



Woodford Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30th SEPTEMBER 2013 IN THE CHURCH HALL, CHRIST CHURCH, WOODFORD

PRESENT

Mr P Rodman Chairman
Mrs H Buszard Secretary

Mr R Beatham, Mr R Brammar, Dr D Buszard, Mr K Coxey, Cllr B Leck, Rev D Russell and Mr S Taylor.

APOLOGIES: Mr Berriman, Mrs White, Mrs Wood

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, HELD ON 22nd JULY 2013

(Minutes approved previously by email.)

Minute 1 Woodford Litter Day

The Chairman reported that this had been very successful and expressed his thanks to the twelve residents who had participated and who, between them, had collected 18 bags of litter.

Minute 3(e) Grass verges near BAE gates

An approach had been made to Ms Daly, CEO Harrow Estates, who had stated that onsite maintenance was still the responsibility of Avro Heritage Ltd. Nevertheless, she has passed on the request and it was noted that the grass had been cut shortly afterwards.

2. FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Treasurer had provided a brief report stating that the only transactions since the last meeting had been from the WCC account - two payments of £50 for website maintenance and £25 for the hire of the large hall of the Community Centre for the AGM. The Woodford United balance was unchanged.

3. SUB-GROUP REPORTS

(a) Woodford United/Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

Mr Taylor reported that the applications for the establishment of the Neighbourhood Forum and the Neighbourhood Area were currently going through the various SMBC committee stages. The local Area Committee had voted to support them at an extraordinary meeting held

on 13th September 2013. However, at the subsequent Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19th September 2013 the discussions had totally lost direction, with members arguing about the Localism Act itself and the development proposals for the site, rather than considering the actual issue of the Forum. They had concluded by not making any recommendations to the Executive. The Executive meeting was being held the following day, 1st October 2013, and a recommendation from that meeting would be put to the full Council meeting for a final decision on 17th October 2013.

With reference to the award of a grant reported at the previous WCC meeting, the Treasurer had asked that it be noted that the Forum would need to be incorporated in order to receive the money.

Harrow Exhibitions and Presentation of Masterplan

It was noted that exhibitions had been held on 20th, 21st September 2013 and, at WCC's request, on 26th September 2013 and had been very well attended. However, although there were many information boards, there were some areas where there was a shortage of detail and it was agreed that a number of questions should be put forward to Harrow. There was also concern about the total number of 950 residences stated in the plans, since this did not comply with the SPD's guidance of 750 to 850. Indeed, there was a worry that the final figure might be even higher.

Consideration was given to the demolition and remediation work that would be needed on site, with particular concerns being expressed regarding the amount of asbestos and other hazardous materials that were likely to be present in the buildings and surrounding areas. This work would be covered by a separate planning application and it was agreed that it should be subject to detailed examination to ensure that every possible means would be employed to prevent air pollution in the neighbourhood and maintain the highest standards of health and safety for both workmen and local residents.

FUTURE ACTION: All

It was noted that attendees at the exhibitions had been given the opportunity to express their comments in a questionnaire and it was suggested that Harrow should be asked to share this information.

ACTION: Chairman/Secretary

Finally, it was noted that a meeting of WCC/WU had been arranged for Tuesday, 8th October 2013 to discuss reactions to the exhibitions and plans for the future.

(b) SEMMMS Update

It had been confirmed by Mr McMahon that the planning application for the road scheme was scheduled to be submitted towards the end of October, subject to executive approval by the three Councils involved during the first two weeks in October.

Cllr Leck reported that strong objections had been submitted from Hazel Grove regarding the junction near Brookside Garden Centre, where it was felt that an underpass rather than traffic lights should be used. This might therefore mean that a Public Enquiry would be necessary.

(c) Newsletter /Website

It was noted that a further Newsletter, followed by a Newsflash, had been circulated in September and the website had been updated accordingly.

(d) Woodford War Memorial Community Centre

Mr Taylor reported that the WWMCC AGM had been held on 25th September 2013. Ms Frearson had stepped down as Chairman and Mrs Brenda Mercer had been elected in her place. Changes to the Constitution had been agreed, lowering the numbers necessary for a quorum at an AGM from 30 to 25 and at a Management Committee meeting from 7 to 5.

A request was made for people willing to assist on Bonfire Night to contact the Centre or a member of the Management Committee.

(e) Stockport Council Issues

Cllr Leck reported on the budget savings that would be necessary in the forthcoming years.

(f) Neighbourhood Watch/Crime

There was nothing further to report.

4. 2013 AGM

The date of the AGM was confirmed as Thursday, 14th November 2013, a week earlier than usual because the room at the Community Centre was not available on 21st November.

The Secretary reported that it had not been possible to find a suitable speaker on traffic issues and it was agreed to replace this item on the Agenda with an open discussion on the Harrow proposals and Masterplan. It was hoped that this would be attractive to residents and enable WCC to obtain overview on how best to represent residents’ interests.

With regard to the election of committee members, it was noted that Rev Russell, who was currently a co-opted member, would be put forward for election and it was hoped that other residents would consider joining the committee.

Finally, it was noted that copies of the Calling Notice /Agenda should be distributed to all residents approximately three weeks before the AGM.

ACTION: All

5. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

It was agreed that the meeting previously scheduled for Monday, 28th October 2013 would not be needed. The next meeting was provisionally arranged for Monday, 16th December 2013 in the Church Hall, starting at 8.00 pm.

Approved *Date*.....