

Notes of discussion on Monday 28th November 2016 at Holly Cottage, Brackenfield at 10am

Present: Nigel Rogers, Stefan Priest, Martin Philips, Mike Edwards, Christine Edwards

Apologies: Sarah Poulson, Cath Pilsbury

Purpose of the meeting:

This was the third planning meeting for a village event in summer 2017.

Matters arising:

- Mike had received feedback from the Parish Council indicating their agreement to the event going ahead on the Green as described.
- The Parish Council also informed Mike that the event would not be covered by the PC's own public Liability Insurance.
- The Clerk to the PC was not able to provide and address list for the Parish, however Mike had contacted the District Council who suggested that he should visit the local council office and make a handwritten transcript of the updated list after 4th December 2017.
- Nigel confirmed that the Church Hall would be available for use of the toilets and as a wet weather venue should this be necessary, any hire charge being waved as it was a village event. Though grateful for this offer, the feeling of the meeting was that a fee should be paid to help cover the Hall's costs. It was agreed that a donation should be made subject to their being surplus monies raised after expenses have been paid.
- Nigel said that 2017 would be the final year of the well-dressing and everyone agreed that the proposed picnic could be a starting point for future events designed to bring the community together and raise funds to support the running costs of the Hall, with the possible development of a constituted Village Community Association. One idea would be a village arts and music event which could involve the church and church hall.
- Martin and Stefan confirmed that nearer the time they would seek raffle prizes from various business contacts.
- Stefan said that two sixth form students from Highfields School may be interested in performing some music. Christine had contacted Wirksworth Music Centre and will follow this up.

Discussion:

Insurance: Christine and Mike had contacted "The Big Lunch" regarding insurance and been directed to Event Insurance. They recommended a one-off event policy and said that they could insure a temporary committee e.g. "The Village Green Picnic Committee", The policy to cover public liability involving up to 300 people in a picnic on the green would cost £157 for £2 million cover and £209 for £5 million. It was agreed to approach the Parish Council to ask if they would fund the insurance policy.

We discussed how we might promote the picnic to encourage as many villagers as possible to attend, to mix and to have a good time:

- Make it fun for all ages – think of activities, games etc. that could be included such as pin the tail on the donkey, face painting.....
- Try to have music throughout the afternoon
- We want to encourage people to meet and get to know each other but without them feeling under pressure to contribute
- A group activity such as a treasure hunt, with people allocated to small teams, could help people to mix; maybe we could include a village history theme as there are many points of interest around the village
- We need to keep things safe (we will need to do a risk assessment)
- Cordoning off a picnic area round the oak tree would help bring people together
- We may need to go round to different groups of people with some of the activities e.g. seeking their views about village life
- A table/close range magician could be fun
- It would be useful to have a public follow-up meeting soon after the event, in the Church Hall, to seek feedback and see how we can build on what we have done so far e.g. establishing a committee and planning a bigger event for 2018
- Establishing a way of contacting people would be useful e.g. email. A village website is currently under consideration and should be up and running by summer 2017

Costs: We discussed how we could cover the costs of putting on the event as well as fund raising for defibrillator training. We also discussed possible sponsorship e.g. asking local businesses to subscribe to advertising on the invitation and to come along to promote their services.

Initial publicity: We discussed the wording of a “save the day” invitation to be distributed to all households in the Parish in January 2017. We agreed to share out the work of a leaflet drop and to speak personally to as many householders as possible. Mike and Christine agreed to act as an email point of contact.

To do:

- Contact the Clerk to the PC to ask if the PC will fund the required insurance policy (Mike)
- Compile a list of addresses within the Parish (Mike)
- Design a draft “save the day” invitation and circulate it to this group for editing before the next meeting (Christine)
- Keep thinking about activities we could include and how to cover costs (all)

Next meeting: Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 10am at Holly Cottage

To be discussed: Distribution of invitations; activities; covering costs

***PS** Following this meeting, Mike contacted Crich Medical Practice about defibrillator training. They use Derwent Training Consultants Limited. Mike spoke to Nick Berry who said he could offer a three-hour basic defib/life support training for 20 people for £447+VAT. He thought this would meet our needs.*

