

WILFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of the AGM Meeting held on Monday 18th October 2010 at Wilford Social and Bowls Club at 7.30 pm

PRESENT

Stephanie Taylor (ST) Chair
Roger Steel (RS) Vice-Chairman
Brian Hardy (BH) Treasurer
Sheila Atherton (SA)
Daniel Atherton (DA)
Maureen Godfrey (MG)
Bill Roughton (BR)
Andrew Rule (AR)
Peter Stiles (PS)
Frank Wakelin (FW)
Residents

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elaine Stenson (ES)
PC Nigel Brown

		Action
1	Apologies Dave Boulton, Chris Allsopp, Josie Foster	
2	Minutes of 20th September 2010 Meeting The minutes of the last meeting were circulated and approved as correct.	
3	Outstanding Actions ES informed the meeting that she had now contacted the Council regarding responsibility for maintenance of the verge to the footpath on Vernon Avenue. The Council had confirmed that responsibility for the side opposite the allotments lay with the Council, with the Allotment Association, being responsible for the allotment side. PS confirmed that the footpath had now been cleared. ES also confirmed that the Council had confirmed that it would not be possible to place spikes on the "Pigeon Bridge" due to the risk of birds becoming impaled on the spikes and associated costs of complying with environmental health regulations. ES confirmed that the Council had confirmed that they may be prepared to consider fitting netting to the Bridge. The Group concurred with this view; ES to pass the groups approval to the Council.	
4	Library Site / Asset Transfer RS highlighted the background to the Sub-Committee. RS stated that Cllr. Trimble had committed officer time to provide support to the Group. RS informed the meeting that a meeting had taken place with Paula Curzon of Nottingham City Council. PC had stated that before she arranged meeting between the Sub Committee and the Council she wanted to be sure there was a "clear mandate" from the Group as a whole and that the Sub	

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<p>Committee was not a separate entity.</p> <p>RS highlighted that “time was of the essence” and that reaction of the Group at the last meeting had indicated that it was felt that the Sub Committee was a fact finding group with no authority enter into direct talks with the Council. PS expressed the view that PC was trying to railroad the subcommittee.</p> <p>BH stated that he was aware that it had been suggested by Cllr. Price that the library site could be sold for £30k which could be channelled into Wilford Bowls & Social Club to maintain that as a Community Facility. RS suggested that figure was of figment of imagination and had been not been mentioned in any of Sub Committee’s meetings with the Council. FW highlighted the assertion that Cllr. Price considered that going forward the Wilford Bowls & Social Club was to play a greater role as a Community Facility within the village.</p> <p>ST suggested that further progress would require a clear commitment to asset transfer which would require the heart and soul of the Group channelling behind the idea to move it forward. PS proposed the resolution that the Group express it’s thanks to the Sub Committee for their efforts to date but that it should be disbanded.</p> <p>RS counter-proposed the resolution the Sub Committee proceed with the whole-hearted support of the Group.</p> <p>AR proposed the resolution that the any definitive discussion on the future of the Sub Committee be deferred until the outcome of the Questionnaire was known – the resolution was passed.</p> <p>The Group resolved that ST would present the Group’s questionnaire at the meeting on 8 November but that following this the Group would proceed with its own questionnaire. The printing/distribution of which would be paid for by Cllr. Price. It was resolved that the Questionnaire would be returned by the first week of December and completed questionnaires would be returned to CL, RS, PS and MG.</p>	
<p>5 Wilford Bowls Club</p> <p>BH confirmed that the Club had now received the refund from the gas board and that the local councillors had agreed to a further funding injection into the Club from their Ward budget. BH also informed the meeting that he had written to David Cameron in relation to recent movements in government policy toward Community Business Partnerships. The response from David Cameron’s office expressed thanks for BH’s time and trouble in writing but referred him to the Department for Communities who had in turn advised him to contact the Asset Transfer Unit. AR informed the meeting that the Sub Committee had already help a meeting with the Development Trust Association which were a branch of the Asset Transfer Unit.</p>	
<p>6 Community Facility Meeting</p> <p>ST stated the event organised by the Council had been well-attended by local groups consisting of the Bowls Club, the Asset Transfer Sub Committee, the Church, the Ironmongers Pond Association, the Playgroup and the Girl Guides.</p> <p>Of those three had distinct projects: the Group (via the Asset Transfer Unit), the Bowls Club and the Church.</p> <p>BH thanked ES for taking the time to set the meeting but expressed doubt as to whether there had been any ultimate sbenefit to the Group in attending.</p> <p>RS enquired about papers outlining the conclusions of the meeting, ES confirmed these had now been distributed.</p> <p>The Chair informed the meeting that following the Facility Meeting she had developed a questionnaire but felt a decision was needed from the Group as to whether further involvement with the other groups involved in the facility meeting was practical as she considered such involvement would have limited benefit for the Group over the long-term.</p> <p>ES highlighted the difficulties of a non-integrated approach particularly with reference to the sharing of information. ES stressed that the development of a “Neighbourhood Survey” would benefit all as it would isolate the needs of the local community as a whole rather that the narrow sections the various groups represented. ES stated that the idea behind reducing the number of members of each in attendance at the next meeting was designed to streamline the meeting enabling progress to be made. ES confirmed the meeting would take place on 8 November 2010.</p>	

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<p>The form of the final delivery of a questionnaire was discussed. MG suggested that questionnaires could be delivered and collected from various points within the village, ie the Co-op, the pubs.</p> <p>SA raised the issue of questionnaire coverage, could Compton Acres be included as residents used facilities within the village. ES stated that this would not be possible as Compton Acres was not in the City boundary.</p> <p>BR highlighted the fact the Group was different to other groups that attended the meeting as it represented all residents of Wilford whereas the others groups represented narrow sections of the Community and some had a membership base out of the Wilford boundaries.</p> <p>ST acknowledged BR's point but was mindful that the current course the Group appeared to be moving toward (asset transfer) was outside its initial parameters.</p> <p>BH suggested that the questionnaire the Chair had developed should be circulated to the other groups. MG concurred that the process should continue but expressed concern that groups with potential questionnaire respondents outside the City boundary could skew results in their particular groups favour.</p> <p>The Chair suggested that it was made clear that respondents should be confined to the city boundary of Wilford – RS expressed the view that this was unenforceable highlighting that would result in the Church, for example, alienating a proportion of its Parish.</p> <p>ST highlighted that from the Group's perspective it was constituted to represent residents within the Wilford Boundary only.</p>	
<p>7 Littering Outside the Co-op</p> <p>MG highlighted the increase of littering around the grass verge near the Maypole by students of the Beckett School using the Co-op during their lunch hour. The Group resolved to write a letter to the head-teacher of the school to notify them of the problem and request they take appropriate action against offenders. RS suggested that if the bin currently located at Penfold Lane was under-utilised then it could be moved to the affected area. ES to investigate the current utilisation of the Penfold Lane bin and report back on the possibility of re-siting it if it is under utilised.</p>	
<p>8 Ferry Inn Planning Applications</p> <p>FW provided the Group with copy planning applications in relation to the proposed changes to The Ferry pub. ST reported that DB had complained about the new signage. It was also highlighted that the planning applications made no reference to the flooding risks of the area – DB had provided pictures taken during the last serious flooding of the area.</p> <p>RS commented that the decking outside would be an improvement.</p>	
<p>9 Any Other Business</p> <p>NB informed the meeting that there had been a marked fall in crime in the previous year with 90 crimes being reported for the period January – September. NB informed the meeting that effective from 1 January 2011 his position was redundant. He offered thanks to the Community Group for their support.</p> <p>ES raised the issue of budget cuts and highlighted a survey from the Council that had been included in the latest edition of the Arrow designed to obtain the views of residents in respect of service provision</p> <p>BR informed the meeting that the Group had received two awards in respect of the Nottingham in Bloom initiative; one award in particular had seen the pond marked as outstanding. It was noted there were less than ten others marked in that category. The Group expressed thanks/congratulations to BR for his efforts.</p> <p>FW informed the meeting that he had written to the West Bridgford News regarding its poor circulation within the village and had received a response confirming the paper was changing its distributor.</p> <p>ES informed the meeting she had arranged a further consultation meeting with residents on Aaron Close on 22 November 2010 in relation to the proposed installation of a gate securing the area near the Klondyke Allotments. ES stated residents in odd numbered homes would receive a letter inviting them to attend to</p>	

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