



Minutes of meeting of Clifton Village Residents Association
Wednesday 22nd October 2025 at 9, Leabrooks Close

1. Those present:

Pat Rice(PR), Phil Bull(PB), John Woodall(JW), Helen Huffer(HH)
Christine Dalby(CD) Julie Reid (JRd) Ed Peterson (EP)

2. Apologies

from Graeme Barker (GB), James Royston (JR)

3. Previous Minutes:

Following a discussion the minutes were finally accepted as a true representation of the previous meeting by JW and seconded by JRd

4. Matters arising.

- CD had organised a plaque for the Village Sign, commemorating the donor, Geoff Mills, whose funding ensured the Village Sign could be bought and erected. This was fixed to the post by PB. Noted that Geoff's estate also helped with contribution to the Village Hall fund.
- PR Simon Masserella has completely refurbished the Village Notice board which had fallen into disrepair.
- JRd has contacted Merieka who gives the talks on the use of the Defibrillator. A date has yet to be agreed in early 2026.
- CD suggested to advertise the location of the Defibrillator for newcomers. Perhaps part of their 'Welcome Pack'.

5. Chairwoman's report

In September, PR and JRd walked around the Village streets with Cllr Andrew Rule in September to look at various issues:

- Dead trees along the path to the Village Hall
- Uneven pavements

Andrew has followed up on these two issues with trees sorted, pavements and tarmac levelled although significant uneven areas remain. Andrew is aware. (Pat to follow up)

PR spoke with a worker, looking at trees on Nethergate with plans to cutting down, who told Pat that someone else (another agency) was looking at other trees in the Village!!

PR commented on the recent social event, our Swedish Evening. She thanked all involved for making it a successful evening and particular thanks to JB for his music. Thanks to EP and Vendela and all the team involved, Phil, Julie Patrick and Christine, and to JR for his consistent efforts in manning and managing the Bar.

PR and JRD have visited a Christmas Tree supplier in Newton, recommended by Andrew Rule, and chosen our tree for a cost £178.00 delivered.

A question was asked about using a piece of drainage pipe to provide a regular hole support for the tree stump. (EP has some clay piping if useful)

The drop-down bollard by the Dovecote/Village Hall is still to be fixed. The key is missing. Mention was made of hedges being trimmed by the council but those along the pathway to the Village Hall do need some attention.

6. Treasurers Report

Helen was happy to report that our finances in good order. The recent 'Swedish Night' made a small surplus of £216.44 . The current situation shows below after paying the following:

Christine Dalby	Plaque for Village Sign	£25.00
S. Massarella	Repair of Notice Board	£118.02
J. Royston	Bar Stock	£210.46
E.Peterson	Food and wine gift. Swedish Evening	£139.10

The Account Balance is £2,987.28

Copies of the details are posted at the bottom of these minutes.

True record agreed by JW and JRd

7. Secretary's report.

There is no report from GB who has been extremely busy producing the various flyers and event tickets as well as the latest Newsletter. Much appreciation for his efforts and ongoing hard work/commitment was recorded.

8 Topics for discussion:

8.1 The Quarry

PR described she and EP had attended the last meeting in Barton in Fabis re the Quarry.

PR has been working closely with Cll Hayley Spain (Clifton Ward South) also Sheila Eaton, representing Larkhill residents, as well as Lilian Greenwood MP and others from Barton in Fabis and Cllr Andrew Rule. PR actively emailed all the Clifton Village email list to request residents send another letter re Quarry objections. Essentially this additional letter was needed owing to the large change of councillors in the Nottingham County who must be brought up to speed. Objections were sent to the County (1,300* recorded from the whole area) There is agreement that any objections received by the County be shared with the City. The City have a smaller land acreage involvement in the proposed Quarry site, hence the County being the lead in this application.

- Lilian Greenwood was asked by PR to highlight the fact that run off in times of floods runs into Holme Pit (an SSI). Lilian Greenwood responded on this in her official capacity to the Environment Agency and Natural England to correct their idea that flooding did not affect Holme Pit.

- Cllr Hayley Spain has asked to speak at the city planning meeting on the 16th December. She has additionally asked if the city council environmental health team can repeat their comments on the affects of dust and noise pollution on nearby city residents, many of whom have serious health conditions. She has also pointed out to the city team that the city health policy needs bringing up to date in line with government changes to policies.
- Sheila Eaton from Larkhill has emphasised that there is sufficient gravel to last almost twice the national requirement for local needs of 7 years. She also comments on the fine dust arriving now from the nearby building development, an indication of how easily dust travels and the long-term potential effect from the Quarry.

The applicant, Land Logical Ltd, appears to be inviting surveys by groups paid by the applicant, a conflict of interests.

*General Note: planning decisions are not just taken based on the number of objections or support received for an application, instead they are based on consideration of the application against national and local planning policies.

The County Planning meeting is now on December 16th. Could as many as possible attend at Oak House. Timing to be notified.

8.2. The Dovecote

EP confirmed the email from Cllr Sam Lux, received in August this year, stated that there is absolutely no money available for the Dovecote. She commented that the feedback from Chris Matthews (Nottingham Heritage Property Officer) suggested the Dovecote needed repairs but nothing that smacked of urgency. i.e. Chris Matthews will look at the building now and again and confirm it is still there.

EP comments that if we, the village, are serious in our wishes to see repairs funded we need to demonstrate our commitment by looking to raise funds ourselves. Up to now the focus of Village fund-raising has been to help Clare Ashton and the Village Hall. EP has spoken with Clare and she understands the need for a change of emphasis and will forgo raising money herself at our events, for the Village Hall, thereby allowing us to focus our efforts on the Dovecote. From 2026.

The aim of raising money at this stage is to fund a feasibility study that will not only look at what the Dovecote needs to bring it up to a reasonable condition, new roof etc, but also what could be done with the interior to make it suitable as a resource for Clifton, the wider public and for educational purposes. The report needs to be carried out by competent recognised Heritage specialists to be accepted by funding agencies such as the Heritage Lottery fund. This will be essential in the next stage which would be to raise the serious money needed to effect refurbishment. Cost of the initial study approximately £8,000.

JW again insisted that the village not be responsible for the Dovecote, removing responsibility from the City as leaseholders. Yet again EP responded by stating there is no intention by the village residents to ever take over the Dovecote, which will remain the responsibility of the Leaseholders (Nottingham City) but rather to act as an interested third party. Dare one suggest 'Custodians'.

9. Social Events

9.1 Wine Tasting Event

EP wine organised, script prepared. Helpers requested for the night. Village Hall to set up for 5.30 pm.

9.2 Christmas tree

- JRd The Christmas tree has been ordered
- Erection 6th December for 9 am.
- Roy Nettleship, JB and others to be notified.

9.3 Christmas tree lights and carols 7th December 4 pm

JRd to liaise with Clare Ashton re drink, brazier, etc

9.4 Christmas party

There was discussion about numbers. EP With last years' experience of over-supply of food It may be useful to cater for no more than 60. A standby for more food, if numbers exceed, could simply be last minute Pizzas from Lidl, spring rolls etc from Iceland etc.

JRd to liaise with Dan about sweet/cakes and less needed if Graeme's boys bake cakes/cookies again.

EP to give list of food and helpers from last year to JRd.

Disposable plates, knives etc to be arranged with PR and EP.

10. AOB

Catering for Xmas party meeting JRd's house Wed Nov. 26th

Next meeting set for Wednesday 14th January 2026

CVRA Meeting Wednesday 23rd October 2025

Treasurer's Report

Income

None

Payments

Chq. to C. Dalby - Plaque for Village Sign	£25.00
Chq. to S. Massarella - Refurbishment of Notice Board	£118.02
Chq. to J. Royston - Bar Stock for Swedish Evening	£210.46
Chq. to E. Peterson - Food & Wine for Swedish Evening	£139.10

Money In None

Money Out £492.58

Account Balance £2987.28