

Wilford Community Group

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 13th March 2010 at Wilford Social and Bowls Club

Present: Stephanie Taylor (ST) Chair
 Sheila Atherton (SA) Treasurer
 Chris Allsopp (CA)
 Josie Foster (JF)
 Bill Roughton (BR)
 Frank Wakelin (FW)

 Sheila Rowley (Wilford Library)
 8 Residents

Action

1 Apologies

Roger Steel, Dave Boulton, Brian Hardy, Andrew Price, Elaine Stenson, PC Nigel Brown and PCSO Nathan Wright

2 The Minutes of the February meeting were signed as a true record.

3 Review Outstanding Actions

(i) LINK Group – as yet no communication has been received from this group regarding lack of transport from Wilford to the Queens and City Hospitals.

(ii) Bowls Open Day – RS has set the date as Monday 31st May.

(iii) Neglected Planter near Regents Place has been cleared by council workers and a little tidying up done near the Co-op.

(v) BR had investigated if plants had been taken from around Iremongers Pond and confirmed that they had not, they were dormant.

4 Wilford Library

A meeting has been arranged for Thursday 18th March with Christina Dyer, (Head of Libraries), Mark Hillary (Neighbourhood Manager) and John Sadler, Estates Office. Under discussion will be whether or not we accept the Asset Transfer for which our community will have to fund £35,000 of repairs which is a huge sum of money to find plus we have no way of maintaining the building in the future.

Given the poor attendance of residents this evening this could be an indication of how much support the Community Group would receive in the future.

Further questions we shall be asking at the meeting is “Are you really going to close the Library?”

Could it be run in conjunction with the local council? This has not been discussed so far.

After the meeting on Thursday, ST will contact the Evening Post giving them an

update on our position. ST will also post the results of the discussion on the web site and on our Notice Boards.

ST

The library staff have been offered other jobs but there is no firm date for closure of the library either in Wilford or Beechdale.

ST has been approached by the Socialist Party who is very supportive of our small campaign and has offered to help us organise a march, the offer was not accepted.

Harry Parks, a visitor, and a user of the library in Wilford, believes it is something worth fighting for. He stated that £2.6 million had been spent on a library in Mansfield and similar sums on others locally and he felt strongly that some of this finance could be diverted into keeping our small library open. He said we could make a case but the community have to shout loudly. ST asked if he would write to David Trimble and Head of the Library Services stating his case.

Another resident asked if those who were volunteering to run the library could begin now to shadow a librarian? Probably not, as there were so many issues such as Health and Safety, Insurances, CRB checks etc. However, we do need a substantial group of volunteers, we are only at the campaign stage and on the show of people here at this meeting, to run it voluntarily doesn't look too promising.

Area 9 Committee Meeting Update

- 5 ST was disappointed to see that Wilford Library was not on the Agenda, however, after complaining ST was allowed to speak about our campaign. ST drew attention to the fact that there are proposals in the near future for housing developments in Wilford and to withdraw this facility seems like madness. Councillor Ian Malcolm was of the opinion that it should be kept open for another four years.

At the next meeting, in May, of the Area 9 Committee we can make our opinions felt if we have a large turn out of supporters.

Severn Trent – Sewerage Maintenance

- 6 FW together with all the residents of Grange Close and those fronting Main Road received a "Notice to Remove Obstruction from Private Sewer". On studying the information accompanying the "Notice" it states that the blockage was in a "Private Sewer", (which are not ADOPTED by the Water Authority) and not in the PRIVATE DRAINS, which, from the boundary of the property, are adopted by the Water Authority.

NB: Only sewers built before October 1937, are classed as PUBLIC SEWERS.

Residents of Grange Close were concerned about the financial aspect of this information particularly as they were being asked to each pay proportionately towards the cost of clearing the blockage and had not been aware that their sewers were classed as private sewers.

FW contacted Elaine Stenson who responded very quickly giving him names of the people to contact.

After meetings and discussions with the local authority they were made aware that this was a ruling covering all of the country. It is in the legislation and most people do not know this.

Action

Pauline Middleton, a Grange Close resident, had brought to the meeting the deeds to her property which stated that the sewers were adopted and was surprised to discover the current ruling.

ST asked for a volunteer to investigate further and write to the appropriate people Alan Foster and FW said they would get together and discuss how to proceed. FW/AF

In conclusion the blockage had been found on private property and been cleared; this did not financially involve other residents.

Any Other Business

- 7 (i) **Nottingham in Bloom** BR now had the application forms. Iremongers Pond would be the 1st application and if someone would like to make a second application for Wilford he would help to fill in the forms. Mandy Wilson said she would fill in the form on our behalf.

BR had spoken to Julie Walker, Nottingham in Bloom, about planting bluebells in the woodland around Iremongers Pond and has provided BR with a thousand English bluebells.

At the appropriate time Billie Starkey offered to help BR with planting around the stile on the 'B' Bank.

- (ii) **"Picnic at the pond"** DA has had to alter the date to Sunday 25th April; he will also contact Julian to organise fishing tuition on the day. DA

(iii) **Rubbish etc near church** – BR is a kayak coach for the cubs and scouts in Wilford and is appalled at the amount of rubbish along the riverbank where they have to enter the water, and along the bank to the mortuary. Is it OK for him to proceed with clearing the rubbish and the brambles? BR also asked if we knew of anyone who would help with the cubs and scouts as they are desperately short of helpers. BR

(iv) **Speed Limit** CA asked if we could try again and see if we could have repeater signs for the speed limit from the Silverdale Island to the traffic lights in Wilford. CA questioned should it be 30 mph or more realistically 40 mph. He had also noted that Thrumpton had repeater signs. ST would ask PC Nigel Brown. ST

(v) **Funding for Bowls Open Day** - ST reported that RS decided to apply for funding for this event from the Sports Development Office and after discussing with ST, a grant for £825 has been applied for and the forms have been duly completed and dispatched.

(vi) The Social and Bowls Club have a meeting with the owners, Roots, on 22nd March to discuss the future of the club.

(vii) **Newsletter** – ST thought the time was right to have a newsletter issued with specific emphasis on the library also to advertise the 'Picnic at the Pond' and the Bowls Open Day. It was also decided to have an article about the library printed in the West Bridgford News. The cost of issuing the newsletter would be about £100 plus printing. ST also asked how much we had in the funds. Currently there is £480 in the kitty; however, SA is making an application for top up funding. SA

(viii) **Crime Update** – PC Brown has reported, via email, that crime has risen this month in Wilford and Silverdale. 16 reported incidents across the whole beat but 14 were in the Wilford Section. 5 auto crimes on 06/07 February; 3 on Ruddington Lane and 2 on Regents Place plus incidents on the Klondyke Allotments.

Action

PCSO Nathan Wright has spoken to allotment holders and issued Smart Water and large signs have been put on gates. CPSO Allan Wadley is making extra patrols.

(ix) **Rubbish on Park at Ruddington Lane** – a resident had complained about a pile of rubbish that has been gathering behind the sub-station at the entrance to the park. She has asked the council to collect it but several weeks later it is still there. ST will speak to ES. ST

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Next Meeting: Monday 19th April 2010 at 7.30 pm at the Wilford Social and Bowls Club.

Signed:

Dated:

ADDENDUM

After the meeting had closed BR remembered some items that he would have liked recorded in the minutes. These are as follows:

- (a) The footpath between Vernon Avenue and the Coronation Allotments has now been finished, apart from the decorative finish.
- (b) Phase 2 of Iremongers Pond the path along the Eastern side has now been extended. The long-term aim is to complete paths around the pond.
- (c) The Iremongers Pond Committee are applying for a £30,000 grant.