



## **Woodford Community Council**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017 AT THE WOODFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHESTER ROAD, WOODFORD**

#### **PRESENT**

David Buszard	Chairman
Robin Berriman	Treasurer
Helen Buszard	Secretary

Ron Beatham, Chris Coppock, Evelyn Frearson, Avril Furness, Jane Sandover.

Cllr Brian Bagnall, Cllr John McGahan, Cllr Mike Hurleston.

**APOLOGIES:** Ken Coxey, Bryan Leck, Rev David Russell, Morag White, Maxine Wood.

#### **1. MATTER ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

(Minutes approved previously by email.)

##### **Minute 7.1**

Members discussed the funding opportunity from the local Area Committee, which had been mentioned at the last meeting, and Mrs Sandover also drew attention to possible community funding from the A6MARR project.

#### **2. FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance stood at £1,364, which included £436 prepayments for WNF, leaving a net balance of £928.

Re sponsorship, he noted that an invoice had been sent to Jackson Barrett & Gass with an invitation to renew for another year. He had also been in touch with Notcutts, as agreed at the last meeting, and was pleased to report that they had agreed to become sponsors. Ms Frearson reported that she had contacted the Deanwater Hotel and was awaiting a response.

#### **3. GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK (GMSF) PROPOSALS**

Ms Frearson gave an update on the work of the Save Greater Manchester's Green Belt Group (SGMGB), which had been set up to represent the 30+ separate Save the Green Belt groups across Greater Manchester. It was very focussed on raising public awareness of the threat to the Green Belt and making sure that its views were heard by the authorities. It had already

held a number of meetings at rotating venues around Greater Manchester, which Ms Frearson had attended on behalf of Woodford. The last meeting had been held on 20th May in Woodford. Communication had already been established with Eamonn Boylan, now Chief Executive of GMCA, and it had been agreed that a further letter would be sent to him requesting that SGMGB, as a major stakeholder, be given a seat on the Planning and Housing Commission. At the same time, a letter would be sent to Mayor Andy Burnham asking him to facilitate this request. A Neighbourhood Planning Conference, organised by the Newhey and Milnrow group, was being held on 1<sup>st</sup> July at MMU, with presentations by various planning experts. Ms Frearson would be giving a presentation on behalf of WNF, outlining the development of the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan. Three Sub-groups had been set up to cover Communication, Research and Events and participants were being sought. Ms Frearson had volunteered for the Research sub-group. Finally, she drew attention to the latest SGMGB Press Release, which had been prepared for the various groups to use as appropriate. It was agreed that this should be the subject of a WCC eNewsletter.

**ACTION: Chairman**

Cllr Bagnall reported that work was continuing on collating the thousands of comments submitted on the first GMSF draft and making them accessible online. At the same time another group of planners was busy preparing a revised draft, which should be ready for public consultation by September. There would now be more focus on city centres other than Manchester and renewed emphasis on brownfield sites. In answer to a query as to whether local councillors would be consulted on the revision before it was released for consultation, he replied that it was likely to be put before the Planning & Highways Committee. He also commented that the methodology used for estimating housing demand would follow Government figures. WCC members felt very strongly that the interpretation of these figures should be challenged and the Chairman suggested that perhaps the SGMGB group could contact Ian Mulheirn for his comments.

Cllr Bagnall also reported that in tandem with GMSF, Stockport was revising its own Local Plan and looking particularly at open spaces and identifying more brownfield sites. He encouraged everyone to put forward suggestions for suitable sites. He expected that the plan would be also be ready for consultation by August/September and was likely to come before the Area Committee at its August meeting. If so, he would propose dedicating the whole meeting to it and holding the meeting in Woodford. Members suggested that account should be taken of the Woodford Housing Needs Assessment prepared by consultants AECOM for WNF. Finally, he noted that Adrian Fisher from CEC would be standing in for Emma Curle whilst she was on maternity leave.

#### **4. MATTERS RELATING TO THE REDROW SITE**

##### **4.1 Follow up to Liaison meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017**

- Cllr Bagnall had been assured that the site compound, which has caused such annoyance to residents at the bottom of Bridle Road, would be moved by July. It was agreed that this would be raised at the next liaison meeting to ensure that the move was still on schedule.
- The Secretary confirmed that WCC's '*Welcome to Woodford*' leaflet, had been sent to the Sales team, as agreed, and she had been assured that it would be included in the Introductory Packs left in the houses prior to occupation. She had, however, also been informed that the redrafted sales brochure, which Redrow's PR Company had been preparing, had not yet been completed.

- With regard to the felling of mature birch trees on the eastern edge of the site, adjacent to Bridle Road, it was noted that a Replacement Planting Scheme had been put forward and that a retrospective planning application had then been submitted. Various comments had been submitted in response, both by local residents and by WCC, as a result of which an amended, improved scheme had been accepted. There was still concern, however, that the application to vary Condition 14 of the original planning application had been made after the trees had already been felled.
- It was noted that the promised grant of £1,000 to the Community Centre has been received shortly after the matter had been raised with Mr Sinclair.
- With regard to the drainage culvert near Bridle Road, the Secretary reported that Cllr Bagnall had taken action immediately after the previous meeting to put Mr Starling in touch with Simon Sherry, who was a senior Engineer with SMBC Flood Risk Management. Mr Sherry had informed Mr Starling that they would be carrying out an asset condition survey of this watercourse later in the year, which was welcomed. However, he had stated SMBC did not own the land on which the public footpath was located, which was at odds with the information Mr Starling had been given some years previously. It was not clear how easily this could be resolved.

**(Secretary's Note:** Cllr Bagnall contacted Mr Sherry on behalf of Mr Starling after the meeting and received the following response:

“I can confirm that the condition survey of the culvert on Bridle Road will be carried out within the next 28 days. The CCTV report will assist in terms of structural condition, connectivity and ownership. However, it is likely that the drain will be classed as an ordinary watercourse, which would be the responsibility of each private land owner where the watercourse runs.”)

## **4.2 Next Liaison Meeting**

It was noted that the next Redrow Community Liaison meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017.

## **5. LOCAL ROADS**

### **5.1 A6MARR**

Cllr Bagnall reported that the project was about six months behind schedule and completion was now expected in Spring 2018. The delay had been caused primarily by poor weather and flooding.

Cllr Hurleston offered to provide WCC with an update after his next briefing meeting, which has been postponed from that evening.

**ACTION:** Cllr Hurleston

### **5.2 Traffic mitigation in Woodford**

Cllr Bagnall reported that analysis of video camera footage from Church Lane and Blossoms Lane had been completed and he was hopeful that Quiet Lane status would be granted, particularly since the police had withdrawn their objection. He expected that the proposed measures for traffic calming in Moor Lane and Jenny Lane would also be put out for consultation shortly.

## 6. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

It was noted that Cheshire East Council had adopted the Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). Details could be downloaded from the CEC website at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/localplan). It was also noted that the Inspector's final report had not yet been published.

## 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 7.1 WNF

Ms Frearson gave a brief update on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan Group had continued to hold regular meetings and good progress was being made towards the completion of the Pre-Submission Consultation Plan document. Two useful meetings had also been held with SMBC officers. Some of the draft policies were being amended and the structure of the document was under discussion. The next meeting of the WNF committee was scheduled for 3 July 2017, when the recommended revised policies would be put forward for approval.

### 7.2 Bramhall Festival

Cllr Bagnall reported that the 2017 Bramhall Festival, organised by the Bramhall Together Trust, was being held on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> June in the centre of Bramhall. Full details could be found on the *I Love Bramhall* website.

It was noted that Bramhall Lane South would be closed to traffic between 8am – 6pm on that day.

It was agreed that details should be included in the next Newsletter.

**ACTION: Chairman**

## 8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed not to set a firm date for the next meeting, but to arrange a date by email when needed.

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