

WERRINGTON

Neighbourhood Council

50 YEARS SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF WERRINGTON

DRAFT

MINUTES OF WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 15th July 2024

Present:	Belinda Coaten, Pauline Fury, Ivan Hammond, Vince Moon, Geoff Smith,
Ward Councillors:	Cllr Sandra Bond
Visitors:	1 member of the public.
Apologies:	Tony Forster, Martin Greaves, Sally Weald, Cllr John Fox, Cllr Judy Fox, Cllr Sarah Hillier, Cllr Ann Shaheed

1. Apologies for Absence & Chairs Comments

The above apologies were noted, and confirmed that a quorum was in attendance so the meeting could continue.

2. Open Public Forum

No attendees.

3. Post AGM Meeting Appointments

Chair - Vince Moon

Vice-Chair - Vacant

Secretary – Vacant

Honorary Treasurer - Geoff Smith

Press & PR Officer – Sally Weald

Chair of Planning Committee – Tony Forster

Chair of Environment Committee/Group - Roger Proudfoot

Representatives

PCC Parish Liaison Meetings - Vince Moon, Martin Greaves

Werrington Community Association – Pauline Fury

Community Policing & Neighbourhood Watch Liaison – Pauline Fury, Ivan Hammond

Other Committee/Meetings - any approved/selected WNC Elected or Co-opted Member.

Committees

Planning - Vince Moon, Sally Weald, Martin Greaves, Charles Coxon, Tony Forster

Environment - Roger Proudfoot, Charles Coxon and Ivan Hammond

4. Business Meeting

4.1 Minutes of the last meeting – agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising – none

4.2 Honorary Treasurers Report

Geoff reported that the latest bank statement received dated on 1st July indicated a current credit balance of £ 4,868.90. Since our last meeting we have had our AGM and a full independently examined set of accounts and a report was approved.

Two cheque payments have subsequently been cleared namely one to Roger Proudfoot for tree pot purchases totalling £39.98 and the other a transfer to cash-in-hand of £100 to cover AGM expenses and other payments needing to be made by cash such as the Good Citizenship Youth Award and associated costs of £60, AGM refreshments of £15, Independent Examiner's honoraria and other AGM awards of approximately £42 and the Werrington Community Association (WCVA) annual subscription of £5 - all are listed on a separate comprehensive statement as featured in the annual accounts.

A cash donation of £60 was also received from Councillors John & Judy Fox to cover the youth award for which they were thanked for their continued much valued support. To date a further two cheques have been issued and not as yet cleared in our accounts, namely to Roger Proudfoot for Werrington Carnival stall costs of £30.47, and payment of our annual insurance premium of £297.92. On the 8th July he had made a grant application to the WCA to cover the latter cost and on the 10th received advice that we had once again been successful - this is wonderful help and support by them which is much appreciated as it has ensured that we and our activities have been fully insured over a number of years now.

Geoff then asked if anyone had anything in need of payment and no requests were forthcoming and the Chair thanked him for his report.

4.3 Items For Discussion

The Barn

Geoff provided a very comprehensive update on the Barn as a meeting base, community involvement hub and archive storage base:-

He said that at lunchtime on 3rd July he received a text message from Felicity Paddick saying she could meet him at The Barn at 2:15pm which he subsequently did and was joined by Cllrs John and Judy Fox, also there were Barry Roberts (PCC Property Manager) and colleague Dean Frisby. This was the first communication Geoff had received from her since his email on 17th February. It transpired that arrangements were being made to clear out all of the old Princes Trust items early the following week (which Dean Frisby would be doing) and a new tenant moving in called PEDS (Peterborough Eating Disorder), who were taking over the whole of the top floor as a matter of urgency arising from a need to relocate. The ground floor would remain empty for the time being and Geoff referred to the summary he had

prepared and forwarded to Felicity on the 7th in which he detailed his understanding on what was discussed and agreed – see details in the Appendix. Subsequent to this meeting Geoff received a call from Sannah Gabriel on behalf of Felicity requesting that access be provided for their surveyor by Monday 8th and he then telephoned to ask if this could be done on Saturday 6th July so Geoff agreed to meet him at 9:30am which he did. At that time he transported some of the collapsible tables to Roger Proudfoot's house for temporary storage – he thanked to Roger for agreeing to this at such short notice. On Tuesday 9th Geoff attended The Barn at 8am and met with Dean Frisby who then cleared everything away that day apart from the identified items belonging to us i.e. storage cabinets and equipment in the back room of the upstairs office together with the remaining collapsible tables and black chairs – the latter helping to facilitate our present meeting. On 10th July Geoff sent a further email to Felicity asking her for contact details for the new tenants – see extract in the Appendix - so that he could liaise with them before our meetings and in respect of accessing our files etc. To date no reply had been received but as could be seen nobody had as yet moved in – so this is where we are at the moment.

In closing his report Geoff referred to some news he had received concerning Denham Hughes being very ill and that he had sent him a get-well card and since then Denham had been in touch to say he had been given some good news about his condition and was making good progress with his recovery. Members were delighted to hear this and wished him well.

Future Meeting Dates

The following were agreed – Monday 9th September, Tuesday 12 November, Monday 13 January, Tuesday 4 March, Monday 12 May, Tuesday 10 June (AGM).

Fencing of the fields, adjoining Ken Stimpson Academy Update

Council meeting tomorrow. The officer recommendation is that the whole area is fenced. There will be the opportunity for community representatives to speak. Sally is going to speak on our behalf. Our position is we recommend the needs of the school re safe guarding we are concerned about the loss of the use for the community and we hoped there would be more of a compromise.

Neighbourhood Plan

Following a short delay, the designer has finally been able to update the PDF of the Neighbourhood Plan following all the City Council and consultant feedback after reviewing our responses to the Regulation 14 public consultation. (Despite our previous meticulous checks, our final review still spotted 5 punctuation errors, one figure mis number and a slight descriptive error but we are going to live with them!)

The website now has all documents and so is publically available and available for consultees.

The plan has now been formally submitted.

Next steps are for the City Council to do another 6 week consultation and it will then go straight to the independent examiner without us seeing the consultation comments. So we will have to wait 3 or 4 months before we have any feedback... and the referendum.

After working with the Community Association, we have passed all the financial checks. we get the government funding in 3 days. We will need this in case we need consultancy advice

to make any amendments after the examination, website, to promote referendum and any admin costs that the Neighbourhood Council can justify over the coming months. This is returned on 31st March.

Vince recognised the incredible amount of hard work, determination and resilience that Sally has put into this project.

Benches – No update available, carried forward to the next meeting

Carnival feedback – there was a very good presence at the carnival this year. Dan Tarver was presented to with the Youth Award. Vince recognised how few people were aware of the Neighbourhood Plan when he discussed it and recognised what a sales and marketing pitch is going to be needed.

Planning Report – please see appendix 1 one page 5.

Christmas Light Switch on – decision made that WNC will be presented and represented. The WNC gazebo to be used provided it is not too big.

4.4 **Environment Group Report** – nothing received.

4.5 **Ward Councillors Report** - Sandra reported that she is in regular attendance at the boom to keep it in order. An event is being planned for later in the year. She expressed thanks to River Care for the equipment donated and for their support.

She also provided an update on the 5G mast on Coniston Road, a meeting has been held and residents are still campaigning and active.

She has two new benches, one to be located on Ambleside Park. And the second location to still be agreed.

4.6 **Date of next meetings** – **Monday 9th September**, Tuesday 12 November, Monday 13 January, Tuesday 4 March, Monday 12 May, Tuesday 10 June (AGM).

APPENDIX 1 - PLANNING REPORT JULY 2024

1332 Lincoln Road – As previously reported WNC objected for various reasons to the outline planning application for the demolishing of the existing property and erection of 4 new houses. This was subsequently turned down by officers due to amenity space, parking and safe access, failure to preserve character and pattern of development of the area, bats, tree information and surface water.

594 Fulbridge Road (by traffic lights) A new application for a new 3 bedroomed house replacing garages of existing property. No comments submitted as it was a similar building footprint and both properties retained gardens. Application was refused due to safety of the pedestrian and design impacting on Conservation Area.

The Butchers Arms

1. Following the approval of the Planning Permission, the application for a premises license was submitted.
2. WNC continued to be in the middle of a 'neighbour' dispute which was fanned by Facebook comments and videos. Criticism of the Neighbourhood Council's stance during the Planning Application process by residents continued with the same residents approaching WNC to represent their objections in the license application. People are however entitled to have their own opinions and to voice these opinions during the Planning and Licensing processes following the due process but it is ultimately the relevant Officers who decide what to do with these views.
3. WNC did not object to either the Planning Application nor the licence in principal but it did pick up on some of the most relevant resident's concerns. (Many followed the principles raised by Alan Smith for the Frothblower's application 8 years ago).
4. The following concerns emerged during and after the Planning Application ... some of which are below:
 - The original planning application described 'limited opening hours' 'quiet environment' 'the main emphasis on conversation' 'an antidote to the regular mass market public house'. However changes during and since the successful Planning Application include an increase in the already extensive opening hours, later opening hours, two large screen TVs which in turn generated reflected noise from open doors/windows, taxis idling outside as well as the noise permeating from the TV and general conversation noise. This creates a different atmosphere to the micro pub originally described in the Planning Application.
 - To make an objection a form had to be printed off, hand filled in and then posted back (per email from licensing). Supportive comments were just being emailed in. Given these barriers, needless to say there were only 4 objections and over 100 positive comments promoted via facebook etc.
 - Officers decided to take the licensing application to public committee. WNC did not speak but a resident representative did speak but focused on the nuisance concerns rather than some of the more obvious objections.

5. The license was approved with the 'extended' hours overriding the Planning Dept decision giving an extra 3.5 late night hours a week
 12pm – 10:30pm Monday to Thursday,
 12pm – 11pm Fridays (compared to 10.30pm agreed by Planning)
 10am – 11pm Saturdays (Compared to 10.30pm agreed by Planning)
 10am – 10:30pm on Sundays (Compared to 8pm agreed by Planning)
 12pm – 0:30am on New Year's Eve.

Lincoln Road (on old Lincoln Road Glington) Change of use of land to use as residential caravan site for 4 gypsy/traveller families, each with two caravans including no more than one static caravan/mobile home, including laying of hardstanding, erection of 2 amenity buildings and improvement of existing access.

A Glington resident approached WNC with the following:

The travellers moved on to the field over the Spring Bank holiday weekend and started preparing the land for use as a permanent travellers site. The site is adjacent to the parish of Glington and and current Glington residents who live along this stretch of the road are being adversely affected by them. This also applies to residents of Werrington, as although we live just to the north of the land in question, we have always had a Werrington postal address and come under the catchment area of Werrington Primary and Secondary schools. Therefore we ask that Werrington Neighbourhood Council also submit an objection to this development, which is now live on the Planning Portal.

It has been advised that given WNC capacity and this being out of the WNC area that we could not get involved.

The Fence adjoining Ken Stimpson Academy Fields

1. The leader of the Council has sent the following response to our emails. Nothing further has been heard for the last month.
Dear Resident,
Firstly can I thank you for getting in touch with me about this matter. I can assure you that I have been spending these first few weeks since becoming Council Leader understanding the situation better. That is not to say that I haven't been paying attention up until now - I certainly have been - but of course my role is now greater in finding a way forward in relation to the field.
I am in the process of speaking to council officers to properly understand the background and the position of the school and the council. It is also helpful to read your letter as it helps me to even better understand your views which I imagine are not dissimilar to other residents in the community. I can tell you that there will be a report coming before a Cabinet meeting in the near future on this matter. Once a meeting date is set and a report published this will be communicated with residents. Until we get to that point there is not much more I can tell you, but you have my assurance that I am properly considering the situation with the Werrington field from all angles.
2. Save Werrington Fields have asked their Facebook members to send in their views to Cllr Jones leader of the Council, Matt Gladstone Chief Executive and Ward Councillors having given them a pro forma response. They also asked that WNC was copied into

these responses because they consider that WNC members do not appreciate the level of feeling against the fence. 15 responses were received.

- 3, Save Werrington Fields have shared the response to a long outstanding Freedom of Information request and this includes the summary of the questionnaires submitted following the Public Meeting three years ago.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT

Pens funded by the Neighbourhood Plan were handed out at the Carnival in June, The Neighbourhood Plan postcards and leaflets were also available and several people did give a positive reaction to the Plan

The Plan has been approved in principle by Peterborough City Council. The Plan's pdf was then updated and corrected .. with thanks to Twenty8 Designs. It was hoped that the Plan and all its supporting evidence files would be formally submitted by end of June ... it won't be very far off.

The next steps will be a formal consultation by Peterborough City Council, an independent examination and after any required amendments have been made the referendum will be undertaken.

A successful bid for the remaining government funding has been made. With thanks also to Werrington Community Association for being the host bank account again.