Werrington

neighbourhood council



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

TUESDAY 5TH JUNE

MEETING PAPERS

CONTENTS

		- 1-7
	FRONT PAGE [THIS]	1
1.	AGENDA	2
2.	CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT	3
3.	MINUTES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	4-11
4.	HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT	12
5.	NETWORK RAIL - WERRINGTON GRADE SEPARATION ORDER	13
6.	HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT	14+15
7.	PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT	14
8.	ENVIRONMENT GROUP REPORT	16-17
9.	ELECTION OF WNC MEMBERS	16
10.	PHOTO GALLERY - 2017 AGM	18



OVER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF WERRINGTON

PAGE(S)

Werrington neighbourhood council

..... over 40 years serving the Residents of Werrington

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 5TH JUNE 2018

[Meeting starts at 7:30 pm]

Light refreshments will be available before the start of the meeting from 7:15 pm - there will be no interval break

AGENDA

- 1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME: VINCE MOON (including Apologies for Absence)
- 2. **OFFICER ANNUAL REPORTS** (written and/or verbal as appropriate)
 - 2.1 CHAIR VINCE MOON
 - 2.2 HONORARY SECRETARY SALLY WEALD

 To receive and approve the MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2017.
 - 2.3 HONORARY TREASURER GEOFF SMITH
 - 2.4 PLANNING COMMITTEE [WRITTEN REPORT ONLY]
- 3. ANNUAL AWARDS (PART ONE)
 - 3.1 THE GOOD CITIZENSHIP YOUTH AWARD: KEN STIMPSON C S AMBASSADORS (WELL BEING)

 * REPRESENTED BY: HOLLIE ORBELL WITH ANISHA FREEMAN, BETHAN SMITH, LILYWATKIN, AND SAFFRON FLETCHER
 - 3.2 COMMUNITY EDUCATION AWARD: BRIDGET HOLLAND
- 4. ELECTION OF WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILLORS

THERE ARE 10 ELECTED POSITIONS ON OUR COUNCIL - SEE DETAILS ON THE SEPARATE SHEET PROVIDED (PAGE 16).

All of the existing members who are due to seek re-election have been nominated. Any other nominations must have been submitted on the official form and in the possession of the Chairman or Secretary by Thursday 31st May 2018.

THE CO-OPTED MEMBERS ARE APPOINTED ANNUALLY AT COUNCIL MEETINGS AND NOT AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

[NB - THE NUMBER OF OFFICIAL CO-OPTED PLACES WAS INCREASED TO A MAXIMUM OF 6 AT THE 2007 AGM AND NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOMED].

OUR SIX WARD COUNCILLORS ARE AUTOMATICALLY INSTALLED AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

- 5. ANNUAL AWARDS (PART TWO)
 - 5.1 THE WERRINGTON AWARD: GILMOUR ALEXANDER
 - 5.2 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION AWARDS: (1) ALAN SMITH; AND (2) MARY PALMER
 - 5.3 COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARDS: CHRISTINE WARE
 - 5.4 ENVIRONMENT AWARD: TIM FOX
- 6. PRESENTATIONS
 - **6.1 WERRINGTON BROOK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

THIS ITEM WILL BE OPENED BY ROGER PROUDFOOT UNDER HIS ANNUAL REPORT AS CHAIR OF OUR ENVIRONMENT GROUP - ANDY SADLER OF THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY WILL THEN GIVE A PRESENTATION.

- **6.2 FROGLIFE PROJECTS**
 - CATHERINE DUERDEN OF FROGLIFE WILL GIVE A PRESENTATION.
- 7. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS (and not covered under earlier agenda items)

Matters to be considered under this item <u>must be received by the Secretary by no later than 15 minutes before the start of the meeting</u> and may be included **only at the discretion of the Chairman.**

PLEASE NOTE: It is intended that this meeting will end at 9:30 pm in order to vacate the hall by 10 pm.

AGENDA ITEM 2.1

CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018

VINCE MOON WRITES

The last twelve months have been a real roller-coaster ride for me but despite the trials and tribulations there have been many positive developments and I feel reasonably optimistic about the future. There are a number of daunting challenges facing us so the need for a local representative body for the people of Werrington has probably never been greater. However I am confident that if we continue working together as a community and with the support of our City Councillors we can and will make progress in tackling the issues that face us.

We must maintain and improve Werrington as a great place to live, building on the all the good work of those who came before us.

Your Neighbourhood Councillors have been very busy on a number of fronts.

Alan Smith, our Planning Committee Chair, worked closely with residents who had a number of concerns about the upgrading of the railway line in the north of Werrington and very ably represented them at the public enquiry on this issue. On the local environment Roger Proudfoot has done much sterling work organising and working with community volunteers on a number of activities that have benefitted our area. It was particularly pleasing to see our member Ivan Hammond's efforts as a community activist officially recognised with a Civic Award from the City Council. The increasingly popular Drop-In events held at various locations across our locality have given the community much useful information and enabled us to receive valuable feedback on the views and aspirations of residents about the neighbourhoods we represent. Sally Weald, our Secretary, has worked tirelessly on a number of projects, including our excellent new website, and made many vital contributions to the running of the Council's business - that the Council is so effective is in no small measure down to her input.

As well as this the Council has considered and made representations where appropriate, on a number of issues such as the Ken Stimpson School extension plans. Time was also spent looking at local changes to the village post office, the Blue Bell Public House and the opening of the Lidl store. Future possible developments to the Werrington Centre, the approaching decisions needed about Loxley and Hodgson Community Centres as well the Village Centre have also been discussed.

The loss of Alan Smith from the Council, who moved to Norfolk just before Christmas, was a huge blow and we are still trying to find someone to fill the Planning Chair role. However on the positive side Mick Wheatley was recently co-opted onto the Council and hopefully Sam Smylie will also be joining us soon. Both will bring valuable skills and expertise to the Council.

The death of my wife Liz in September was a devastating personal loss and I am only slowly coming to terms with it. The one bright side to this episode has been the help and support that I have been given by friends, neighbours and Neighbourhood Council colleagues. This assistance has been much appreciated.

Our Strategy Group has been examining a number of possible options for the future. Attempts have been made to make the Council and its meetings more open to residents and these will be developed in the coming months. Most recently we have been informed that we may able to assist in taking up opportunities for developing a Neighbourhood Plan. This is an exciting opportunity that would help ensure the best possible future for Werrington. A first step will be to define the area by consulting the people living in the parts of the old Werrington South Ward that are now in the Gunthorpe Ward to establish which area they consider themselves to be in.

Finally I would like to thank all the Neighbourhood Councillors for their attendance and support at the many meetings and activities of the Council and its associated bodies. Also our appreciation of the assistance and regular attendance of the Werrington Ward City Councillors, Steve Lane, John and Judy Fox, especially as the Foxes also had many mayoral duties to perform as well.

WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT WERRINGTON VILLAGE CENTRE ON TUESDAY 6TH JUNE 2017

PRESENT: Pauline Fury, Martin Greaves, Ivan Hammond, Vince Moon, Roger Proudfoot, Alan Smith,

Geoff Smith, Sally Weald, Lawrence Wright, Bill Mercer and residents of Werrington.

WARD COUNCILLORS: Cllr John Fox, Cllr Judy Fox

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Rod Boulton, Craig Campbell (PCC), Bryan Erwin (KSCS),

Laura Fanthorpe (PECT), Cllr Stephen Lane, Kay Molyneux.

GUESTS: Ian Tobin (PCC), and Award Winners with their family and friends

Meeting commenced at 7.35pm

1. Chairman's Welcome: Vince Moon welcomed everyone commenting on the large turnout. The apologies were received as above.

2. To receive & approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 7 June 2016. The minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Lawrence Wright and seconded by Martin Greaves.

3. Officer Annual Reports

3.1 Chair: The Chair's report had been circulated with the agenda and is included in the appendices to these minutes. Vince Moon, however, highlighted the following:

Everyone needs to spread the word about the Neighbourhood Council. It has been good in the past and is needed in the future. There is now no Council grant and funds are dwindling. It is intended to get lottery funding to publish communitywide the merits and drawbacks of three possible options: to cease being, to find new means of funding or to become a Parish Council. He hoped that overwhelming community support will be found for one of the options.

Many things don't just happen within Werrington. They are supported by the commitment and dedication of the Council Members and local Councillors. All benefit and all will lose if the Council doesn't continue. If we all work together, we can have a positive outcome.

Vince added his congratulations to Cllr John Fox on his appointment as the new Mayor and also Cllr Judy Fox and thanked them for making the time to come along and support the Council.

3.2 Honorary Secretary: Geoff Smith's report as retiring secretary had been circulated with the agenda and is included in the appendices to these minutes. He then endorsed the views of the Chair. As this was his final AGM as secretary he acknowledged all the fantastic people he'd met and worked with over the years. To the best of his knowledge he had never missed a meeting and would miss the almost daily involvement. He thanked Pauline Fury for her support in recent times with the minutes secretarial role and for arranging the refreshments for this and last year's AGM, and Lawrence Wright - being the first Chair he worked with in 1989 - for all the work he has done with the local Neighbourhood Watch Cluster Group. He especially welcomed all the Ken Stimpson Community School representatives to once again receive well deserved awards. He thanked all the Werrington Councillors for being extremely supportive.

Sally Weald was then introduced as the new Secretary. Her report had been circulated with the Agenda and this is also included in the appendices to these minutes. She added her thanks to everyone who has supported the introduction to her role over the last six months and looked forward to working with the Council in the future.

3.3 Honorary Treasurer: Geoff Smith's report had been circulated with the agenda and is included in the appendices to these minutes. The audited accounts for the last financial year were received and approved by those present. He advised that the future must be considered carefully as there is only approximately two years of funding left in the account. Spending can't be reduced as hardly any expenditure is made over and above basic running costs. He thanked Cllrs John and Judy Fox for donating £301.63 which paid for the insurance and also for their £60 sponsorship of the Youth Award. He offered to answer any questions but there were none from the floor. He advised that any queries could be sent by email to him.

- 3.4 Chair of Planning: Alan Smith's report had been circulated with the Agenda and is included in the appendices to these minutes. He added that a number of planning issues had been considered impacting on the community. He especially highlighted the City Council's New Local Plan influencing the policy and strategy of the Council.Representations have been made to protect the open land not otherwise protected. The Network Rail proposals have also been a high priority and more about this will follow in the presentations. Geoff Smith, at this point, said that the Neighbourhood Council was well blessed with the expertise of such an excellent Planning Chair. Vince Moon endorsed this.
- **3.5 Chair of Environment Group:** Roger Proudfoot's report had been circulated with the agenda and is included in the appendices to these minutes. He highlighted the work of the Environment group as follows:
 - i) Werrington Brook Project
 - ii) Drop in sessions (next one 1st July)
 - iii) Community Activist Ivan tackling the dog mess problems
 - iv) Forthcoming events: 17th June Volunteers day, 17th July Bugs and beasts weekend (including wildlife activities, bat group, dawn chorus, river invertebrates).

 He encouraged everyone to come and get involved.

4. ELECTION OF WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILLORS:

The Chair announced that there are ten elected positions on the Council and five are elected annually. Notices had been posted and nomination forms provided. Following this, four members are seeking re-election and one additional nomination has been received as follows:

Alan Smith (seeking re-election)
Kay Molyneux (seeking re-election)
Martin Greaves (seeking re-election)
Ivan Hammond (seeking re-election)
Sally Weald (new nomination)

Following a vote these appointments to the Neighbourhood Council were carried unanimously.

5. ANNUAL AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS

- **5.1 THE WERRINGTON AWARD**: Lawrence Wright reflected on his length of time involved with the Werrington Community and highlighted all the good work people do for the village. He then described how the Werrington News Store has been revitalised with the 'At Last' tea rooms making it a real community centre for Werrington. The award was presented by Lawrence to Marie and Mitch and the 'At Last' tea rooms.
- 5.2 THE GOOD CITIZENSHIP YOUTH AWARD: Sally Weald advised that following a nomination from Ken Stimpson Community School the award was being made to their 'Outstanding School Representatives' Laura Griffin, Kayla Green and Michael Peacock who have made a hugely positive contribution to both the school community and the wider area of Peterborough. All three students are highly motivated to make a difference to all aspects of the school and the experiences that all students receive at Peterborough schools. They have tackled a variety of different issues including uniform, litter, student wellbeing and attitudes to learning. Sally presented this award.
- 5.3 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION AWARD: Geoff Smith described the background to the repairs of the Village Sign which were recently undertaken and unveiled at an opening ceremony on Saturday 26th November 2016. He said that a grant of £800 had been received from the City Council in 2012 and had been held in trust for its restoration and this will now be augmented with a donation to be made by the Co-op Community Fund via the Community Association who had successfully made a bid. The residual funds will now be retained in this account until needed in the future. He continued by thanking Judy Bunten for her assistance in helping to progress the repair work which had hitherto stalled because suitable craftsmen could not be found and presented her with a certificate commemorating her contribution. He then thanked both Rod Boulton and Ron McKenna for all their skilled work also supported by Al Perna and Tom Dolby in completing the repairs and presented the latter with his Community Contribution Award Rod who was away on holiday will receive his at the July meeting of the Council.
- **5.4 COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARDS**: (i) Cllrs John and Judy described how Ram Singh Kalra was an inspirational man who contributed to the community with his litter picking and presented him with his award. In receiving his award Mr Kalra described his pride in Werrington, his pride in the involvement of the Sikh community with fundraising, his pride in his cherished nation and his pride to be proud to be part of Great Britain. He thanked everyone wishing blessings and prosperity.

- (ii) Sally Weald presented Sarah Holland with a community appreciation award. She had been nominated by Ken Stimpson Community School for her weekly volunteer work with Food Cycle providing free hot meals at Westgate Church and establishing links with the school for the donations of food.
- 5.5 EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Andrea Ayre, Lorraine Gregg, Adam Billitt and Rachel Patman were nominated by Bryan Erwin, Headteacher of Ken Stimpson Community School. They have been instrumental in engaging with local businesses and other organisations to raise the aspiration of their students. Their passion, commitment and dedication to the wellbeing of our students at all levels had been an inspiration to all the young people that they have encountered and ensured that they have unlocked their potential. Without their efforts the school and many students would not have achieved the success they have reached or will in the future achieve. This team deserves much more recognition as they are building the foundations for a successful community of young people that will hopefully contribute the growth of Peterborough. Sally Weald was pleased to make the award to the Ken Stimpson Support Staff team.
- **5.6 ENVIRONMENT AWARD:** Vince Moon made the Environment Award to the Werrington Brook Improvement Project team in recognition of all the work made in this area. Rob Price of the Environment Agency was invited to receive the award along with representatives of the partners involved in the project: other members of Environment Agency, Peterborough City Council, PECT and Anglian Water. Rob was then invited to give an update about the project.

6. GUEST SPEAKERS:

WERRINGTON BROOK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME – Rob Price, Environment Agency. Rob thanked the WNC for its involvement and enthusiasm for the project. He advised that the partners in the project are Anglian Water, PECT, Peterborough City Council and Cranfield University. Pressures for the area include: highway drains and sediment, contamination from cars, pollutants and phosphates, algae bloom, antisocial behaviour, ornamental structures such as the weir Work on local sections, such as Dukesmead, have included - straight channels have been removed, channels deepened, riffles added to assist in oxygenation, pools to provide habitats, paths to provide public access.

Improvements can already been seen in the ecological cycle such as the arrival of eels leading to otters making an appearance. Videos show flat worms, smooth newts, sticklebacks. The increase in fish have led to egrets.

Work is being undertaken by PCC funded by Anglian Water to inspect all the drainage assets, surface drains cleared, outlets redesigned, education of local business, avoiding bad practice, adding bunding walls, issue of warning letters and improvement plans

Behaviour and education changes with community and business understanding of impact on water course with Rivercare co-ordinator, meetings, adding value and learning

A survey shows that people are willing to pay for these improvements

Funding is obtained by contributions from private organisations eg £50,000 from Anglian Water, partnerships such as Network Rail, surplus from other environment projects, flood risk benefit contributions, external funding such as heritage lottery

The performance to date: Improved resilience and recovery; sustained existing good WFD element; Improved flow and habitant abundance; match funding; shift in public attitudes; strong enthusiastic and galvanised partnerships; professional and engaging approach; and on the road to good ecological potential.

Geoff thanked Rob for such an interesting presentation.

WERRINGTON GRADE SEPARATION WORKS - David Vernon

Vince introduced David who gave an update on the current phase.

Network Rail was very proud of the relationship with Environment Agency

He said that the proposed work is to increase capacity on the line and the Werrington separation junction is a key location. After consultation to dive under is the preference to a fly over. He went through the timetable including the objections by end of February where a number of submissions were made. A public inquiry will be held in November at the football ground. Noise continues to be an issue. Legally NR do not have to assess the anticipated increased traffic. An assessment has been made for the work impact including acceleration, breaking, ecology. This assessment is still available in the library.

Vince then opened the floor to questions:

(continued overleaf)

- (i) 'The increase in traffic produces extensive noise especially at night for local residents. Small trains have been replaced by larger freight trains. Why isn't NR accountable for this?'
 David said that the impact of the new line has been assessed and there is no evidence for the need for acoustic fencing. If no evidence then they cannot fund especially as they are accountable for public money. New fencing cannot just be installed as there is continued maintenance and liability on 3rd party land. It was been confirmed that NR will continue to monitor post-construction traffic.
- (ii) 'NR has said in the past that the line would closed or use reduced'. David said that NR would never say anything like that as NR has to allow access to its lines. The line could be operated at anytime day or night.
- (iii) 'The fencing is short of the last three houses'. David said that assessment and obligations have been considered; however he will take the question back.
- (iv) 'Is the fencing an acoustic fence or a debris prevention fence?' David said he believed both but will take question back and provide details.
- (v) 'Why do freight trains go through at night?' David confirmed that whilst East Coast is preferred route, there are maintenance windows and this is the preferred diversionary route.
- (vi) 'Was a cost analysis done for the closed Spalding/March line that could have taken traffic?' David advised he didn't know and will take the question back.
- (vii) 'Has a survey of the newt ponds been done?' David confirmed that newts have been found and relocated. He understood that a planning application had been submitted. Alan asked about public access as used as a recreation site albeit unofficially. David said that people are trespassing as private land. It is hoped will be voluntary purchased but will be compulsory purchased if necessary.
- (viii) 'When is the final opening date?' David advised that work will start 2018 and it has to be completed by December 2020 as long distance operators will have timetabled for that date. But work won't have finished by that date as will still be tidying up.
- (ix) 'What are expected levels of new traffic?' David said it is all in the environment impact survey including an assessment of night traffic. He described the use of the new line. Despite the increased use, there will be more acceleration but less braking and less noise.
- (x) 'Will there be observation platforms?' David said has been taken back and fed back into the project work. This is still being looked at as Health and Safety has to be considered but it will not continue after the work.
- (xi) 'When the figures were calculated then Felixstowe was still growing; however, now London Gateway is growing instead. What will be the impact?' David confirmed that Felixstowe is still the major port and whilst some London Gateway traffic would be expected, it will mostly Felixstowe utilising this section.

Vince thanked David for his presentation adding that he is always willing to talk and listen. The Council was appreciative of his support. Alan's work on the submission was acknowledged. Alan confirmed that the Neighbourhood Council are continuing to support the objection.

Vince thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

APPENDICES

The following written reports were circulated prior to the meeting and copies provided on the night:

Agenda Item 3.1 - Chair's Annual Report

Agenda Item 3.2 - Honorary Secretary's Annual Report

Agenda Item 3.3 - Honorary Treasurer's 's Annual Report

Agenda Item 3.4 - Planning Chair's Annual Report

Agenda Item 3.5 - Environment Committee/Group Chair's Annual Report

APPENDICES

AGENDA ITEM 3.1



CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017

VINCE MOON WRITES

Before giving my take on the year so far and the challenges that lie ahead I think it is important to acknowledge the tremendous contribution that my predecessor, David Hedges made in his work for the people of Werrington. David ably applied his many talents and skills and gave freely of considerable amounts of his time to numerous tasks in the service of the community over several years. It is a sad loss that he finally decided that it was time for him to step down, although I appreciate his reasons for doing this.

He is a hard act to follow and Werrington has been extremely fortunate in having many very able leaders over the years from Alfred Savage, the first Chair, onwards. That Werrington is a great place to live is in no small part down to the efforts of the many Neighbourhood Councillors over the last forty plus years. It was therefore with some trepidation that I eventually put myself forward to fill the position. I had been Vice Chair for a few years and fulfilled a holding role for some months. However when it was clear that the Council needed someone to fill this role I decided to act, although I've always made it clear that I am happy to step aside if a more qualified applicant appears in the future.

There has been much to be celebrate in the last few months. Here are just a few examples: Our superbly refurbished village sign makes a proud and impressive centre piece to the village.

The excellent environmental improvements to the Werrington Brook and to the lake in Cuckoo's Hollow has really enhanced these features as well as aiding wildlife and the other natural aspects of them. Our Drop-in events are proving increasingly popular and are providing valuable information and community feedback for ourselves and our City Councillors. It was also great to see Geoff Smith's 27 years of service to our Council and the community recognised by a Civic Award. Alan Smith has also continued to do sterling work on planning matters and in our strategy group. Well done to Roger Proudfoot for his many efforts with our Environment Group. Last and no means least, the secretarial input from Sally Weald after joining the Council has already made a significant difference to our Council's ability to serve its residents.

So a good deal has gone well. Even so there are also major challenges on the horizon for the Community. The proposed rail developments in Werrington are an issue of concern for many of our residents. The community asset transfer policy of the City Council also means that we can no longer assume that we can continue to enjoy the assistance in funding of these facilities that was previously available. If alternative solutions cannot be found there is a real danger that we could lose some of these facilities. Likewise Werrington Neighbourhood Council (WNC) is rapidly running out of funds following the loss of our grant some years ago. To lose this tier of representation will be a major loss to the area. We are therefore trying to obtain funding so that we can inform the local population about the options and conduct a community consultation in the coming year to produce a final answer about how people feel about this issue. Basically we have 3 choices – to disappear completely, to find a new way of funding WNC that does not compromise its position of impartiality, or to establish a legally recognised Parish/Community Council. It will be vital to have a significantly large response if either of the last two options are to be pursued.

In closing I would like to my express my thanks to all my fellow Neighbourhood Councillors and to our Werrington Ward City Councillors for their attendance at meetings together with the other forms of support that they have given to WNC over the past year.

Vince Moon

APPENDICES

AGENDA ITEM 3.2

AGENDA ITEM 3.2 (CONTINUED)

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017

IT'S A FAREWELL FROM GEOFF

GEOFF SMITH WRITES well the time has finally come !!

I am now finally stepping down as your Secretary after many years and will miss it greatly. I've had many enjoyable and fulfilling times but its now time for a breath of fresh air both for myself and the WNC. Together with my other roles over the near 28 years of continuous service I have been very fortunate in having many good times and experiences whilst also having a few dark and frustrating times. I have served with some great people (and sadly several of these are no longer with us) but I will remember them i.e. both the fellow officers and also the many elected and co-opted members - all giving their time freely and without seeking any reward other than knowing they were doing 'their bit' for our community and its environment. Amongst them are my fellow Chairs - in the order of their appointment - Lawrence Wright (2 yrs), Ray Wood (6 yrs), the late Marcus Sims (1 yr), Alan Brown (1 yr), David Hedges (7 yrs) and currently Vince Moon. A pleasure to work with them all and it is nice to see Vince's remarks about our last one, David Hedges, who did a particularly good job despite having to contend with serious health problems. There have also been, and are, some very good and much appreciated fellow officers, all of whom will be suitably praised and thanked when I write my book !!

Over these years I had the privilege of attending many official functions, special meetings/events, and various representative roles including chairing some of the old police representative committees and sharing a few very interesting times with some senior officers - again sadly some of whom are no longer with us. Numerous interesting and fulfilling times were also spent with many City Council officers including some very good past and present Youth Services people. The relationship with Ken Stimpson Community School has always been very strong and mutually supportive - successive Principals, together with Chris Ware (also an excellent former WNC Secretary) and her colleagues, have maintained a great partnership with us and I've been most grateful for it. We have also enjoyed a similar relationship with the Community Association and Spotlight has 'done us proud' over the years.

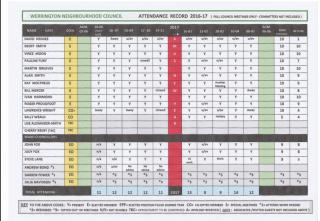
We are blessed with three excellent Werrington Ward Councillors who have for a number of years represented and worked hard for our community and its environment for all the right reasons. They have also been extremely supportive and helpful to this Council, and to myself for which I'm very grateful. It is also great to see that the new Mayor and Mayoress of Peterborough are our very own ClIrs John and Judy Fox - who better, and a well deserved honour. Also in the not too distant past Paula Thacker also did a very good job for us despite serious family and personal health issues, and my sincere thanks to her also.

Over the years I have consistently tried to maintain and lift the profile of this Council, and to continue and enhance the work started by our founder (and one and only President) Alfred Savage. We are now moving into a new era of who knows what but hopefully the foundations have been firmly placed and reinforced for the future well being of our organisation whatever form it takes. I am gratified that we now have some excellent new people on board who will hopefully takes us onwards and upwards and, while I can, I hope to be there to offer help and support and also do some filing!! So its over to Sally and I wish her the same happy and fulfilling time that I've had.

The Annual Attendance Record and my Honorary Treasurer's Report follow overleaf

All the very best, GEOFF

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017 [CONCLUDED]



..... AND IT'S A HELLO TO SALLY



SALLY WEALD WRITES

Over the last six months, I have been the Neighbourhood Council's Acting Secretary. During this time I have been surprised at the number of issues that its members have got involved in ranging from the proposed Network Rail work consultations, environment improvements to individual planning concerns. The amount of expertise and commitment being given by volunteers to protect and improve Werrington's environment is astonishing.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me find my feet over the last few months and I look forward to continuing to work as part of the Council in the future.

AGENDA ITEM 3.3

HONORARY TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting this my Annual Report for our previous year of operation.

The audited Statement of Accounts for the financial year ending 31st December 2016 is featured on the next page. You will see that we are currently operating on a working capital of just over £1,200 per annum, and that our 'ring-fenced sums' total £1,258.70 - see the table below - so the predicted bottom line is that we have sufficient funds to see us through to about the end of 2018 at our current rate of spending. So without further funding being obtained this Council will no longer be financially sustainable in its present form.

Various alternative funding options are being considered and we can but hope and wait to see if they prove successful. On the 21st March 2016 a very generous cash payment/donation totalling £301.63 was given to us by our Werrington Councillors by way of Cllrs John & Judy Fox. Effectively this paid for our biggest single item of expenditure namely our current insurance cover (up to and including 24th July of this year) which represents about 24% of our annual outgoings, and so we are most grateful to them for this vital support.

An important decision will soon have to be made i.e. before this year's renewal date, as to whether or not we continue with this policy.

[continued overleaf]

AGENDA ITEM 3.3 - CONTINUED

I was delighted that the Village Sign renovation project finally got off the ground and its completion is well documented elsewhere.

There are a few small amounts yet to be expended and thanks to the Community Association and their successful Tesco community sum bid more funds are expected that will be held in trust by us for the future well-being of this iconic local feature.

Finally I am pleased to report that our Internet Banking arrangements have now been completed, and would once again sincerely thank our Auditor - Richard Collingridge - for his services.

SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	RING-FENCED SUMS	COMMENTS
[1] CURRENT BANK STATE- MENT	WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CLUSTER GROUP FUNDS HELD IN TRUST	£ 326 . 63	PLUS CASH-IN-HAND OF £90.84 GIVES A TOTAL SUM OF £ 417.47
[2] Carried over from previous years + transferred funds	VILLAGE SIGN REFURBISHMENT £800 PCC GRANT + £500 RE-ALLOCATED CLF SUM + £66.73 RESIDUAL FUNDS IN BANK ACCOUNT	£ 903 . 21	TOTAL SUM AVAILABLE : £ 1,366.73 EXPENDITURE TO DATE : £ 463.52
[3] Carried over from 2013	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - RESIDUAL FUNDS	£ 28.86	IN ABEYANCE
[4] Carried over from 2013	IT EQUIPMENT CLF BALANCE - RESIDUAL FUNDS	NIL	£ 6.54 - NOW IN GENERAL FUNDS
RINGFENCED SUM	TOTAL AMOUNT IN CURRENT ACCOUNT	£ 1,258 .70	

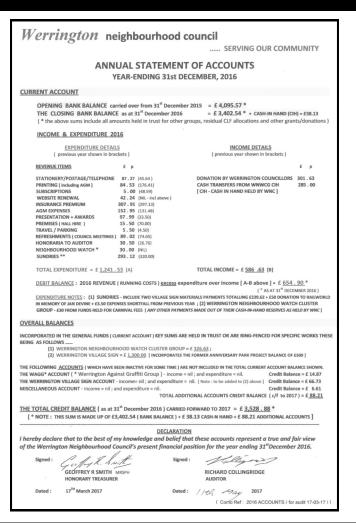
CREDIT BALANCES C/O FROM 2016

IN THE BANK = £ 3,490.75

IN CASH = £ 38.13

TOTAL = £ 3,528.88

AUDITED ACCOUNTS



AGENDA ITEM 3.4

PLANNING REPORT 2016-17

ALAN SMITH WRITES

Highlights of the year on the planning matters effecting Werrington LIDLE STORE

This was finally granted consent in October and is now under construction.

We were broadly supportive on the scheme but raised parking and access issues. We asked for a cycle/pedestrian crossing on the section of Lincoln Road coming into Werrington leading to the underpass under Werrington Parkway. Some thing is to be provided once an assessment has been made. It should have the spin off of slowing traffic coming off the parkway into Werrington.

REAR GARDEN DEVELOPMENTS

There have been some rear garden developments proposed and we have opposed these where we feel the impact on the existing house or the pattern of surrounding development is unacceptable. Some have been refused which is encouraging given the pressure to use every available space for new housing.



TREES

There has been a steady stream of applications for tree works and we have made comments where appropriate. Some of them are matters of good management practice while others relate to the impact of very large trees in very close proximity to a building. Where trees are an important contribution to the appearance of the area and visible from public space we have sought to retain them.

NETWORK RAIL DIVE-UNDER PROPOSAL, NORTH WERRINGTON

We have been closely monitoring this Transport Works Act application. It is currently due to be heard by an Inspector at a Public Inquiry. There will be an update at the AGM from a representative of Network Rail.

We raised a number of issues in response to consultation. An outstanding matter is the impact of noise on adjacent residential properties. Currently Network Rail's position is that noise studies based on national guidance show no significant additional impact as a result of the scheme and is not proposing any permanent sound attenuation measures. Legislation requires a further assessment but the result is not expected to be any different. The problem comes from the unanticipated increase in the use of the line, which has already occurred and from which there is no protection under the law as it stands. Network Rail view is that rail grinding and changes to rolling stock will improve matters.

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S NEW LOCAL PLAN

The new plan is now in an advanced state of preparation but was subject to a further round of consultation at the start of the year. The key issue for the plan is the identification of more sites for new. housing. Apart from a proposal for a number of dwellings at Werrington Centre none of the proposals are in our area. There is a new designation protecting important local open spaces. We did make further representations on this, as our ones at an earlier stage seem not to have been addressed. We are waiting to hear the outcome of this.

The next stage of the plan's preparation, once it has been back to PCC, will be a public Inquiry into outstanding objections

*** END ***

AGENDA ITEM 3.5

ENVIRONMENT GROUP REPORT

The Werrington Environment Group (a sub group of the Neighbourhood Council) has seen a new lease of life in 2016/17 after a period of inactivity, with Neighbourhood Councillor Roger Proudfoot taking up the chair and joined on the group by fellow councillors Ivan Hammond and Bill Mercer along with residents Florence Warrington, Sarah Ward and Jennifer Orrell. The group also has the support of the Wildlife Trust, Peterborough Environment City Trust, Froglife and Rivercare with representatives providing support and expert advice.



The group has seen a busy start to re-establishing itself with support for the Werrington Brook Environment improvement programme and the RiverCare volunteer days with Roger Proudfoot and Sarah Ward taking up the role of Werrington RiverCare coordinators. The group has supported 4 events so far attracting a range of residents from across Werrington helping out with monitoring the health of the river, watching out for pollution and clearing any rubbish from around the Brook with regular litter picking activity a part of the events. The improvements have lead to some encouraging results with increasing water quality and growing abundance of wildlife. They have also been active representing residents with the city council on tree planting following the removal of older trees at Manors Walk that were potentially causing problems with a nearby building. The 21 Poplars were replaced with over 200 whips of native trees to extend the nearby tree belt. The extra habitat is a very welcome addition to the woodland that we have in Werrington. The group continues to highlight the problem with irresponsible dog owners not picking up their mess and Ivan Hammond has been leading a concerted effort to encourage owners to take more responsibility by highlighting the problem which has lead to an extra bin being sited which has helped alleviate some of the problem but persistent offenders remain! We have been running a series of events for a Better Werrington supported by the Neighbourhood Council whereby residents can drop in and air their views about what is good about living in here, what are the challenges and what are the solutions. The events have been well attended by residents and supported by RiverCare, the Neighbourhood Watch team and plenty of homemade cake! More recently we have been assisting with highlighting the future potential for further wildlife and habitat improvements around the Sobrite Spring area with Network Rail and the Werrington Brook. The latter has been put forward for designation as a Local Green Space important for recreation and wildlife and discussions are ongoing about potential establishment of a Local Nature Reserve with none currently designated in Werrington.

FORWARD LOOK

Another Better Werrington drop in is planned for the 1st July which will be followed by a report for the three events. A RiverCare volunteer day is also planned for the 17th of June followed by a Bugs and Beasts weekend on the 21st to the 23rd of July. The group is also beginning to explore opportunities for funding further improvements including siting bird and bat boxes, establishing ponds and wildflower meadows and a bluebell wood. The group is always looking for volunteers to get involved so please contact Roger Proudfoot for more information on 07753800431

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

I am pleased to say that I have now completed twelve months as Secretary. It has certainly been a busy role with packed meetings, detailed minutes and much correspondence. I have been pleased to be able to use my skills and time in many areas including supporting Alan Smith in the final stages of the production of the Rail Inquiry submission, identifying funding opportunities and the development of the new easy to use website. We must acknowledge Mike Whittaker of Mill House Studios for his time in the development and ongoing support of the website.

Unfortunately lack of funding remains the challenge. There are so many projects that we could undertake and so many half started projects that we could complete. It was disappointing that our National Lottery bid failed as that could have solved many problems. We are hoping that sporadic crowdfunding projects will enable the Community to support us.

It nd nd he nd ke ng ny we nat dic

As so much of our member's work has been quietly undertaken and goes unrecognised, it is important that we get the message out about what the Neighbourhood Council does for Werrington. Our meetings are open to the public, our minutes are available on the website and Facebook is now used to promote our activities.



Please visit our webpage www.werrington.org.uk

Please follow Werrington Neighbourhood Council and Werrington Environment Group Facebook pages and share and like our posts. Please come to our events.

Please check out current Crowdfunding projects at www.chuffed.org or links from our website.

I would like thank all the members of Werrington Neighbourhood Council for all their contributions. Together we make a great team.

Sally Weald Secretary

OUR NEW MP ATTENDING OUR DROP-IN EVENT 11TH NOVEMBER 2017

													AGM	25-06			
NAME - DATE	CODE	19-06 POST- AGM	17 -07	11-09	09-10	20-11	2018	08-01	05-02	12-03	16-04	14-05	05-06	POST- AGM	23-07	MAX POSSIBLE	ACTUA
VINCE MOON	E	YES	YES	APOLS	APOLS	YES	Х	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				10	8
SALLY WEALD	E	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	M	YES	YES	APOLS	YES	YES				10	9
GEOFF SMITH	E	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	Α	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				10	10
ALAN SMITH	E	YES	YES	YES	APOLS	YES	S	LEFT								5	4
MARTIN GREAVES	E	YES	YES	APOLS	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				10	9
PAULINE FURY	E	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	N	YES	YES	YES	YES	APOLS				10	9
KAY MOLYNEUX	E	APOLS	YES	YES	APOLS	YES		YES	YES	APOLS	APOLS	YES				10	6
BILL MERCER	E	APOLS	YES	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				10	9
IVAN HAMMOND	E	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				10	10
ROGER PROUDFOOT	E	YES	APOLS	YES	YES	APOLS		YES	APOLS	APOLS	YES	YES				10	6
LAWRENCE WRIGHT	CO+	YES	YES	APOLS	YES	YES		APOLS	APOLS	YES	YES	YES				10	7
NIGEL LAW	CO*2																
SAM SMYLIE	СО										YES	APOLS				2	1
MICK WHEATLEY	СО										YES	YES				2	2
WARD COUNCILLORS																	
JOHN FOX	EO	n/a	YES	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				9	9
JUDY FOX	EO	n/a	YES	YES	APOLS	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES				9	8
STEVE LANE	EO	n/a	YES	YES	APOLS	YES(8pm)		APOLS	YES	APOLS	YES	YES				9	6
ANDREW BOND *3	EO	n/a	*3	*3	*3	*3		*3	*3	*3	*3	*3		*3	*3	*3	*3
DARREN FOWER *3	EO	n/a	*3	*3	*3	*3		*3	*3	*3	*3	*3		*3	*3	*3	*3
JULIA DAVIDSON *3	EO	n/a	*3	*3	*3	*3		*3	*3	*3	*3	*3		*3	*3	*3	*3
TOTAL ATTENDING		9	13	11	9	13	2018	11	11	9	14	13					

KEY TO THE ABOVE CODES: Y= PRESENT E= ELECTED MEMBER EPF= ELECTED POSITION FILLED DURING YEAR CO= CO-OPTED MEMBER S= SPECIAL MEETINGS *1= ATTENDS WHEN NEEDED

*2= RESIGNED *3= 'OPTED OUT' OF MEETINGS N/E= NOT ELIGIBLE TBC= APPOINTMENT TO BE CONFIRMED A= APOLOGY RECEIVED [NOTE: ASSOCIATES /INVITED GUESTS NOT INCLUDED ABOVE]

NETWORK RAIL'S WERRINGTON GRADE SEPARATION ORDER

The development on Network Rail's Werrington Grade Separation Order has been a major part of Werrington Neighbourhood Council's work. The plans are to build a new two-track railway line under the East Coast Main Line at Werrington Junction that will enable high -speed trains to pass over the Great Northern Great Eastern Line.

This will, however, impact on many residents during the construction and subsequent running of the line.

The major concerns included potential increase in numbers of trains, impact of noise and vibration

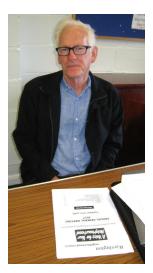


damage to properties. A resident's group, led by two Neighbourhood Council members Bill Mercer and Ivan Hammond (see photo above), was able to keep residents informed and arranged the collection of views and concerns. The Neighbourhood Council, working with the resident's group, then made representations to the two consultations in 2014 and 2016 to try to establish more protection for residents. Following the submission of a legal application for the necessary powers to build and operate the scheme, a public inquiry was held in November 2017 and the Neighbourhood Council were invited to produce proof of evidence. The final report and evidence file was over 50 pages and took many, many hours of research, combining resident's views, patiently and expertly undertaken by Alan Smith (see photo above). He also attended the four day inquiry with the resident's group, presenting evidence on the final day and answering questions from Network Rail's legal team and the Inquiry Inspector.

The outcome of the Inquiry isn't yet known but Network Rail's preparation has commenced with the development of ponds to allow the transfer of great crested newts, residents vacating their properties to allow demolition and access points being developed. The Neighbourhood Council reviews developments in detail at each meeting. We are pleased with the establishment of a good working relationship with Network Rail especially with David Vernon who has always been willing to talk to the Neighbourhood Council and residents.

Why does Werrington need a Neighbourhood Council?

Its work over the last four years with the Network Rail development shows what a formal group can do which would be impossible to do by individuals.



ALAN SMITH

The Rail Inquiry was just one of the many projects that Alan Smith undertook for the Neighbourhood. So it was with some sadness that we received Alan Smith's resignation from WNC from the beginning of December, following his move to Norfolk. Clearly our lost is Norfolk's gain.

Alan felt strongly that WNC is a worthwhile organisation. Alan was a former Chief Planning Officer at Peterborough City Council and the residents of Werrington have benefited hugely from his expertise and input as the WNC Chair of Planning over the last ten years. Council members felt that he spoke the wisest words at our meetings and will be sorely missed. He will be a very hard act to follow.

The work of the Neighbourhood Council will hopefully find a way to continue in some form or other in the future. The need for a non-political body representing residents has been emphasized by the way that he so ably carried out tasks.

We wish him and his wife Shelagh well for the future in their new home.

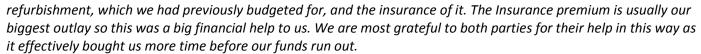
AGENDA ITEM 2.3

HONORARY TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018

GEOFF SMITH REPORTS

Welcome to our AGM and I have great pleasure in presenting this my Annual Report for our financial year ending 31st December 2017. The **Statement of Accounts** is featured on the next page and has been thoroughly inspected and approved by Richard Collingridge our Independent Examiner (we no longer refer to an Auditor). We are most grateful for his very professional services once again.

You will see that last year we incurred only a very marginal loss of £29.83. The reason for this was that expenses were offset by a very generous donation from the local Co-operative Society which was secured by the Werrington Community Association. This paid for the Village Sign



Over the years a lot of our expenses have been absorbed by our volunteer Officers and Members and therefore don't show up in any of our accounts. Thanks to their generosity a lot of savings have been made in a number of ways and for the next financial year several have waived reclaiming travel, parking fees, meeting refreshment costs etc to help the cause.

The next year may well define our future as a lot of groundwork has been put in by our Officers and dedicated groups to looking at various options for our continuation in some form or another. Our Secretary, Sally Weald, has done a lot of hard work ably supported by our Chairman and several of our Council Members. More will be said by them on these initiatives and our new look website will be the place to find all of our latest news on this and all of our activities. One major step has been the setting up of a **CROWDFUNDING** project which is a way in which **YOU** our residents can get directly involved by making donations to help with our funding - nearly £400 has already been raised this way but much more is needed - so please visit **www.werrington.org.uk** now and do your bit.

We are also well blessed in having the help and support of our three hard-working Werrington Ward Councillors. My sincere thanks to them and all of my WNC colleagues.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS IS FEATURED OVERLEAF ON PAGE 15

AGENDA ITEM 2.4

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PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT 2018

KAY MOLYNEUX REPORTS [on the period since Alan Smith left the area]

Planning Report for period from January 2018

Werrington Neighbourhood Council supported the need for the expansion of Ken Stimpson Community School and are happy with the building design plans and location. However the WNC raised concerns about the Access and Parking Plans, the Transport Assessment and the School Travel Plan and considered that these have been addressed inadequately. There have been 19 notifications for residential extensions, the WNC did not made comments.

One application we did comment on, with help from Alan Smith, the subdivision of plot and construction of new one-and-a-half storey house and detached double garage at

1384 Lincoln Road. This was ejected due to the intrusion into the back garden area of Lincoln Road, poor road and bin access and noise/disturbance to the gardens of the area and to adjoining properties.

Plans to upgrade the signage at the Cock Inn had been received and WNC agreed with the PCC Conservation Officer that these would be an improvement, the plans were permitted.

There have been 8 notifications for tree felling or reduction, to-date one notification - felling of Silver Birch trees at Hall Lane, Werrington has been permitted.

WNC were made aware of an alcohol license application from the new owners of Werrington Post Office on the Green, it was agreed at February's committee meeting that this was not a problem and welcomed the upgrade of the Post Office. However, since that meeting WNC was approached by a near-by resident (misinformed that WNC is a Parish Council) who had taken upon himself to organise a petition against it. An Extraordinary Meeting was held and all the points were fully discussed, and it was decided that the WNC would uphold it's original view. The minutes of this meeting is available on the WNC website.

PAGE 14 of 18

Werrington neighbourhood council

.... SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR-ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 2017

CURRENT ACCOUNT

OPENING BANK BALANCE carried over from 31st December 2016 = £ 3,402.54 * + CASH-IN HAND (CIH) = £38.13

THE CLOSING BANK BALANCE as at 31st December 2017 = £ 3,372.71* + CASH-IN HAND (CIH) = £16.33

(* inclusive of amounts held in trust for other groups, residual CLF allocations and other grants/donations)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2017

EXPENDITURE DETAILS

(previous year shown in brackets)

INCOME DETAILS

(previous year shown in brackets)

£ p		£ p
1 . 65 (87.27)	DONATION BY CLLRS JOHN & JUDY FOX	60.00
55 . 00 (30.00)	DONATION BY CO-OP VIA WCA	1,453.30
86 . 54 (84.53)		
6 . 00 (5.00)		
59 . 57 (42.24)		
297 . 92 (307.91)		
63 . 95 (152.95)		
98 . 10 (97.99)		
22 . 53 (15.50)		
10 . 00 (5.50)		
NIL (nil)		
49 . 48 (89.02)		
28 . 25 (30.50)		
170 . 00 (n/a)		
25 . 00 (n/a)		
569 . 14 (n/a)		
	1 . 65 (87.27) 55 . 00 (30.00) 86 . 54 (84.53) 6 . 00 (5.00) 59 . 57 (42.24) 297 . 92 (307.91) 63 . 95 (152.95) 98 . 10 (97.99) 22 . 53 (15.50) 10 . 00 (5.50) NIL (nil) 49 . 48 (89.02) 28 . 25 (30.50) 170 . 00 (n/a) 25 . 00 (n/a)	1 . 65 (87.27) DONATION BY CLLRS JOHN & JUDY FOX 55 . 00 (30.00) DONATION BY CO-OP VIA WCA 86 . 54 (84.53) 6 . 00 (5.00) 59 . 57 (42.24) 297 . 92 (307.91) 63 . 95 (152.95) 98 . 10 (97.99) 22 . 53 (15.50) 10 . 00 (5.50) NIL (nil) 49 . 48 (89.02) 28 . 25 (30.50) 170 . 00 (n/a) 25 . 00 (n/a)

TOTAL EXPENDITURE = £ $\underline{1,543.13}$ [A]

TOTAL INCOME = f = 1,513.30 [B]

DEBIT BALANCE: 2017 REVENUE (RUNNING COSTS) excess expenditure over income [A-B ABOVE] = £ 29.83*

(* AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2017)

EXPENDITURE NOTES: PAYMENTS MADE FOR WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CLUSTER GROUP (WNWCG):

[1] WERRINGTON SCOUTS & GUIDES COUNCIL = £ 30.00; [2] MAGPAS DONATION = £25.00

OVERALL BALANCES

INCORPORATED IN THE GENERAL FUNDS (CURRENT ACCOUNT) SOME KEY SUMS ARE HELD IN TRUST OR ARE CURRENTLY RING-FENCED FOR SPECIFIC WORKS THESE BEING AS FOLLOWS:

(1) WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CLUSTER GROUP = £ 331.63 (+ Cash-in-Hand = £ 452.63);

(2) WERRINGTON VILLAGE SIGN = £ 866.73

THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS (WHICH HAVE BEEN INACTIVE FOR SOME TIME) ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCES SHOWN.

THE WAGG* ACCOUNT (* Werrington Against Graffiti Group) - income = nil; and expenditure = nil.

Credit Balance = £ 14.87

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT - income = nil; and expenditure = nil.

Credit Balance = £ 6.61

TOTAL ADDITIONAL CREDIT BALANCE (c/f to 2018) = £ 21.48

THE TOTAL CREDIT BALANCE as at 31st December 2017 CARRIED FORWARD TO 2018 = £ 3,389 . 04 *

[* NOTE: THIS SUM IS COMPRISED OF £3,372.71 (BANK BALANCE) + £ 16.33 (CASH-IN HAND) BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE TOTAL ADDITIONAL CREDIT BALANCE OF £ 21.48]

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that these accounts represent a true and fair view of the Werrington Neighbourhood Council's present financial position for the year ending 31st December 2017.

Signed:

GEOFFREY R SMITH MRSPH HONORARY TREASURER Signed:

RICHARD COLLINGRIDGE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Dated: 3RD April 2018

Dated:

9th 7cy 2018

AGENDA ITEM 4

ELECTIONS 2018

THERE ARE 10 ELECTED POSITIONS ON OUR COUNCIL - 5 OF WHICH ARE ELECTED ANNUALLY TO USUALLY SERVE FOR A TWO YEAR TERM. THE CO-OPTED MEMBERS ARE APPOINTED AT COUNCIL MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND NOT AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. THE NUMBER OF OFFICIAL CO-OPTED PLACES WAS INCREASED TO A MAXIMUM OF 6 AT THE 2007 AGM. ALL OF OUR SIX WARD COUNCILLORS (THREE FOR EACH OF THE WERRINGTON AND GUNTHORPE WARDS) ARE AUTOMATICALLY INSTALLED AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND INVITED TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS BUT DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE. ALL OF THE OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR COUNCIL ARE APPOINTED AT THE FIRST POST-AGM FULL COUNCIL MEETING AND NOT AT THE AGM - THIS YEAR IT IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON

2018 - SEEKING ELECTION

VINCE MOON GEOFF SMITH BILL MERCER PAULINE FURY ROGER PROUDFOOT **ELECTED UNTIL 2019**

SALLY WEALD MARTIN GREAVES KAY MOLYNEUX IVAN HAMMOND

- vacancy - (Alan Smith)

NOTICES WERE POSTED AND NOMINATION FORMS PROVIDED ON OUR NOTICEBOARDS AT WERRINGTON LIBRARY AND THE WERRINGTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE. AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS THE POSITION REGARDING NOMINATIONS IS AS FOLLOWS:-

- FIVE EXISTING MEMBERS RETIRE BY ROTATION AND ALL ARE SEEKING RE-ELECTION (shown in green text above)
- THERE IS ONE ELECTED MEMBER POSITION CURRENTLY VACANT THERE ARE SOME CO-OPTED MEMBER POSITIONS AVAILABLE APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE POST-AGM MEETING OF THE COUNCIL WHICH IS DUE TO BE HELD ON HELD ON MONDAY 25TH JUNE.

AGENDA ITEM 6.1

ENVIRONMENT GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the Werrington Environment Group, Werrington Neighbourhood Council Annual General Meeting, June 2018

Author: Roger Proudfoot - Chair

Summary

Two years ago we established the Werrington Environment Group (WEG) as a sub-group of the Werrington Neighbourhood Council. The activities we have been able to support have grown in this short space of time. The Werrington Brook improvements continue to



provide a focus for the group with a series of joint WEG/RiverCare events being held to monitor the improvements and tackle litter pollution around the brook. WEG also supported a series of drop-in sessions around Werrington for residents to find out more about our work. The highlight of the year was the Bugs and Beasts weekend where a series of events were held in one weekend to identify as many species as we could in the Paddocks area of Werrington near Lincoln Road. WEG was also able to support frog-life volunteering at the Sobrite Spring and litter picking activities around Cuckoo's Hollow.

Report

The year got off to a great start after the 2017 AGM with a successful WEG/RiverCare event being held in June at the Hastings Road and Dukesmead stretches of the brook with our volunteers, many of whom are becoming regulars for our events. The Brook was fairing well with not as much litter as earlier in the i and an abundance of life with lots of river shrimps and small fish recorded. Dissolved oxygen was much lower along the Dukesmead section but this improved along the Brook at Hastings Road as the features that have been introduced, such as the riffles, had their effect and improved the quality of the water as

it flowed along. Environment Agency's catchment coordinator Rob Price explaining about the improvements to the Brook to our volunteers.

Elephant Hawk moth caught in a trap in Werrington in June. The Bugs and Beasts weekend in July was a great success at the Paddocks near Lincoln Road. Our volunteers and experts worked late into the night for the bats and moths and arose early for the birds for the dawn chorus. We recorded a total of 131 species over the weekend. 3 mammals, 23 birds, 43 species of river invertebrates and 39 plants were amongst the records.



Environment Group Report (continued)

The records of butterflies notched up to an impressive 16 species for the year which demonstrates what a special place the Paddocks are for wildlife. Rachel Bates (Cambridgeshire Bat Group), Richard Howells (bird call expert), Jane Squirrell (plants), Alex Pickwell (Environment Agency ecologist) all deserve special thanks for giving up their time to participate in the weekend's events and lend their expertise to our recording. A selection of bugs from the Paddocks and Werrington Brook clockwise from top right Pelucid hoverfly, skipper/gatekeeper and small blue butterflies, water scorpion, 22 spot ladybird and Roesel's bush cricket

In September WEG, supported by RiverCare, the Environment Agency and Peterborough City Council, held a wild flower meadow making day at the Hastings Road recreation ground. The grass here has been left to grow long and provides an opportunity to create an area that is more attractive for both residents and wildlife. Despite heavy rain the night before, the volunteers set to raking up the risings to reduce the nutrient supply to the soil and planted patches of wildflower seed. The area will require further work to establish the meadow but a good start was made. The event was held alongside the consultation on the last stretch of the improvement works to the Werrington Brook due to start in November. Following the consultation on the improvement works, WEG and RiverCare set about establishing a baseline of photographs and water quality measurements before the works began. The Environment Agency also carried out a baseline biological survey of the brook that will give us a much better indicator of the improvements. Our band of trusty volunteers some regular, some new, managed to litter pick 35kg of rubbish from this stretch of the Brook, a great achievement at reducing pollution in our waterways, if only residents didn't drop it in the first place.

Sadly there was an oil spill in the Brook thought to come from an illegal disposal into a surface water drain and two swans were found covered in oil. The good news is that that the RSPB managed to rescue the swans but sadly one of them died whilst the other recovered well and has been returned to the brook. The loss of the swan underlines the fragile nature of our water environment and how vulnerable our local wildlife is to careless disposal of waste. Further reports have been received during the year of oily films in the Brook. Residents are encouraged to keep a close eye on the Brook and report any suspicious behaviour to the police on 101. If you observe any pollution in the Brook residents are reminded to report it immediately to the Environment Agency hotline on 0800 807060. If we act quickly tragedies for Werrington wildlife may be averted. Some new editions to the Brook fortunately not affected by the recent spill

In November WEG hosted another of its community dropins supported by WNC councillors at the Werrington Community Education Centre. A steady stream of visitors came along to hear about our work with RiverCare and our Neighbourhood Watch activities. Visitors included our MP for Peterborough, Fiona Onasanya who was very supportive of our work.2018 events got off to a good start in January with the Werrington Environment Group and RiverCare joining forces with Froglife on a cold wet winter morning to clear the Sobrite spring of dead vegetation and create a hibernacula with the pile of vegetation. Volunteers clearing dead vegetation and the finished area

The new ponds at Sobrite recently completed by Network Rail as compensatory habitat from the future tunnel. Following a good start to the year our events were disrupted by the very cold weather but spring was in the air when our April WEG / RiverCare event came about and a core group of volunteers (pictured below) turned out on a beautiful spring day to assess the Werrington Brook stretch next to Hastings Road recreation ground. The water quality was good with numerous fish and frogs spotted along with 5 species of butterfly on the wing supported by the abundance of food plants that are now available along the Brook thanks to the improvement programme. Sadly the news wasn't so good regarding litter and the team picked up around 25 kg of rubbish mostly single use plastic in the form of drinks bottles and bear cans. We also discovered 12 catering tins of bamboo shoots dumped in the Brook near Corfe Avenue which, despite the teams best efforts were again thrown into the Brook from where they were left for collection by the city councils contractors. Fortunately WEG sprang into action upon hearing the reports and removed the large cans again from the very murky waters in the rain. Our dedicated volunteers decided to open the tins, dispose of the contents in their grey bin and the cans in the recycling - they certainly wouldn't find there way into the Brook again!

FORWARD LOOK

WEG will continue to support a series of monitoring events with RiverCare especially as the latest stretch improvements between Cuckoo's Hollow and Wisteria Way begin to take effect. 2018/19 will see us introducing new monitoring methods for phosphate, one of the main pollutants along the Werrington Brook , and piloting a litter recording method. A further Bugs and Beasts weekend is being held in June (29/30) with confirmation from the Cambridgeshire Bat group, the Environment Agency and our bird call expert Robert Howells that they will support the weekend of recording. The group will be applying for funding to develop management plans for Cuckoo's Hollow and the Paddocks. Further volunteer events will be planned once we have a management plan to work from. The group will be looking to see what further protections can be afforded to these important green spaces for our residents and wildlife.

If you would like to get involved in our group and its events then drop us an e-mail at rogerproudfoot@yahoo.co.uk or give Roger a call on 07753 800 431.

Finally a thank you: Rob Price the catchment coordinator for the Environment Agency sadly left for pastures new in the SW. WEG would like to thank Rob for his personal energy and enthusiasm which contributed hugely to the success of the Werrington Brook improvement programme and our volunteer events.









AGM PHOTO GALLERY

SOME OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH JUNE 2017

