

Meeting held 7:30pm 12<sup>th</sup> November  
2024

At David Jones Room, Methodist Church Centre

Present		Apologies
Peter Sidaway (PS) Chairman	David Williams (DW)	
Chris Walton (CW) Vice-Chairman	Colin Merrett (CM)	
Richard Hudson (RH) Treasurer	Alan Jeans (AJ)	
Chris Burt Secretary	David Hunt (DH)	
Louise Dalrymple (LD)	John Lodge (JL)	
Wendy Perry (WP)	Jude Chapman (JC)	

	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>None</p>	
1	<p><b>Minutes of the last Meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.</p> <p>Proposed: PS Seconded: CW Vote: Unanimous</p>	
2	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p>There were no matters arising</p>	

<b>3</b>	<b>Action Log</b>	
	Open actions were reviewed and status/progress updates applied	
<b>4</b>	<b>Secretary's Report</b>	
4.1	<b>2025 Committee Meetings</b>	
	CB advised that BNW Committee meetings for next year were confirmed as the second Tuesday of each relevant month. Therefore, the dates would be 14 <sup>th</sup> January, 11 <sup>th</sup> March, 13 <sup>th</sup> May, 8 <sup>th</sup> July, 9 <sup>th</sup> September and 11 <sup>th</sup> November.	
4.2	<b>New Committee Member</b>	
	CB apologised for not recording JC's CV correctly after the last meeting. This had now been amended and detailed appropriately in the September minutes.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Chairman's Report</b>	
5.1	<b>Link Article</b>	
	PS asked Committee members to forward to him before Thursday's deadline any matters they wished included in his Link article.	
5.2	<b>PCSO</b>	
	PS had established a good working relationship with Pete Raymond, PCSO and would be talking to him about a number of Broadstone issues.	
5.3	<b>Bike Marking Event</b>	
	PS was hoping that in conjunction with Pete Raymond a bike marking event could be held in January. This was a good time for it as new bikes were likely to have been given as Christmas presents. Once confirmed it would be posted in both the Link and BNW newsletter.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
6.1	<b>Donations</b>	
	Member donations amounted to £165 for the seven months to 31 <sup>st</sup> October. Roughly half of this comprised the late submission of donations collected by Coordinators and Contacts during the previous financial year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March.	
6.2	<b>Expenses</b>	
	Total expenses were £547, analysed as £398 for printing and stationery, £71 for AGM and other meeting expenses, £28 for sundries and the donation of £50 that BNW makes each year to The Royal British Legion for a poppy wreath.	
6.3	<b>Deficit</b>	

6.4	<p>The deficit for the seven months was £382. At 31<sup>st</sup> October, reserves were £6,038 and the Barclays bank account stood at £5,970.</p> <p><b>Attenuated Finances</b></p> <p>RH said that as the Watch's finances were now attenuated there might be an opportunity to spend on events. BNW used to make a number of cash donations, but as its finances were now static the opportunity was there. The Committee needed to look at its future financial approach and decide what it wanted to do.</p>	
7	<p><b>Membership Officer's Report</b></p>	
7.1	<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p>Currently we have 3,466 households registered as members. Over the last few weeks WP has given out five new membership packs and have two more ready to pass on to a Contact who has asked for them.</p>	
7.2	<p><b>Coordinators and Contacts</b></p> <p>The Contact vacancy in Renault Drive has been filled by a new member and Morgan Conlon has offered to add to his round and take over the West Way vacancy. WP is still waiting to hear back from the Coordinator in Merriefield Avenue.</p> <p>There was still some doubt as to whether the West Way Contact wanted to continue despite having previously said they would be giving up. CB, the Co-Ordinator, would visit and speak to the Contact to confirm exact position.</p> <p><b>Action: West Way Contact to be seen to confirm if they wished to continue</b></p>	
7.3	<p><b>E-Mail Newsletter</b></p> <p>Email membership now stands at 455 – although there was one bounce last month so, when WP archives that person, it will be 454. Last month she had a droll email from one subscriber telling me that their offspring had “kidnapped” them and taken them to live elsewhere in the country, so they no longer need a newsletter. WP archived them as well. Encouragingly, the opening rate was 73% for the last newsletter (it was 60% in January.)</p>	
8	<p><b>Editor's Report</b></p>	
8.1	<p><b>Quarterly Newsletter</b></p> <p>The Autumn newsletter was published successfully and timely in line with Editor's deadlines for contributions. Copies were with Co-Ordinators and Contacts by mid-October.</p>	
8.2	<p><b>Resignation</b></p> <p>CM announced to the meeting that he was relinquishing both editorship of the newsletter and his membership of the Committee.</p>	

**CB  
1124/01**

8.3	<p>The Committee were sorry to see CM go and wanted to record their thanks for his excellent editorship and successfully producing 88 editions of the newsletter.</p>	
9	<p><b>Successor</b></p> <p>JC volunteered to succeed CM to the editorship with effect from March 2025. In order to ensure a smooth handover JC would shadow CM in producing the Winter newsletter in January.</p>	
9.1	<p><b>Media Officer's Report</b></p>	
9.1.1	<p><b>Social Media</b></p>	
9.1.1.1	<p><b>Facebook</b></p> <p>The Facebook page remains a popular platform for engaging with our target audience, despite the fact that not all of our members have chosen to join the BNW Site. Through likes, shares, and link clicks, BNW are successfully disseminating information to a subset of its membership.</p>	
9.1.1.2	<p>The audience demographic continues to be predominantly composed of 75% female and 25% male users, with the largest user group falling within the 35-54 age range. Notably, there has been a slight increase in user engagement among individuals aged 65 and above.</p>	
9.1.2	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>BNW website is currently undergoing a transition to its new platform provider, 123 Reg. Regrettably, the transition has encountered some unforeseen challenges. There have been experiences of occasional instances of broken links, and while the webmail system remains operational, intermittent access issues have arisen. Rest assured, both the hosting providers are diligently working to resolve these issues and are keeping JL regularly updated on the progress. Sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused and everybody's patience is appreciated during this transition period.</p>	
9.2	<p><b>Keeping Busy</b></p> <p>Recently, JL had the privilege of attending a Cyber Watch Seminar organized by Our Watch, which brought together a distinguished group of professional organizations. Among the participants were representatives from the City of London Police, the central Cyber Crime organization, the National Cyber Security Centre, and Cyber Crime Officers from various regions across the country. Upon receiving the declassified notes from the seminar, he will make them available for reference.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>JL 1124/02</b></p>
9.3	<p><b>Action: Make seminar notes available for reference</b></p> <p><b>Staying Safe Online</b></p> <p>JL participated in a webinar hosted by Stay Safe Online, an organization established in 2006 that offers assistance to victims and disseminates informative</p>	

9.4	<p>materials for public awareness and action. He has subscribed to their newsletter, and anticipates the opportunity to contribute fresh information in the future.</p> <p><b>Digital Switchover</b></p> <p>JL has volunteered to become an ambassador for Our Watch and BT to assist in the transition to digital switchover and copper line removal in Dorset. The experience has been highly informative, with two excellent learning sessions provided by Our Watch and BT. Alongside another volunteer, he will be hosting drop-in sessions to help individuals comprehend the transition and alleviate any apprehensions they may have. His objective is to conduct a few sessions in Broadstone after successfully facilitating them in other locations across Dorset. His first session is Wareham on 14th November.</p>	
9.5	<p><b>Future Use of IT</b></p> <p>As JL has been attending these various events in recent months, he has become increasingly convinced that the email newsletter is BNW's most effective option for informing people. It will provide clickable links, enhanced graphics, and, when integrated with a superior email distribution system like MailChimp, offer real-time data, particularly on scams and events, eliminating the need to wait for the paper newsletter.</p> <p>Additionally, the Watch should transition from sending files to utilizing links, as this method is more secure and environmentally friendly by reducing paper usage.</p> <p>To facilitate this, the establishment of a central account as a repository is essential.</p>	
10	<p><b>Other Watches</b></p>	
10.1	<p><b>Liaison</b></p> <p>JL submitted that BNW should liaise with the many other Watches that exist eg Heath Watch, Shop Watch etc to have a much more effective and co-ordinated approach. He is not suggesting that we all sit around a table, but BNW can input into them and work together. He undertook to pull together all the relevant Watches.</p> <p><b>Action: Pull together all other relevant Watches to set Inter-Watch liaison</b></p>	
11	<p><b>BNW Signage</b></p>	
11.1	<p><b>Publicity</b></p> <p>JL put forward that BNW is not selling itself enough. It needs to advertise itself more, say what it does, what it wants to do, go out and sell it. One idea would be to buy a gazebo and emblazon it with the logo and banner at events such as the Christmas Fair etc. The Committee questioned whether buying a gazebo could be justified.</p>	
11.2	<p><b>Crime Issues</b></p>	

JL  
1124/03

12	<p>Linked to selling the Watch more there might be a need to find out what crime issues there were in Broadstone and attack them. PS did not think BNW should beat itself up over these matters. It did a lot of good work which is recognised in the Community and is respected for its prevention of crime locally. It had to be recognised that Broadstone had no big crime issues.</p> <p><b>Networking</b></p> <p>LD suggested that when any criminal activity, and particularly new crime, comes to light in any street, road etc the local Contact should spread the details via BNW's network of Co-Ordinators and Contacts so that they can bring it to the notice of residents in their own areas. The Committee supported the idea, but was mindful that people had to be told in the right way as the Watch did not want to scare them, especially vulnerable residents, but inform them.</p> <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>There were no other business.</p>	
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There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2155 hours

<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b>	14 January 2025
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<b>Minutes taken by:</b>	Chris Burt
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<b>Minutes issued on:</b>	5 December 2024
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