

# Wilford Community Group

The Tenants and Residents Association for Wilford

## Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2003 at Moderns RFC

Present:	David Boulton (DB)	Chair
	Sheila Atherton (SA)	Treasurer
	Mike Cathcart (MC)	Secretary
	Roger Steel (RS)	Vice Chair
	Josie Foster (JF)	Minute Secretary
	Brian Clark (BC)	
	Kate Clark (KC)	
	Brendan Clarke-Smith (BCS)	
	Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JCS)	

Invited Guest: Parbinder Singh – Assistant Area Co-ordinator,  
Leisure and Culture Working Group, Clifton.

Chairman, David Boulton, welcomed Parbinder Singh and visitors to the meeting.

David Boulton opened the meeting by informing us that Secretary, Michael Cathcart, wished to resign due to ill health and invited anyone in the room to consider if they felt able to volunteer for this position and to be co-opted on the committee. Volunteers were to let him know before the end of the meeting.

Parbinder Singh was invited to give his talk about the work undertaken by the Tenants and Residents Associations of which there are 9 in the area. It was a very helpful talk with plenty of advice and information on how we could help improve the life of people in Wilford.

To summarise this information briefly we need to formulate an Area Action Plan and once we know what is required, decide which project to tackle first, then contact various agencies for funding towards these projects. We could take responsibility for making decisions about grass cutting, dog fouling, graffiti etc. There are 2 Neighbourhood Wardens in Clifton, would anyone take on this role for Wilford? If we proceed with this suggestion it would be wise to contact our Police Beat Officer John Cooper for advice. Would anyone like to become a Councillor on the Area Committee? One of our members, Jim Marshall, said he was already on the Area Committee but had not been for about eighteen months because he had not received any information about meetings.

The next two meetings of the Area Committee are 5<sup>th</sup> February 2003 at Clifton Community Centre and 9<sup>th</sup> April at Silverdale Community Centre. DB informed the meeting that Brendan Clarke-Smith would represent the Group at these meetings. Parbinder Singh said that he would forward the appropriate forms to DB to arrange for the Group to be co-opted onto the Area Committee.

Parbinder Singh was thanked for his talk and the Committee Meeting continued as follows: -

**ACTION**

**1 Apologies**

Revd D Rowe  
Lesley Lowe  
Tim Spencer  
Andrew Price  
Ann Mason has resigned from Committee

## 2 Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2002

Item 10 – Priority Issues for the Group – Roger Steel wished to amend the statement that he would like to see speed bumps in Wilford as he was totally opposed to this form of traffic speed reduction and he would not have mentioned this in any context.

Planning Application for the 36 dwellings near the green and behind the old shop – Planning Application had been passed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October and JSC had ascertained there is no right of appeal unless you are an interested party.

## 3 Correspondence

Cycle Paths – MC had contacted Steve Brewer of Lawrence House and had been informed that it was a joint County Council and City Council footpath and cycle path. A request was made to see if we could ask for it to be cleaned up, as the paths are always full of rubbish and leaves.

MC

The response to a letter to the Council in respect of the safety issue of the road leading to the Church and the halls during demolition and building work, was in effect just a photocopy of the plans for the site.

## ACTION

### 4 Chairman's Report

DB has set up a Group E Mail and for us to receive information of any formal planning application reviews.

The Newsletter has been printed and distributed to 850 homes.

### 5 Treasurer's Report

The printing and disbursements from getting the first newsletter distributed amounted to approximately £60.00.

The Bank account will be opened next week.

R/S

Various contacts have been looked into for raising money they are as follows:-

Neighbourhood Renewal – from Central Government  
Co-op Dividend  
TSB Lloyds  
Awards for All

Parbinder Singh advised us to apply to ‘Awards for All’ as their Association found this was where the most money came from but we must decide what we need the money for before applying.

To qualify for grants we have to have a proportion of deprived people, young, old and disabled persons.

It was suggested that we also apply for funding from the Nottingham in Bloom and involve the schools in planting the bulbs.

S/A

6 **Secretary's Report**

5 letters have been sent we have had 3 replies and various E-Mails.

6.2 **New Secretary**

Referring back to the Chair's request at the beginning of the meeting, D/B once again asked if anyone was willing to come forward as Secretary. The response was negative.

7 **Feedback Forms**

D/B had produced an analysis of the returned forms of which there had been a 5% response.

- 1) 850 newsletters have been distributed and 7 return boxes placed at the Co-op, Library, Post Office, Newsagent, Social Club, Ferry Inn and Rugby Club. A total of 42 Feedback Forms returned (5%) together with £8.97 cash. 8 respondents included an E mail address and 3 replied using the Community Group E Mail address. 65% of responses came from the "village" with 35% coming from outside the "village".

The overwhelming majority of respondents consider crime, vandalism, graffiti, traffic speed reduction, policing and drugs to be the most important issues. Other concerns were the state of repair of footpaths and the number of litter bins in Wilford.

- (2) Traffic Speed Reduction was considered to be our first short-term priority. In particular the inappropriate use of ugly signage, the re-siting of the pedestrian crossing near Bader Road and school run parking; we should be looking at different methods of getting to school.

**ACTION**

Cycling instruction was no longer encouraged within schools, Wilford Endowed had, in fact, applied for funding to encourage the children to have tuition in cycling proficiency, unfortunately, the school were refused the funding.

Could the use of the School Bus be expanded to take in Compton Acres by helping to fund the bus fares?

With regard to the parking problem, it was reported to the meeting that the school have asked parents, on numerous occasions, about responsible parking, but the school have to rely on the goodwill of the persons concerned, they have no jurisdiction over this matter. One of the reasons for so many vehicles being used was that many Parents were dropping children at school from where they continue their journey to work or other destination. Would a School Crossing Warden be of help? Although it was acknowledged how very difficult it is to find anyone for this job.

Perhaps, with the Groups' help we could find someone to resurrect the walking bus.

To summarise the above:-

- 1) Removal of signs
- 2) Relocate the crossing at Bader Road
- 3) Fund raise to help with bussing
- 4) Suggest to the appropriate Authority, a link with the new cycle/footpath through the railway bridge in the allotments) creating a safer access from Compton Acres through to Wilford Endowed and the Emmanuel School.

It was agreed to write to the school and get clarification of what is the best way in which we can help reduce the impact of school parking.

D/B

**ACTION**

8 **Plans for Spring General Meeting**

A Special Public Meeting to encourage the residents.

Someone to attend from the Constabulary, and talk about how we should commence to tackle vandalism etc. two names were suggested either J

M/C

Cooper or J Woodward

Date for the General Meeting – to be announced

The AGM to be held in June

9 **The draw for the bottle of champagne**

The winner of the draw for the bottle of champagne lives at 35 Main Road. D/B

10 Community Group Web Site. A suggested name was ‘Wilford.org.uk’ and this was to be investigated. D/B

The cost of setting up the web site was discussed; perhaps we may be eligible for free hosting, as apparently the Cub/Scouts have a free site. S/A

A discussion took place about the merits of such a web site and what use would it be. The opinion was that we would be able to circulate information far wider than local residents would, it could be used for local business to sell or advertise or selling property. However, the emphasis must be the promotion of Wilford, and to this end it was felt that it would increase the profile of the Group and be useful in publicising events. When the web site is set up D/B suggested a short biography and mug shot of committee members would be suitable.

**ACTION**

11 **Questions from the Floor**

(1) What area of Wilford do we cover?

DB explained the boundaries and that the committee were happy with how the boundaries had been drawn.

(2) A query raised by a member from the floor, why he had not received notification of the first meeting held in September 2002? And why was the majority of the committee from Vernon Avenue?

DB explained the situation as best he could and went to great lengths to reassure him that it had been advertised in local shops and the library etc, the September meeting was well attended by approximately 120 residents. When the meeting was asked for volunteers for the committee only ten people did so, due to a resignation there are now only 9

only ten people did so, due to a resignation there are now only 9 committee members and we are allowed to have a maximum of 20, the gentleman was invited to join the committee, but he declined.

Following this altercation one of the members from the floor offered a vote of confidence in the committee.

12 **Any Other Business**  
None

13 **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm  
The venue, if possible, The Beckett School.

R/S

Signed: David Boulton..... (Chair)

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2003.....