

Wilford Community Group

The Tenants and Residents Association for Wilford

DRAFT Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 26th March 2003 at Nottingham Moderns RFC

Present: David Boulton (DB) Chair
Sheila Atherton (SA) Treasurer
Kate Clark (KC)
Brian Clark (BC)
Brendan Clarke-Smith (BCS)
Mike Cathcart (MC) (part)
Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JSC)
Revd David Rowe (DR)

ACTION

1 Apologies

Roger Steel (Vice Chair)
Josie Foster (Minute Secretary)

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (27th February 2003)

The minutes were approved.

3 Consultation – Embankment Footpath between ‘Looking Good’ and the Sewage Pumping Station

There were about 25 residents present.

DB gave a short presentation on the purpose and objectives of the consultation, the history of the issue and four potential options with their pros and cons.

The options were:

- i) Maintain status quo, i.e. footpath at riverside of floodbank but no restriction to walking on the floodbank.
- ii) Resurrect the original footpath between the floodbank and the properties.
- iii) Restrict access to the floodbank
- iv) Provide a new hard surface to the top of the floodbank to enable it to be used for walking but prevent erosion and to provide screening for the rear of the neighbouring properties.

It was stressed to those present that the chosen option would only be a proposal from the Group and that the council may chose to do something different. In addition, the Council will ensure that the statutory public consultation takes place where residents have an opportunity to object. If the Council proposes the recommendation of the Community Group, the committee would support this publicly.

There was then an animated discussion amongst the residents. Chancery Court was mainly represented by one person who contested some of the ‘facts’ as understood by the committee. They were strongly opposed to

the use of the top of the floodbank by anyone under any circumstances. Other residents stressed that they had walked along the floodbank for a number of years and therefore this was their right. A petition in favour of allowing a footpath on the top of the embankment was presented to DB. The original copy of the petition had been handed to Councillor Tim Spencer before the meeting.

The Environment Agency is concerned about erosion of the floodbank. Options I) and ii) were not supported by anyone present.

Following the discussion the committee left the room to discuss which option would be recommended to the council. The views of all residents were considered and it was unanimously agreed to propose option iv) to the council with the caveats that:

- this is acceptable to the Environment Agency
- the Environment Agency / Council would make reasonable efforts that the screening is acceptable to affected residents.

DB will be meeting with John Lee of the City Council to put forward the agreed proposal.

DB

4 Review Actions from Previous Meeting

4.1 Removal of School Crossing Signage.

DB has corresponded with the Head Teacher of South Wilford Endowed School who does not believe that the school's walking bus is likely to be re-instated. Therefore it was agreed that we would request for the offending signs to be removed. JSC will provide DB with the details of who to contact.

JSC

DB will then contact them to request the removal.

DB

4.2 Meeting with NET.

This has not taken place. To be carried over.

RS, BCS

4.3 Money Returned to The Ferry.

SA has returned the money to the manager at The Ferry.

4.4 Noticeboards

DB has received confirmation that there is a budget for community notice boards and that the Area Committee was aware of Wilford's requirement for two boards. See point 10.

4.5 Newsletter

SA managed to get the newsletter printed free of charge by Boots. Unfortunately this meant that it wasn't available to distribute until after the weekend. But all copies were distributed by the end of Tues 18th Mar.

4.6 Website

Two businesses have now paid for and are receiving advertising on the website.

Details of Playgroup are now on.

Reworking of the "About Wilford" page is still required.

SA

4.7 Bollards on the Village Green

DB has organised for someone from 'Landscaping' to see what is feasible. There would definitely be the provision of a lockable post to enable access for a mower.

There were some concerns raised that cars were now parking on the back of the Green due to vandalism having occurred when they parked on the road.

We would need to ensure that there was consultation if we were to pursue bollards completely around the Green rather than just next to the Church Drive.

DB will report back to the next meeting.

DB

4.8 Wheelchair Access to the footpath on Coronation Avenue.

RS wasn't present to give feedback, carried over to next meeting.

RS

4.9 Unsightly Pole and Bad positioning of Road Sign on Corner of Holly Avenue.

RS wasn't present to give feedback, carried over to next meeting.

RS

4.10 Street Cleaning Times.

Street cleaning times appear to have changed to later in the day.

5 Chairman's Report

DB suggested that we should try and co-ordinate with the distributors of the Church newsletter for future Community Group newsletters. JSC will investigate whether this is feasible when the date of our next newsletter is known. JSC agreed to take responsibility for the distribution of future newsletters and coordinating a list of volunteer distributors in conjunction with the Church.

JSC

JSC

DB reported that the website is regularly updated and that he has written to a number of local businesses, including Compton Acres, to see if they wish to subscribe.

DB is looking for more photos of Wilford for the website. SA will find ones that were taken of the last flooding. It was also suggested that a competition could be held in the next newsletter for any resident to provide photos. DB to include on the next appropriate agenda.

SA

DB

DB is also in discussions with the council concerning the track behind Vernon Avenue and other related footpaths. It was reported that the lockable post is now in place by the embankment bridge. JS suggested that it might be possible to provide a link between the cycle path the other side of the embankment and Bader Road/South Wilford Endowed Playing Field. This will be investigated further.

DB

6 Treasurer's Report

SA circulated the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2003. The start-up grant has now been received and the bank balance stands at £435. Next major payment will be hire of the Emmanuel school hall for the public meeting.

SA also circulated some proposals for future funding. It was agreed that we would pursue Awards for All when a suitable event/project had been identified. SA will pursue the availability of free bulbs for Nottingham in

SA

Bloom. A potential contact for an event may be David Miller from the Historic Society. DB will put an agenda item for the next meeting on fundraising and events. **DB**

7 Questions Received for the Public Meeting

There was some discussion around exactly what some of the questions meant. But all questions and any more received this week will be forwarded to the Police. **DB**

8 Committee's Questions for the Public Meeting

Some further questions were agreed which will also be forwarded to the Police. DB will circulate all questions to committee members prior to the meeting. **DB**
DB

9 Planning Application – Fixings House

A resident has requested that we back his objection on the grounds of loss of light.

It was agreed that we would object to the change of use since this would reduce business in the area and potential jobs. We would also agree that loss of light was a concern. DB to action. **DB**

10 Locations for Notice boards

Suggested locations are:

- Co-op/Library (definitely)
- Newsagents or South Wilford Endowed School.

DB will inform the Area Committee of our preferred locations. Notice boards could be used to publicise all Wilford events, not just for WCG notices. DR has offered the use of the church noticeboard. **DB**

11 Dates for Future Meetings.

It was agreed that Thursdays were acceptable for the future. The agreed dates are:

- 1st May 2003
- 5th June 2003
- 3rd July 2003
- 24th July 2003 (Annual General Meeting)
- 4th Sept 2003
- 9th Oct 2003
- 13th Nov 2003

12 Any Other Business

None.