



## **Woodford Community Council**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2015 AT 521 CHESTER ROAD, WOODFORD**

#### **PRESENT**

Mr P Rodman	Chairman
Mrs H Buszard	Secretary
Mr R Berriman	Treasurer

Mr R Beatham, Dr D Buszard, Mr K Coxey, Mr B Leck, Cllr J McGahan, Mrs M White

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr M Hurleston, Revd D Russell

#### **1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015**

(Minutes approved previously by email.)

##### **Minute 7.3 Travellers**

Cllr McGahan reported that Travellers had recently occupied a site in Grove Lane, but had been moved on quickly by police. Nothing further was known about the allocation of land by Cheshire East for a site near to Total Fitness.

##### **Minute 7.4 Land to the Deanwater**

The Secretary reported that this query had been resolved satisfactorily.

#### **2. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

The Treasurer reported that the current balance in the WCC account was £2,144. Payments totalling £165 had been made on behalf of WCC for website maintenance and the advertisement in the Church magazine. In addition, a payment of £446 had been made from the advance held on behalf of WNF for costs associated with its recent Exhibition. He also noted that a cheque for £250 had been received from Jackson Barratt & Gass for the renewal of their sponsorship for a further year and that Southfield House current year's sponsorship finished at the end of July. The Secretary confirmed that she had already contacted Mr Lingwood.

#### **3. STOCKPORT COMMUNITY HUBS FOR SOCIAL ACTION**

Mr Leck reported that it had not been possible to pursue the agreed action regarding this matter because the WWMCC Management Committee had not held a further meeting since

the last WCC meeting. However, he noted that the committee was cautiously optimistic that they might receive an allocation from the Section 106 funds that would be paid by Redrow to SMBC for community activities and that this would enable them to expand the Centre. This might then provide suitable space to accommodate a Community Hub.

#### **4. WOODFORD AERODROME SITE UPDATE**

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended a further on-site meeting with Harrow, at which it had been explained that the demolition was about six weeks behind schedule. This was partly because an area of oil contamination had been found and had to be dealt with and also because black-backed gulls were nesting in the remaining building, which could not therefore be demolished until they had fledged. There had also been some machinery breakdowns.

He also noted that on 23<sup>rd</sup> June there had been a second community meeting with Redrow. This had been attended by senior members of the Redrow team, as well as representatives from SMBC and from WCC, WNF and WWMCC. Redrow had provided an update on the progress being made on Phase 1, indicating that the first house might be occupied by July 2016. There had been discussions about the off-site works, in particular the disruption to local traffic as a result of the laying of service pipes to the site. Stockport Highways Authority would be undertaking the work relating to the new roundabout at the entrance to the site and the resurfacing/alignment of that section of Chester Road. This was expected to commence shortly and to take 15 to 20 weeks. Stockport also confirmed that they would consulting on proposed traffic calming schemes for Moor Lane (also covered under the Section 106 agreement), with a view to implementation next year.

It was noted that current roadworks relating to the installation of service pipes had now been completed and the temporary traffic lights had been removed. Despite the inevitable disruption to local traffic, it was agreed that the work had been carried out very efficiently ahead of schedule. It was therefore agreed that WCC should write to Redrow commending Aptus Utilities for their professional management of the project.

**ACTION:** Secretary

The Secretary queried whether it might be better to delay the work on Moor Lane until after the A6MARR project had been completed, but it was pointed out that the agreement related only to the effects of traffic from the new development. There was general agreement that any measures to discourage or slow down traffic in Moor Lane would be beneficial to residents there, but concern was expressed that Church Lane/Blossoms Lane had not been included.

Cllr McGahan reported that planning applications had recently been received from Redrow for the construction of a Show house and the erection of a large sign presenting the name of the new development as Woodford Garden Village. Members were disappointed to learn that despite the Community's many objections to the name, Redrow was intending to press ahead with it.

It was noted that there was the possibility of a final Vulcan flyover in October. Large crowds could be expected and Avro Heritage Museum was in discussions with Harrow to try to resolve insurance/security issues to allow access to the site.

Finally, it was agreed that WCC should continue to be represented at future Harrow and Redrow meetings by the Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary, as appropriate.

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

### **(a) Woodford Neighbourhood Forum**

Dr Buszard provided the following update.

A key milestone for WNF had been the public exhibition held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June at the Community Centre. It had attracted some 150 visitors and resulted in 26 written responses, a level of participation that was significantly higher than had been achieved by Poynton at its NP Exhibition. There had been a very positive response to the structure and layout of the exhibition and boards, for which a great deal of credit was due to Evelyn Frearson who had produced the exhibition panels on behalf of the Plan Subgroup. A number of visitors had, however, misunderstood the purpose of the exhibition and thought that it would be covering developments on the Aerodrome site. Feedback received at and following the Exhibition had also raised a number of queries as to the proposed content of the Plan and this would need further consideration.

Current and future work streams for the Plan Subgroup related to the supporting studies required for the final draft plan. A *Housing Needs Study* for Woodford had been received in draft from AECOM. This was part of the 'free' help provided by Locality. It was currently being reviewed by the WNF Executive and Plan Subgroup. A *Movement Study* had been commissioned from PBA, financed by the grant received from Locality. PBA had undertaken the major work for Redrow, but this report would address the integration of safe walking and cycling routes with the potential traffic flow from the Aerodrome site, A6MARR and the Poynton Relief Road. Other studies under consideration were a *Landscape and Wildlife Study*, in conjunction with Cheshire Wildlife Trust and an *Employment Study*, possibly being undertaken jointly with Poynton and Adlington. WWMCC was undertaking a *Facilities Study* to consider future development.

The WNF AGM would be held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00pm in the Large Hall of the Community Centre.

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

It was noted that two newsletters had been circulated since the last meeting and that the website had been updated accordingly.

### **(c) SEMMMS Update**

It was reported that work on the A555 junction with Woodford Road had been delayed by the need to protect newts, but had now commenced with demolition works to the industrial unit by the roundabout. The roundabout construction would commence in September 2015. The intention was to build a second temporary roundabout to the west of the existing one, which might enable the junction to continue to operate reasonably efficiently while the bridge works on the alignment of Woodford Road were undertaken.

Excavations and earth shifting were also underway at the Eastern end of the relief road next to Brookside Garden Centre.

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

There was nothing further to add to the comments under made previously.

## **(e) Stockport Council Issues**

Cllr McGahan reported that at the recent Area Committee meeting, councillors had approved a revised planning application for the Nursery on Hall Moss Lane. Original plans for a large development had been rejected, but the current proposal for eight bungalows was much more appropriate for the site and would help to fulfil local needs for more bungalows. The application from Woodford Garden Centre for the erection of a canopy with retractable tensile fabric roof, over existing retail sales area was also approved.

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

The Chairman reminded members that regular updates were added to the Neighbourhood Policing Page on the WCC website. There was nothing further to report.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Woodford Litter Day**

It was agreed that the 'Keep Woodford Tidy Day', which was normally held in September, should be postponed and the matter reviewed next Spring.

### **6.2 Date for 2015 AGM**

It was agreed that the 2015 AGM would be held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> November in the large hall of the Community Centre. Members were asked to consider possible additions to the routine agenda.

### **6.3 Cheshire East Proposals**

It was reported that Cheshire East had put forward proposals for changes to their Local Plan, which included building increased numbers of houses locally - Handforth East 2,200 houses, Poynton 650 and Wilmslow 900. These had been approved by the CEC Cabinet and it was now up to the Inspector to decide the next step.

### **6.4 Overgrown hedges**

Concern was expressed regarding overgrown hedges that were partially blocking the pavements along Woodford Road. It was recognised that boundary hedges were the responsibility of the land or home owner but SMBC could require them to be cut or failing that, to undertake the work and charge accordingly. It was agreed that members send details of any problems to the Secretary, who would follow up with SMBC.

**ACTION: All**

## **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015, the venue to be confirmed nearer the time.

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