

**Brackenfield Village Association**  
**Notes of informal open meeting on Monday 22 May 2017**  
**at 7pm at Brackenfield Church Hall**

**Present:** Stefan Priest, Cath Pilsbury, Martin Philips, Lynn Keeton, Mike Edwards, Christine Edwards and nine local residents.

**Apologies:** Rebecca Naylor, Anne Edgar

**Purpose of the meeting:** This was an informal meeting to share information about the Village Association and the forthcoming Picnic on the Green and to help spread the word and encourage people to get involved.

**Introductions:**

Stefan welcomed everyone and explained the aims of Brackenfield Village Association and why it had been set up: as a means of bringing villagers together, sharing ideas about community events and developments and raising funds for community initiatives. Now that the association has been formed with a constitution and insurance, it is possible to apply for grant funding. Anyone in the community can get involved, make suggestions and put on events through the Association.

Martin explained that the first event will be the Picnic. This is a fairly small scale event for local people plus their families and friends. Hopefully, there will be good support with plenty of people bringing a picnic and joining in the activities which will include a raffle, welly wanging, family treasure hunt and crafts, live music, fire engine and drinks stall provided by the Plough. There will also be an information point where people can find out more about the village association and register their details.

Any monies raised will go back into providing amenities for Brackenfield e.g. defibrillator training. There will be a follow up meeting in September where everyone will be invited to suggest ideas for the future.

**Request for help:**

We will be putting up stalls and gazebos on the Green on the morning of Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Help with setting up, overseeing stalls and encouraging others to come along with friends and family is all welcome.

Lynne Keeton is organising the raffle and making hampers as prizes. She would welcome contributions of all kinds.

The Well Dressing Committee has agreed to Geoff's suggestion that proceeds from his Treasure Map stall will be donated towards the defibrillator training.

**Discussion:**

**1. Communication:**

Martin mentioned the new website (brackenfield.org) and facebook page (@brackenfieldvillage) though we are aware that not everyone uses digital media. We have hand delivered flyers and a newsletter to every house in the Parish and displayed them on the Parish notice board. There will be a further newsletter delivered at the

start of July.

- Word of mouth is still the best way to share information – please talk about what is going on and encourage others to join in.
- Geoff will display information about the Village Association on his stall at the Well Dressing.
- Martin will ask the PC about installing a second notice board.

## **2. Ideas for the future:**

This will be discussed further at the meeting in September. Initial ideas include:

- Working more closely with Wessington
- Village fete/show/produce show for summer 2018
- Open gardens
- Arts/theatre events
- Mobile cinema screening
- Whist drive
- Winster Morris Dancers/Youth Band/
- Getting local young people involved – what are their talents?

## **Next planning meetings:**

Monday 19 June at 10am at Holly Cottage

Friday 7 July at 10am at Holly Cottage

## **Follow up meeting (all welcome):**

Thursday 7 September at 7pm at Brackenfield Church Hall

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