

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 22nd July 2019  
AT KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL (Computer Room)**

## **MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Rod Boulton, Pauline Fury, Martin Greaves, Ivan Hammond, Bill Mercer, Vince Moon, Roger Proudfoot, Geoff Smith, Sally Weald.  
**WARD COUNCILLORS:** Cllr Judy Fox, Cllr John Fox, Cllr Steve Lane  
**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Kay Molyneux, Cllr Sandra Bond  
**MEETING OPENED:** 7.00pm

### **1. CHAIRMAN**

**1.1 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:** Vince Moon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** The apologies were noted as above.

**2. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:** There were no matters raised.

### **3. OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **3.1 SECRETARY**

**3.1.1 MINUTES:** The minutes of Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were received. An amendment to item 5 about the Gunthorpe Ward was made and the minutes were then approved.

**3.1.2 ANY MATTERS ARISING:** There were no other matters arising

#### **3.1.3 CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS**

Sally advised that Kay Molyneux had indicated her interest in becoming a co-opted member rather than a full Council Member. Pauline Fury also indicate her willingness to continue as a co-opted member. All members agreed to both of these appointments.

#### **3.1.4 REPORT**

- A separate Neighbourhood Forum is being held next Monday at The Barn. The Character Assessment Project is being launched, the questionnaire finalised which is being distributed in September and the statistical work done by Charlotte presented. There was a good response at the carnival and with contact made with an estimated 100 people in addition to the thousands that walked past.
- Two bids have been put to the City Council for their integration funding. A bid for the carnival banners and drop in events didn't tick the integration box enough and didn't get the funding. The City Council only has a small amount of money left so they have postponed the July panel until Sept to allow everyone to get their final bids in. They have given the opportunity for the bid for community arts day and underpass work to be reviewed and updated so an improved application has been made and submitted.
- Sally Blakeman, the local Co-op charity co-ordinator, approached WNC to apply to become one of Co-ops 5p bag beneficiaries next year. Amongst the long list of criteria, there was a problem in that our constitution doesn't say exactly what happens to the assets if the WNC was to be dissolved. Despite this, Roger put together a community environment wording which was submitted. As expected the Co-Op noted that the constitution was lacking but have given an opportunity to put it right. This might bode well as the application could have just kicked out.
- Sally Blakeman then enquired if WNC had a high impact Community Space project costing between £50 and £100 which she could support with the Co-Op Carnival Raffle. After a discussion of various options it was agreed that they would support the painting of the boundary stones in Cuckoos Hollow and Foxcovert Road. The Co-op then raised £77 which has been spent on specialist paints. Rod kindly took on the project which is nearly complete.

#### **3.1.5 MARTIN COURT PROJECT**

Martin Court has overgrown spare land (former bridleway) which John Fox has identified as needing attention. A pond needs digging out, trees cut back and some bushes removed. Roger has visited the site. Meanwhile, Morgan Sindell (Network Rail contractors) are looking for a community project, and following a meeting with Sally, Vince, John and Judy Fox, it was agreed that Martin Court will be a quick project well suited for the contractor. For this to go ahead and then maintained by the

Neighbourhood Council in the future, a licence needs to be signed for the City Council. Once agreed Morgan Sindell can be approached to progress. If they do not get involved then the project will be in position for WNC to progress as and when in the future. There is no charge being made for the licence. The detail was noted and it was agreed for the contract to be signed.

### 3.1.6 AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

The suggested amended constitution is as follows:

**11. DISSOLUTION:** The Council shall be dissolved by the passing of a simple majority vote at a Special or Annual General Meeting *and any assets distributed to a local charity or constituted community group for the benefit of local residents.* Where a quorum has failed to attend the Special or Annual General Meeting then a further similar meeting shall be called within one calendar month and gain if a quorum fails to attend then the Council shall be dissolved.

This was agreed by all the members present. This now needs approval at an extraordinary meeting which has already been called for 29<sup>th</sup> July at which proxy voting will be admitted. Anyone not able to attend can indicate their support or otherwise to the Secretary.

### 3.2 HONORARY TREASURER

Geoff reported :

- A current credit balance of £3,449.89
- The insurance policy with Zurich had been renewed at an annual premium of £297.92 and framed copies of the policy prepared - one is on display in our office at the LYC and the other is a portable one for use externally e.g. as used at this year's Carnival.
- Thanks to Councillor John and Judy Fox for the donation towards the awards
- There still remains the Co operative money to be spent before end September. There is an agreement to change the allocated money for a gazebo to a banner and to include bat boxes. Roger said that there was a supply problem for bat boxes

### 3.3 PRESS and PUBLIC RELATIONS

Sally advised that the Spotlight article was problematic as it was only by chance that she found out that the AGM photos were going to be omitted. After an adjustment with the text these were then included but apparently the proof reading didn't pick up the cut off photo.

Spotlight is changing editors with Lise Alexander-Smith taking over from Maurice.

It was noted that Neighbourhood Watch was included in the Helicopter Fun Day photos.

### 3.4 ENVIRONMENT GROUP

#### 3.4.1 REPORT

Roger reported as follows:

June and July have been busy months for WEG with the carnival in June and Bugs and Beasts weekend in July. The carnival stall was well attended. As well as the usual free give aways from RiverCare and Anglian Water we were also giving away free wildflower seeds which were well received by residents and we are looking forward to seeing pictures of their efforts. The stall was supported by RiverCare's regional coordinator, Lynsey Stafford, and we were grateful for her help during the day. A tray of river invertebrates greeted visitors and a particularly large and wandering leech!

The success at the carnival was followed by a Bugs and Beasts weekend, for the 3rd year in a row. We held a bat walk which had record numbers turning up (24) but sadly our walk was thwarted by rain, though we did get to see a few bats at the entrance of the underpass as we sheltered and Rachel Bates from the Cambridgeshire Bat Group gave an interesting talk to entertain the disappointed bat walkers. The evening will be rescheduled and we look forward to formally identifying the bat species of Cuckoo's Hollow another night!

The moth trap worked extremely well despite the rain and we caught some fantastic moths this time round including the beautiful elephant hawk moth and privet hawk moth. We used sweep nets to catch bugs on the Recreation ground that we have been starting to turn into a flower meadow. A rich variety was found and the wildflowers we planted two years ago were coming through strongly and were covered with skipper butterflies. There were huge numbers of grass hoppers which the children attending loved to see hopping out of their nets. A river invertebrate survey carried out by Environment Agency Catchment Coordinator, Andy Sadler, revealed that the Brook was showing signs of good water quality with a wide range of sensitive invertebrates present though mayflies and stoneflies still allude us, indicators of the highest water quality. Despite a few set backs the weekend

was a great success and some of the photos drew a lot of attention throughout the community, all great for raising awareness of Werrington's wildlife.

Sadly a few days later the city council cut the meadow and much of the insect life we encountered was wiped out in an instant. We have complained about the premature cutting of the grass in this area after all the efforts volunteers have gone to in establishing the wildflowers planting 30 patches. This City Council have responded advising that this. The current cutting regime is neither useful for people or wildlife. A post on the WEG facebook page about the issue reached 2827 newsfeeds with 1456 engagements with 149 reactions mostly angry or sad, a record for any post on the WEG page to date. The Peterborough Telegraph also picked the issue up but Neighbourhood Council and Environment Group have not been mentioned in any criticism of what has happened.

Looking forward there is volunteer day with The Conservation Volunteers, on the 6th August at the Network Rail habitat creation site next to the Sobrite Spring. Meeting at the car park next to the Dragon pub at 1030. A flower meadow and scrub clearance day is planned for Thursday 19th September at the Paddocks and Hastings Road recreation ground subject to further discussion with city council officers regarding the habitat management plan for the area. We hope to have a meeting in September to discuss the habitat management plan to which interested residents will be invited. The next RiverCare volunteer day will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

It is noted that the Brook is very overgrown with nettles and docks overwhelming the wildflowers. Attention will be drawn to this. The Management Plan for Cuckoos Hollow and The Brook has been published but isn't available publicly yet. It was commented that the lake has little flow and is shallow although there are plenty of fish. It was noted that work was being proposed following the public consultation last year.

He also reported that otters are taking fish out of garden fishponds in Lincoln Road

### **3.4.2 DOG MESS PROJECT**

Ivan Hammond reported that things are still quiet with no sprays in June or July. Signage has been put up courtesy of John Fox. John Fox said that people are referred to Ivan regarding dog mess.

### **3.5 PLANNING:**

Rod Boulton reported that:

- nothing had been heard about Werrington Centre
- application for various tree works in Hall Lane
- another application from the chemist to take out another three trees. It is a bit hard to see these trees with the compound.
- Dukes Mead Car repair workshop becoming a gym

## **4 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Judy Fox advised that:

- the trees planted in Carron Drive have become overgrown but these have now been attended to.
- The new sign for Church Street (by Banyan Tree) has been ordered and received but no one seems to know where it is.
- Fly tipping project is completed and accepted by Cabinet. A business case is now being undertaken. This includes more bulky collections, easier licence application, van and trailer sizes.
- Over grown tree in Church Street is noted.

John Fox reported that:

- A bench has been purchased using CLF money which is being matched by City Council and these will replace those benches that have been removed.
- Bins continue to be reviewed at Cuckoo Hollow including better spacing and bigger bins in certain locations.
- Overgrown trees and bushes are a problem but often these are owned by residents. Brambles in Coverdale Walk and two trees at Martin Court have been cut back.
- Whilst 20 litter signs are available, there are no connectors for them.
- Church Street resurfacing caused many complaints especially with the dust and chippings
- Damage to the disability viewing platform in Cuckoo's Hollow has been repaired. Sally advised that what appeared to be the fencing was still in the water by the weir.
- Bollards and chains in Church Street have been/are being replaced due to being rotten.

Steve Lane reported that benches have been put in.

Geoff advised that whilst notification has been received for the installation of City Fibre, the work hasn't been done in the indicated time. He has phoned up but hasn't received any response.

## **6 REPRESENTATIVES AND GROUP REPORTS**

**6.1 COMMUNITY POLICING:** Police statistics had been received for May and June. The large number of crimes was noted for May. It was also noted the large number of thefts in and around the Centre, School and Skaters Way emphasising the need for CCTV.

Neighbourhood Watch have been putting up more signs.

The current scams and increasing potential for gang related crime was noted.

**6.2 PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING:** Vince apologised for not attending the meeting. Rod attended and advised that there wasn't anything directly to report although presentations from Vivacity and Sport England were of interest. He had also attended the Planning Customer meeting. John Fox advised of the co-option facility onto the Scrutiny Committee although it was thought that this was likely to be for Parish Councillors only

**6.3 WERRINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION:** Sally reported that the Annual General Meeting has taken place and the Neighbourhood Council has renewed its membership. The £5 subscription brings about a formality to the membership in view of the assets currently being held. Conversations with the Charity Commission about the future constitution are difficult. Independent legal advice is therefore being sought. In the meanwhile coach trips quizzes and dances continue to be arranged.

## **7 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS.**

**7.1 NEXT MEETINGS:** The next meeting will be the Forum meeting being held on 29<sup>th</sup> July to give a progress update.

The following dates have been set for the next year:

Sept 16<sup>th</sup> ( changed from 9<sup>th</sup>) Ken Stimpson, Oct 14<sup>th</sup> (preceded by Area Forum - likely to be at The Barn) Nov 25<sup>th</sup>, Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>, Jun 2<sup>nd</sup> AGM, Jun 15<sup>th</sup> Post AGM and urgent matters, July 20<sup>th</sup>

**7.2 OTHER MATTERS:** There were no other matters raised.

**MEETING CLOSE:** 9.00pm.

## **Werrington Crime Statistics May 2019 01/05/2019 – 31/05/2019**

**Total: 91**

**Some types of crime broken down below:**

X 1 Business Burglary (Skaters Way)

X 1 Non Dwelling Burglary (Morland Court)

X 1 Death by Dangerous Driving (Davids Lane)

X 1 Other criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling (The Green)

X 3 Criminal damage to a dwelling (Gatenby, Wainwright, Ainsdale Drive)

X 2 criminal damage to a vehicle (Gatenby, Long Pasture)

X 1 Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating (Lincoln Road)

X 2 Robbery (Cranemore x 2)

X 6 Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Church St, Gatenby x 2, Papyrus Rd, Copsewood x 2)

X 7 Theft of Pedal Cycle (Cuckoos Hollow, Werrington Sports Centre, Ken Stimpson, Skaters Way, Lincoln Road, Staniland Way, Church Street)

**June 2019**

**01/06/2019 – 30/06/2019**

**Total: 57**

**Some types of crime broken down below:**

x 1 Affray (Welbourne)

x 1 Arson not Endangering Life (Skaters Way)

x 1 Attempt Criminal Damage (Lincoln Road)

x 1 Burglary – Residential (Lincoln Road)

x 1 Burglary – Shed/Garage (Lincoln Road)

x 2 Theft of Motor Vehicle (Gatenby, Gascoigne)

x 3 Theft of Pedal Cycle (Skaters Way, Staniland Way, Ken Stimpson)

