

WERRINGTON Neighbourhood Council

..... OVER 40 YEARS SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF WERRINGTON

FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY

11th March 2019

AT Ken Stimpson Community School

MINUTES

PRESENT: Rod Boulton, Pauline Fury, Ivan Hammond, Bill Mercer, Kay Molyneux
Vince Moon, Geoff Smith, Sally Weald, Mick Wheatley.
WARD COUNCILLORS: Cllr John Fox, Cllr Judy Fox, Cllr Stephen Lane
VISITORS: 2 residents
APOLOGIES: Martin Greaves, Roger Proudfoot

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:**

Vince Moon welcomed everyone to the meeting including two visitors. Apologies were received from Martin Greaves and Roger Proudfoot

2. **OPEN FORUM**

Vince invited questions from the floor. Paul, a visitor, asked if the plans for the new Werrington Sports Centre included a 50m pool. Peterborough was in need of such a pool as County swimmers need to go to Corby for training. Cllr John Fox said that there was no such plan for this complex. He then confirmed that there was still a commitment to progressing this with support from the City Council and SportEngland. Funding is being put in place. The Neighbourhood Council has sent in a letter of support which had been well received. The future University with corresponding funding may bring about other opportunities.

Paul also asked about the vegetation at Home Pastures where an uncut section has created a blind spot. Judy said that the Councillors originally arranged for the whole hedge to be cut. Paul will pass details onto Steve Lane.

3. **PLANNING - SIGNIFICANT APPLICATIONS and GENERAL REPORT**

- i) Kay reported on the following planning applications which do not require comment: Felling of a dead holly tree at the Church, Removal extension in Salisbury Road and Extension in Woodhall Rise
- ii) Fascia signs in Dukesmead: Kay suggested that there had previously been problems for residents with a purple sign at Porcelanosa. Mick, a local resident, said he had no problems with this application.
- iii) Sally said that a new application had arrived that arrived for signage at the Three Horseshoes and she will circulate this, as appropriate, as any response will be needed before next meeting.
- iv) John Fox said that work was due to start on a footpath linking the front and back gate of Martin Court. Despite that fact that this is a well used pedestrian route, increasingly so with the school expansion, people not living in the immediately vicinity, were complaining. This was at residents' request which has been assessed and approved. It can only bring about improvement with the verge being damaged by parked cars.

4. **UPDATE ON EDUCATION CENTRE**

Geoff advised that the Church Youth have transferred to the new Church Youth Centre formerly the Education Centre and the Princes Trust have moved to The Barn. Geoff was pleased to help both groups move on the day. The WNC archives are in The Barn and the office has been retained at the Education Centre. The Barn meeting room is available for WNC. The old photocopier has been given to the Church youth group needs a service.

Bill raised concerns about accessing The Barn as it has a low doorway and is a hazard. Geoff said that there is clear signage and no one was aware of any further complaints.

Bill also suggested that the mezzanine floor may not be strong enough to support large numbers of people. John said that this had been properly surveyed and installed only 16 years before as this was one of the first things he supported as Ward Councillor. It would have been installed to modern

standard and there is no suggestion that there is any inadequacy. Geoff confirmed that if any such concerns were raised with the City Council then the facility would just be removed. Geoff advised that he wasn't aware of any other tenants yet of the Education Centre.

5. OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 SECRETARY

5.1.1 MINUTES - to receive and approve the minutes of FULL COUNCIL meeting held on 4th February 2019.

These were agreed as a true record

5.1.2 ANY MATTERS ARISING:

Bill referred the point made by David Vernon about the reinstatement of the trees. John said that, as referred to in a previous meeting, he had asked PECT to see if they had spare trees and they are looking into it. He referred to the Council's policy of tree removal where there is any concern about roots creating problems within five years. Rod asked about damage to footpaths creating trip hazards. Ruta confirmed that she has had a meeting with City Council about such pavements in Coniston Road.

5.1.3 REPORT:

The recognition of Lawrence Wright following him stepping down as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator had been raised at a previous meeting. Following this, Bill nominated him for a City Council Civic award with letters of support from Ivan and Vince (on behalf of WNC). It was announced at Full Council meeting last week that Lawrence had been awarded a community recognition award. Bill, Ivan, Vince and Geoff with Lawrence were there at the announcement and the formal presentation is in 4 weeks time. Also the WNC sent a letter of support to acknowledge Mick Mead's work with the Community Association and Mick has also received a similar award. Werrington has done very well out of this year's award.

WNC has their AGM on Tuesday 4th June at the Village Centre. Spotlight will have a request for nominations for the Youth Citizenship Award. Further discussions about the awards will be made at the next meeting.

An account has been opened with easyfundraising. If things are ordered online with companies such as Amazon, ebay, John Lewis, hotels.com through the easyfund raising website, WNC will get commission. Sally raised £11 that afternoon just by booking a 2 night hotel break). There's been some difficulty producing posters but the main thing is to remember to go into online shopping through the special web page. Ruta confirmed that this was a good way to fundraise. Questions asked which were answered subsequent to the meeting:

Do customers have to set up an account? There is a simple sign up page.

The website gives details of who generated donations on a league table (your first name and initial). Can you avoid this? Yes - once you have signed up, on your account page there is a settings page. You can then remove permissions and cookies and the one entitled 'Privacy' removes the 'league table' permission.

£1,000 funding has been received for the first amount of activity on the Neighbourhood Plan, which has to be given back in 3 weeks time. The good thing is that the Neighbourhood Forum, Neighbourhood Council AND Community Association all passed the due diligence test and the application was very vigorously challenged. Next year's funding isn't confirmed yet as the government hasn't confirmed it. Members were asked to indicate if they wanted to be involved in the PR. The workshop with two consultants takes place next Monday at 7pm at The Barn and some more people are needed to join in. This will decide the objectives and focus of the plan which will be for Werrington to preserve its current assets and is plenty more that can be included to protect the current characteristics. Thanks to Roger the outcomes from the surveys at the drop in events have been collated with list of other points needing to be included. The plan is to get a questionnaire out by July using the carnival to launch it.

John pointed out that people say that there's nothing for the young people to do which is not true as there's plenty of opportunities, but where there is provision, difficulties are encountered such as the Skate Park.

John has arranged a meeting with Nathan to paint some murals and invited WNC to join him. Nath is a very talented artist who has produced the murals at Werrington Centre, library etc. John wants to look at the underpass which is the boundary between Newborough and Werrington. Sally confirmed that is happy to attend this meeting as she would like to explore the available Integration

Funding with such a project. This ignored corner is a gateway for Werrington residents to access the countryside.

5.1.4 **APPROVAL OF POLICIES:** Sally said that the Neighbourhood Forum needs certain policies in place and the following two policies need looking at:
RENEWAL OF EQUALITY POLICY – This is already in place and just needs updating. There are no known changes required. This was agreed by the meeting.

DATA PROTECTION POLICY – This is a new policy and a copy of a simple Parish Council example has been used. Vince, having attended a data protection presentation is happy that it fulfils the expectations. This was agreed by the meeting.

5.1.5 **CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION:** This is needed to emphasise Neighbourhood Forum as WNC sub group. The objects have been changed to include the standard Neighbourhood Forum wording and a sub clause has been added to confirm the Forum has its own meeting procedures laid out in a terms of reference.

5.2 **HONORARY TREASURER:** Geoff advised that the accounts are being prepared for examination and had agreed with our Independent Examiner that he would be given our books by the end of March. . A new recording system has been put in place for the external funding from the Co-op and Locality. He says that he would still like to keep Crowdfunding in mind as it has a place in future fundraising. Sally said that any PR for the easyfunding raising could also refer to donations via crowdfunding.

5.3 **PRESS & P.R. including SPOTLIGHT and Website**

The Spotlight article covers the nominations for the Youth Citizenship Award. Judy Fox confirmed that herself and John would be supporting the award again.

5.4 **ENVIRONMENT GROUP:**

5.4.1 **REPORT:**

Sally read out Roger's Spotlight report

We have two successful events under our belts already with some of our regular volunteers and some new, joining us for the first time at the Sobrite spring with Froglife and the brook with RiverCare.

The Sobrite tidy up went well for the second year running, we will hopefully gradually work on this site until the large perennial weeds are weakened and more wildflowers start to get through the scrub so watch this space for an autumn clear up. We are also meeting with Network Rail and The Conservation Volunteers charity on the 5th April at 1030 in the car park next to the Dragon pub at Foxcovert to review the two new ponds and see what we can do to help maintain them so if you would like to find out more come along then. We managed to collect 6 bags of rubbish at the RiverCare event along the Aubretia stretch of the brook, plant some wildflowers (so watch out for those), and measure the water quality. The newly engineered stretch is coming along nicely and the new path is going in as we write. Thanks to the Coop funding we will be purchasing 8 bat boxes for installation soon too.

Our next RiverCare event is on the 4th May when we will return to the Hastings Road stretch of the Brook so check out our WEG face page or e-mail us at rogerproudfoot@yahoo.co.uk.

Sally said that the Education Centre was an important part of the Environment Days. Whilst the Village Centre is available on these days, the need to access the Centre at the start and an uncertain finish time gives problems. Sally asks that access to Education Centre is kept in mind in the future. Geoff confirmed that he is aware of this.

John advised that access is being gained to the Fox Covert newt ponds to allow the traveller horses to using the ponds. Fences are being cut and manure is littering the area. Ivan had taken photos of the site. This is trespass onto private land and Network Rail, Council and Police are being kept informed. Barriers cannot be installed on the bridge because of cycle access and bridleway status. John asked that contact is made with Network Rail with Adrian Chapman copied in.

John advised that the ditch has been cleared out in Foxcovert Road – some 18 months to 2 years after first being reported.

5.4.2 DOG FOULING PROJECT: Ivan advised that the February has been quiet with only 6 stencils with 3 in March so far. 280 in total. John was thanked for the new signs. John confirmed that a new bin will be purchased through CLF. A survey of bins in Cuckoo Hollow and along the Brook has been compiled by Councillors and Ruta Dalton: some are damaged, some haven't been replaced, some need moving. A meeting with Tim Fox has also been arranged. There are missing benches and the City Council are match funding CLF with the replacement of two benches. Geoff asked how to progress the potholes to Campbell Playing Field access road. Werrington Councillor said that users need to contact the Council and Councillors. WNC will add support to this.

6. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

John and Judy reported on the following:

- Cuckoos Hollow footpath. Despite many promises, the resurfacing of the path has stalled. The footpath is in a dangerous state, footpaths are 'closed' and the fencing and signage is being blown around and thrown in the brook. There seems to be a lot of confusion and delays. Sally was asked to contact Andy Tatt of Highways to raise this. *(Straight after the meeting, Sally inspected the path and some work had been undertaken that day. This then continued the following days albeit slowly. So the follow up wasn't undertaken).*
- John is talking to Clair George about Street Wardens especially for Cuckoos Hollow. Residents show their passion for Cuckoo Hollow on facebook and are talking about patrols. Geoff mentioned that 'Street wardens' had operated in the past.
- John said that there is a suggestion that the Ploughman will be doing something to support the Keep Britain Tidy campaign in April and John is hoping to could be extended to other pubs in the area.
- Judy advised that a bollard knocked down near Monks Grove was replaced in 48 hours.
- Whilst the drains in Papyrus Road underpass were sorted there still seems to be ongoing problems.

7. REPRESENTATIVES and GROUP REPORTS

7.1 COMMUNITY POLICING:

No statistics had been received from PCSO Martha Hurley. Sally advised that she had been made aware of a link accessing a summary of crime incidents. WNC could extract statistics themselves but the statistics are only available up to December.

www.police.uk/cambridgeshire/Peterborough/crime/

Pauline asked if use could be made of the Neighbourhood Watch summaries but these cover the whole of the City and would need to extract local data.

Sally said that she has approached the police via Martha to potentially do a presentation at the AGM in June but they haven't responded yet. John advised that following the 'Cuppa with a Copper' event, it was said that an evening session would be arranged, which hasn't happened yet.

Ivan said that a statement had been published about a serial car thief had been arrested. He said that Neighbourhood Watch could access driveway alarms for £9. Bill also demonstrated a key fob protector to stop thieves being able to unlock key-less cars electronically by accessing the key fob.

7.2 PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETINGS:

Vince reported on the meeting held on 13th February

A presentation was given from Nicola Fraser about the Integration Project and a Citizens alliance group with 30 plus members.

The budget consultation was depressing including the problems of balancing a 'legal budget'. There are problems with selling off assets such as car parks which then leads to a reduction in revenue.

The decline of the High Street is affecting Council tax income.

Items for the Parish Council conference include Planning and Community Integration Strategy

There were some interesting items but the meeting was not well attended. John Fox said that WNC's support is noted by senior Council Officers.

7.3 WERRINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION;

Kay advised that the meeting was the following evening. Sally was able to advise that agreement had been able to be reached on the sale of the contents to the Parish Church but excluding the staging which will remain WCA property.

7.4 ANY OTHER MATTERS including NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT, THE PRINCES TRUST and OTHER MEETINGS

- i) Bill reported on the Network Rail work. The contractor's work is going well. A new Hurn Road has been constructed as the old Hurn Road is where the railway is coming through. The drainage pattern has been altered with water being diverted into the Brook and Car Dyke. A question was asked about the potential for pollution but Bill said that the water redirection wasn't anything to do with the works. John said that small fry are absent from the Brook and the water is cloudy. The Environment Agency are testing the water and Roger will be involved. Steve Lane said that he didn't remember any water diversion in the plans for the rail work. It was noted that Ivan and Bill are still members of the Spalding Railway Group but they are not paying subscriptions.
- ii) Geoff reported that the Princes Trust have just had a good set of participants go through. The next programme starts on 29th April. It is now being run by Kim and Julia.
- iii) Bill asked about the objections for the Asphalt Plant. The Councillors advised that they didn't know any details as it wasn't their ward and they are not able to get involved. Bill said that this had the potential to affect the whole of Peterborough. The Councillors said that they have every confidence in the local Ward Councillors and planning officers. Sally had previously given details of a 'Stop Tarmac' website and petition but Bill said that he hadn't had chance to explore that. He asked that Councillors kept an eye on things and that it remains an agenda item. The Councillors reiterated that they cannot get involved and Sally said that it had been agreed previously that WNC didn't need to get involved in this either. She said that all the papers are online and everyone has the right to go to the planning meeting.

MEETING CLOSE: 9.20pm.

