annual Report to the Charity Commissioners.

The Trustee met 12 times over the year and published extracts from these meetings in the Newsletter. The Trustee has :-

- A Management Plan, which will be reviewed annually for amendment and updating. The Plan has been shared with the Conservation Trust.
- Contacted tradesmen asking them to respect the "Permitted Way" scheme. *However we do need residents' help with this since we do not always know who has actually caused damage.*
- Undertaken extensive tree husbandry, more severe than last year. Several dead trees have been removed and lower branches lifted for safety reasons and also to enable access for grass cutting.
- Monitored boundaries of the Green, especially the width and corners of the "Permitted Ways". *Residents are reminded of the need to park within the curtilage of their own property and not to obstruct other vehicles using the "Permitted Ways".*
- Repairs to the "Permitted Ways" on Challis Green included potholes filled and resurfacing were carried out in September; resurfacing to the permitted way to Challis Close and work to the school footpath.
- Installed small wooden posts to prevent parking on the grass near the War Memorial.
- After reaching agreement with the Executors of the late Mr H Haynes we sought quotations, and ordered work for the reinstatement of the Green in front of 28 High Street.
- Purchased and installed three litter bins, one near Village Sign, one near the five a side pitch and the other replaced the one destroyed by arson on the Church Car park.
- Purchased and installed two dog waste bins, due to the level of complaints regarding dog fouling
- Installed picnic tables and benches on the Adventure Playground, specifically to help those with wheelchairs and pushchairs. These tables and benches are made of recycled products and should have a long shelf life.

Management of the Permitted Way licence scheme and other leases are very time consuming but a vital part of the Charity's aims and objectives. One resident who had been in dispute with the Trustee for some years settled all outstanding Permitted Way fees, together with the Small Claims Court fee, and court action was withdrawn.

The Green was used by football and cricket clubs, Parish Church open gardens weekend, Vintage Tractor rally in July, etc. as well as informal play. The Fair arrived in September later than usual since their usual feast date in May found the ground too wet.

Several areas of the Green are badly affected by dandelions about which there had been complaints. If no action is taken to limit their growth eventually we will only be cutting dandelions not grass. The Trustee ensured that the village had notice of this planned work, considered the petition signed by residents and consulted with the Conservation Trust. Advice and quotations were sought and it was agreed to spray the most heavily infested areas, mostly on the Challis Green area but also the area known as the secondary sports field. In October, due to the change in weather conditions, on the advice of the Contractor, the Trustee took the decision to defer the work until early Spring.

The Trustee has also been heavily involved with the compilation of the questionnaire for the Village Plan. *You will note a section regarding the management of the Green. We receive conflicting views on maintenance and really do need to gauge your views so please take time to complete the questionnaire.*

Last year we noted the loss of the Green's passionate protector Harry Davies and you will all be aware that we have undertaken a collection around the village in order to erect a suitable memorial. A village map is at present being designed and will possibly be positioned near the Challis Green duck pond. Further details will be published in the Newsletter.

I take the opportunity to extend Trustee's thanks to Monty Goding and Tony Fletcher for installing bollards, litter bins and dog bins, J.W. Maintenance in their care of the Green, the Gardening Club for maintenance of Village Sign area, Mr Walden for cutting the grass around the War Memorial. Special thanks to Margaret Goding for her sage administration of the Charity; and to Brian Northrop for his support and advice in his role as Curator.

3 Financial Report

The Audited Accounts for 2003-2004 had been circulated to all residents in advance of the Meeting. Copies of the draft Accounts for 2004-2005 were available to those attending the Meeting. There were no questions on the Accounts.

4 Attendance record for 2004-2005 Trustee Meetings

Paul Cook (8), Anne Day (12), Tony Fletcher (11), Judy Hardman (11), Julian Priddle (10), Malcolm Reeder (7), Valerie Tookey (11).

5 2005 - Plans for the year

The Trustee will undertake the annual review of the Management Plan, taking into account the views expressed via the Village Plan questionnaire.

Following complaints about dog fouling on the Green and on footways, the Trustee will continue to monitor the situation, with a view to installing further dog waste bins if appropriate.

A detailed survey is to be undertaken of the Green boundaries including photographic recording.

Further repairs and maintenance will be carried out to Permitted ways.

The process has been started to extend the existing lease to the Parish Council. At present the lease covers the 'formal' recreation areas. The Trustee is considering leasing all grassed areas. This will be of financial benefit to the Charity, and will improve administrative efficiency. The Trustee will ensure that the aims and objectives of the Charity are still met. The Trustee is in fact a Custodian Trustee, because the Parish Councillors and the Trustee are the same. A Lease falls into the Charity Commission category of *Disposal of Assets* so we must keep the Charity Commission aware.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 7.36 pm.

In the ensuing informal discussion, the Trustee were asked to try to remedy the problem of dog fouling on the Cricket/Football pitch.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Meeting.

Signed

Date **April 26 2005**