



Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee of Twyford Village Partnership
Monday 23rd March 2009

Present: Stephen Conway, David Hymers, Patrick Heather, Duncan Edwards, Kathy Peck.

In attendance: Geoff Pilgrim, Tim Palmer, Susan Goddard.

Apologies: Christian Wrigley, Diane Lee.

1. Minutes of meeting held 28th January 2009

Signed as a true record. Action points carried forward: changes to the bank signatories and reports on subscription charges for other groups.

2. Questionnaire

Committee comments and feedback received since the last meeting had been used to produce a revised copy of the questionnaire which was passed around the meeting. It was agreed that one paper copy per household be delivered with Twyford News to all residents of Twyford Parish. Committee members would then deliver paper copies to those residents of Twyford village who are just outside Twyford Parish. If there are certain streets or areas with a low response rate, these can be targeted door-to-door. If residents would prefer to respond individually rather than as a household, they should be encouraged to use the online version of the questionnaire, although additional blank paper copies of the questionnaire will be placed with the collection boxes in case people ask for more copies. The launch of the questionnaire needs to be widely advertised in the local press, we will have a stand outside Waitrose on Saturday 2nd May to publicise the questionnaire and encourage people to respond when they get home.

*Action: Everyone to take it in turns to man the stand outside Waitrose on Saturday 2nd May
 PH has offered to help deliver questionnaires to addresses outside the parish boundary
 SC has offered to help deliver questionnaires in areas with low response rates
 GP has offered to help input the data from paper copies
 KP to send out e-mail newsletter with link to electronic questionnaire as soon as possible*

3. Parish Plan Progress

Three full healthchecks on the Environment, Social & Community and Transport & Accessibility are now more or less complete, and we are now at the SWOT analysis stage with them. The Economy & Education Healthcheck has been started and should not take too long as it contains much that is not relevant to Twyford or questions that require just statistical answers.

Timed to coincide with the delivery of the questionnaire we will hold a series of focus groups, each made up of about 12 people representing various local groups and organisations. They will be asked to discuss responses to specific questions and issues relevant to their interests and concerns.

Focus group name	People to consult with	Facilitator
Environmental	Local History Society, Loddon Valley Ramblers, Friends of Ruscombe Wood, Twyford & Ruscombe Horticultural Association	SG
Senior Citizens	Lady Elizabeth Centre	CW
Parents & Toddlers	Noah's Arc, Twyford Toddler Group	KP
Businesses	All local companies and traders	DE & SG
Commuters	It was agreed that train commuters are most relevant to Twyford as out-bound car commuters do not spend much of their journey passing through Twyford. In-bound car commuters will form a large part of the business focus group.	SC & PH
Women's Groups	Meeting Point and possibly the WI	SG
Teenagers	The Piggott School and Twyford Youth Centre	KP

Thought is already being given to our stand at the Donkey Derby on Sunday 7th June 2009 from 1.30pm. There will be a craft activity to entertain younger children and a guess-the-photo display to entertain the adults! Members of the Borough Council's Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) have been invited to join us in our stand with a display on composting and hopefully some green waste bags to hand out.

4. Funding for Twyford's Christmas Fayre 2009

Our annual request for funding to WBC to cover the Christmas Fayre was unsuccessful. This is the first time we will not have received funding since the group started in 2001.

GP reported that the budget to hold a Christmas Fayre in 2009 would be £4,130 worst case scenario and £2,630 best case - if we receive the same level of donations that we have received in previous years and if none of the contingency is spent. Last year only 40% of local businesses contacted actually contributed anything. It is expected that the situation will be even worse this year. DE confirmed that regrettably Waitrose was unlikely to be able to support the event to the same extent as it had done in previous years.

It was agreed that TVP had enough money in the bank to fund Twyford Christmas Fayre 2009. This will be held on Friday 4th December 2009. We will need to look at alternate sources of funding for future years.

Action: GP, PH & SC to meet after the Donkey Derby to look at other ways of funding the Christmas Fayre.

5. Nationwide Closure

We have sent letters to Nationwide and to the local press expressing our disappointment at the proposed closure of Nationwide Twyford and asking them to reconsider.

6. NAG Representation

This was discussed after discovering that the NAG had recently done a questionnaire and we wanted to avoid confusion with too many questionnaires floating around. The NAG questionnaire had a very low response rate and was specifically about crime so there should be no duplication of effort. While it was agreed that better communication was required, it was decided that we did not need to nominate a representative to join NAG.

7. Skate Park Funding

The Polehampton Charity has pledged a grant of £2,000 towards the flood lighting of the skate park once the remaining £32,390 has been raised. A letter has been received from Nick Clark, Planning Officer at WBC stating that the proposed amendments to the landscaping are unacceptable and that revised proposals need to be submitted for formal application (£85 fee).

8. AGM: Monday 27th April at 7.30pm, Twyford Room, Loddon Hall

Nick Christo, our new Neighbourhood Area Manager, has expressed an interest in attending our AGM therefore it was agreed that he be invited as a guest speaker. The AGM will be publicised via our e-mail list, posters in the Parish Council notice boards and at the train station. It was agreed that our lack of funding be highlighted in our advertising material, although we should emphasise that there will be a Christmas Fayre for 2009. At the AGM we will need to recruit a new secretary and people to join working groups as part of the Parish Plan process.

9. AOB

Public Toilets – the Borough Council has plans to close the public toilets in Polehampton Close and is trying to persuade Waitrose to make their facilities available as public toilets under a 'local loos' scheme. *(Update: The men's toilets are currently closed due to vandalism but the ladies and disabled facilities are still open.)*

Library - the Friends of Twyford Library subcommittee is still exploring possibilities for suitable new premises, although the site of J W Greens (now an Indian Restaurant) continues to be the most popular location.

10. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 20th May at 8.00pm in the Waitrose Training Room