

Burton Community Association Special General Meeting
St Mary's Church Monday 26th September 7.30pm

A. Background

To continue as a charity we are now required by law to register with the Charities Commission (CC). They have told us we must have a new constitution, because our present constitution is only applicable for small charities with a revenue of £5000 or less. Their online advice, and advice from the Small Charities Coalition and elsewhere is that we should become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), using the CC model constitution.

The Small Charities Coalition have also recommended that we rewrite our aims in the style of a recently registered community association, which will make it much more likely we satisfy the fine detail of charity law and thus get CC approval.

The BCA committee have reviewed and approved a draft CIO constitution with rewritten aims. The purpose of this special meeting is to ensure members are afforded the opportunity to vote and approve CIO registration with that constitution.

Copies of the draft constitution (17 pages) are available on request from Al Caie (t: 218072 e: acaie@burtonwilts.org.uk) or can be downloaded from burtonvillage.org.uk

B. Agenda for Special General Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. Motions proposed by BCA committee:
 - 2.1 *The BCA committee shall apply for CIO registration with the draft constitution. If registration is successful, the assets of the BCA shall be transferred to the CIO and the operations of the current BCA wound up.*
 - 2.2 *The initial trustees of the CIO at startup shall be those BCA committee members who wish to serve.*
3. *Any other business*

C. Frequently Asked Questions

a) Why do we want to be a charity?

This enables us to claim Gift Aid on donations, and many organisations offering grants for community projects have a strong preference for registered charities.

b) Will it make a difference to what the BCA does and the way BCA operates day to day?

The main differences are that we will have to maintain a formal membership list, and to submit an annual report and accounts to the CC. Otherwise the BCA can operate in the same way as it has done to date. A CIO does have more freedom than our present unincorporated organisation, so in the future we may make use of this.

Al Caie 9.9.16