



## **Woodford Community Council**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2012 AT 373 CHESTER ROAD, WOODFORD**

#### **PRESENT**

Mr P Rodman	Chairman
Mrs H Buszard	Secretary
Mr Berriman	Treasurer

Mr R Beatham, Mr R Brammar, Dr D Buszard, Mr K Coxey and Mr S Taylor

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Leck, Mr McCall, Mrs White

#### **1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

It was noted that the Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012, had been approved by email.

#### **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

##### **Minute 2 Parking at the end of Church Lane**

It was agreed that this issue might be raised directly with the Area Committee.

**ACTION:** Secretary

##### **Minute 4 (e) Neighbourhood Watch/Crime**

The Chairman had still to contact the PCSO re crime figures.

**ACTION:** Chairman

All other action points had been completed.

#### **3 FINANCIAL UPDATE**

The Treasurer reported that the general WCC bank account stood at £1,034 and that the Woodford United account held £3,701, after £924 had been spent on the Exhibition boards and banners.

#### **4. 2012 AGM**

Following extensive discussions about the establishment of a Neighbourhood Forum and whether such a Forum should be a sub-group of the WCC or as completely separate entity, it

was agreed that options could be kept open by proposing an Amendment to the WCC Constitution as follows.

In Clause 1, Purpose and Objectives, the following sub-clause should be added.

*1.4 WCC is empowered to propose or work towards the formation and establishment of a Neighbourhood Forum. This may take the form of either a sub-group of this committee or an independent organisation. Such sub-group or organisation will be required to have its own constitution compliant with national legislation contained within the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011*

It was agreed that this proposal would be put forward for approval at the AGM and that details, including an explanation of the reasons for it, would be given in the Calling Notice/Agenda.

**ACTION:** Mr Taylor, Secretary

The Secretary reported that Mr Jim McMahon, Service Director for Transformation, SMBC, had agreed to attend the AGM and give a presentation on the proposals for the extension of the A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road (SEMMMS). The AGM fell in the middle of the first phase of the consultation on the scheme and a number of Public Exhibitions had already been planned. He would bring the exhibition materials for display and welcomed the opportunity to talk informally to members of WCC before the start of the AGM.

Finally, the Agenda order was confirmed as follows:

- Chairman's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Report from Woodford United
- Proposed Amendment to Constitution
- Election of WCC members
- Guest Speaker – Mr McMahon

As previously agreed, after the AGM tea & coffee would be available, the bar would be open and members of WU on hand to talk informally to residents.

## **5. SUB-GROUP REPORTS**

### **(a) Woodford United (WU)**

It was noted that the SPD Consultation period closed that evening and that there appeared to have been had been an excellent local response, with objections to the proposals submitted by many residents. Congratulations were offered to the members of WU who had drafted the letter to the Secretary of State for C & LG and the formal comments on the SPD submitted by WCC, with due acknowledgment of the contribution made to both documents by Mr J Barrett, barrister, who had provided his expert assistance on a pro bono basis.

The final event during the consultation period had been the Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee Meeting on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012. Thanks in part to the WU leaflet informing all Woodford residents of the meeting, there had been a very full turn-out. Cllr Brian Bagnall performed an excellent job as Chairman, particularly during the open forum that followed a presentation by Paul Lawrence, Service Director Place Development, SMBC. There were numerous contributions from residents in the packed hall, focussing

mainly on the view that 950 houses were too many by a factor of at least two. The three chief concerns were erosion of the green belt, the adverse effect on the village of Woodford and the traffic impact on the local roads irrespective of whether SEMMMS was completed or not. Surprise was expressed that the Council was relying on BAE site traffic modelling at least a decade old, rather than requiring a current census and traffic model to be constructed. Councillors too had raised many points, including Cllr Leck who picked the SPD apart point by point, highlighting where it failed to accord with the Stockport Core Strategy.

It was noted that the next date of significance was 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012, when the next Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee meeting was to be held. It was expected that a revised SPD would be presented and it would then be clear how much notice had been taken of all the comments submitted.

#### **(b) e-Newsletter /Website**

It was agreed the website should be updated with the latest information.

**ACTION:** Secretary, D Buszard

#### **(c) Woodford War Memorial Community Centre**

Mr Taylor confirmed that at the WWMCC AGM held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> September, Ms Frearson had been elected as Chairman, Mrs Sandover as Treasurer and Mrs Craig as Secretary.

Mr Coxey commented that Mr Freeth had undertaken the role of Chairman very well over the previous three years and he was sure that Ms Frearson would continue the excellent progress made and ensure that the Centre remained an asset for the whole community.

It was noted that the organization of the Bonfire was well in hand, with particular attention being paid to Health & Safety issues.

#### **(d) Stockport Council Issues**

Cllr Leck had informed the Secretary that in response to a request from a resident it had been agreed to provide a seat at the bus stop near the Garden Centre.

#### **(e) Neighbourhood Watch/Crime**

It was noted that there had been two burglaries in the area recently and it was agreed that the establishment of more Neighbourhood Watch Groups would be beneficial.

### **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Secretary reported that she had contacted Mr McCall, as agreed. He had sent apologies that he had not been able to attend many WCC meetings, but they had unfortunately seemed to coincide with work commitments. Under these circumstances he felt that it would not be appropriate to put his name forward for election at the AGM. He had however offered to assist in finding meeting rooms for the committee when the need arose. Members expressed their thanks for this kind offer.

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 14th January 2013.

*Approved* ..... *Date*.....