

# WERRINGTON Neighbourhood Council

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

## FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 AT THE BARN MINUTES

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Rod Boulton, Pauline Fury, Ivan Hammond, Bill Mercer, Vince Moon, Roger Proudfoot, Sally Weald.
<b><u>WARD COUNCILLORS:</u></b>	Cllr Sandra Bond, Cllr John Fox
<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</u></b>	Cllr Judy Fox, Martin Greaves, Cllr Steve Lane, Kay Molyneux, Geoff Smith,

The Neighbourhood Forum meeting preceded this meeting.

### 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. It was noted that Geoff has missed the meeting due to a back injury and best wishes were sent.

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

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

#### 3.1 **SECRETARY**

3.1.1 **MINUTES:** The minutes of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were approved as a true record.

3.1.2 **ANY MATTERS ARISING:** None raised.

#### 3.1.3 **REPORT**

Sally reported on the following

- i) Nothing heard from either the Co-op (Loxley) application nor the City Council Community application (the underpass work). The latter application was sent in April and there are over 50 applications for the final available pot.
- ii) Jason Ablewhite has agreed to come on 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm and will bring three other police officers with him. There has been no agenda provided yet. But the problems are:
  - Spotlight will only have gone out the previous Wednesday and most deliveries probably wouldn't have been done. We won't get front page due to it being Christmas edition but we do have Facebook, Neighbourhood Watch mailings and posters. Ivan said he will distribute posters. The timing was agreed.
  - Only available venue is Small Hall at Village Centre which will hold 40/50 at a push and has car parking problems. But initially dismissed is the canteen at Ken Stimpson. A visit suggests that this now might be a feasible venue but a lot of the seating will be on the fixed stools attached to dining tables and the servery will be in the background. However, this will have to potential to hold more people and is more central with car parking. But importantly it brings Werrington Centre and Ken Stimpson to the fore. There are many positives with using Ken Stimpson. After a discussion, it was suggested that there could be a large number of people attending and any problems could be surmounted. Eg some seating can provide for those not able to sit on the stools. It was agreed that this could be worked round.

Sally suggested that as Werrington Centre will be the main point of discussion then an invitation should be extended to Mr Ablewhite to meet at 6.30pm to give him an overview of the Centre. This was agreed as being a good idea.

#### 3.2 **HONORARY TREASURER**

In the absence of Geoff there was no financial report.

### **3.3 PRESS and PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Sally said that the Spotlight had featured the milestone work and the Neighbourhood Forum update. She said that the PR continued to prove challenging: for instance ... who will be doing the Jason Ablewhite posters.

### **3.4 ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

#### **3.4.1 REPORT**

- i) Roger reported as follows:
  - A well supported evening with presentations from James Fisher (Management Plan) Andy Sadler (Brook) and Anthony Mold (Bats). The proposed habitat plan is being circulated.
  - The Cuckoo Hollow bat walk attracted 40 people (after the previous one of 24 people had to be cancelled due to rain). Two species of bats were recorded on the walk; then an hour later Roger and Anthony recorded daubentons feeding over the lake. This is the first recording of these bats at Cuckoos Hollow and such recordings are important for any designation.
  - Regret has been expressed for work done during the cutting back of the blackthorn in Werrington Paddocks. The grass was cut so short that there is concern about it springing it back and future of the established butterfly colonies. Wildflower planting will take place in the muddy ruts.
  - Rivercare event on 26<sup>th</sup> October. Looking for a further Environment Agency day.
  - 259 people are following the Environment facebook page. A mailchimp account has been set for mailings.
- ii) Bill asked about the damage to the fences at the newt ponds as they were still being damaged by horses having been repaired. Sally questioned this as when she was there just a few weeks previous the fence was still down but there was no suggestion of any horses as the grass was not flattened and there was no mess. Bill confirmed definitely horse damage. Roger said that he will raise this with the Conservation Volunteers working on behalf of Network Rail
- iii) Sally asked if the improvement work on the lake at Cuckoo Hollow had been agreed. Nothing specific had been said at the presentation evening.
- iv) Six bat boxes were purchased with the Central Co-Op money and Anthony is qualified to put these up.
- v) Roger asked about the criteria for the Waitrose money. Sally advised that there would be no criteria other than just an environment spend. Roger said that he wanted to erect an information board. He has a contact from James Fisher and could cost about £400.

#### **3.4.2 DOG MESS PROJECT**

Ivan reported that things are very quiet. John Fox has given him a new stencil. John has acquired some new signs and will be putting them up.

### **4. PLANNING:**

- i) Rod presented the summary of local planning applications. Of specific interest:
  - Security fencing in John Wesley Road but not an eye sore as an industrial estate.
  - Additional parking at Olympus House has been revised due to traffic concerns (picked up previously). Now just the parking remains adjacent to Goodwin Walk. This has saved the tree which was commented on facebook, but other landscaping features are being lost.
- ii) Details of the Werrington Centre additional shop units appeal outcome had been circulated. The plans for the development of the rest of the Centre are awaited.
- iii) Sally commented that the chemist building has once again submitted changes – this time additional capacity at the roof level affecting the roof line.

### **5 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- i) Cllr John Fox advised 10 dog mess signs have been obtained and suggestions are needed for sites for positioning  
Roger asked about the position of Village Speeding petitions. The last known meeting was months ago and Clare George is referring it to two new officers. He has even offered to

raise the money for the roundels. Speedwatch is a lot of effort with training, volunteers, the borrowing of equipment, the arranging of sessions, the co-ordinators, road markings. It needs regular attention and there is still no enforcement. To achieve the impact it needs flashing signs showing speed

ii) Cllr Sandra Bond advised

- she has posed a question to Cabinet about speeding down the traffic on Fulbridge Road. There is for instance no signage the length of the Fulbridge Road
- A petition has been sent about moving the polling station from Brookside Church back into Gun1. It is a great distance for the voters of Lakeside/Gildale/Hythegate/Baron Court area. This has now gone to consultation with a suggested option a temporary polling station in Werrington Lodge Care Home. The criteria excludes the Old Chapel which has previously been used as this is not in the GUN1 ward. It was agreed that Neighbourhood Council would send in a response.
- New postbox been requested for Cissbury Ring after the previous one had been stolen.

## **6 REPRESENTATIVES AND GROUP REPORTS**

**6.1 COMMUNITY POLICING:** No specific Werrington data has been submitted. Neighbourhood Watch continues to offer reduced security equipment.

### **6.2 PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING:**

Vince and Rod attended the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November but there was only a handful of attendees questioning the future of the group. It was understood that bookings are also low for the Parish Council conference in November. These meetings were to support rural representation.

### **6.3 WERRINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION:**

Kay had sent in a report following a recent WCA meeting:

- The main point from the meeting was the discussion of the proposed criteria for any organisation wanting support from the Community Association. This was agreed by all.
- Sally thanked Spotlight deliverers for their help delivering the Neighbourhood Survey.
- Lise Alexander-Smith is now Spotlight editor.

Roger asked about applying for the funding. Sally said that Neighbourhood Council was already trying to get this year's insurance premium. An application can only be made up to £250. There is only limited funding and only one application can be made each 12 months. The amount each year will be variable and is likely to be dependent on WCA income each year such as Spotlight. Sally said that the application had to fulfil the WCA's objects of supporting Werrington's social and educational activities. An application made on behalf of the Forum for instance was unsuccessful as it didn't fulfil the objectives. Roger said that he would explore a Rivercare application.

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

### **Railway update:**

- i) Bill referred to railway article in the Spotlight which had been read out at the last meeting.
- ii) Bill said that Network Rail needed to come and speak to the Neighbourhood Council again. Sally said that David Vernon did come in February but suggested that there wouldn't be much to report as the work is just proceeding. Bill said that an update is needed for what will happen after the new line opens.

**8. NEXT MEETINGS:** The next arranged meeting is now the Jason Ablewhite meeting. It was agreed not to arrange another meeting but if anything urgent cropped up it would be dealt with by email or the calling of an urgent meeting. The next meeting is now 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**9. OTHER MATTERS:** There were no other matters arising.

**MEETING CLOSE:** 9.25pm.