

Wilford Community Group

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 19th October 2009 at Wilford Social and Bowls Club

Present: Stephanie Taylor (ST) Chair
Roger Steel (RS) Vice Chair
Sheila Atherton (SA) Treasurer
Daniel Atherton (DA)
Josie Foster (JF)
Brian Hardy (BH)
Bill Roughton (BR)
Frank Wakelin (FW)

Elaine Stenson (ES) Neighbourhood Action Officer
PCSO Nathan Wright (NW)

Residents: Alistair Brown & Jonathan Shewell-Cooper

Action

1 Apologies

Dave Boulton, PC Nigel Brown, Martin Harris invited to speak about Open Spaces.

2 Matters Arising: FW asked for an amendment to the September Minutes with regard to Item 3 Parking at Grange Close/Holly Avenue – it was not his suggestion but Councillor Price had asked him (FW) to raise the problems of parking in these areas. Item 7 SA stated that the top up grant is £300 for ongoing costs NOT £500. From the AGM minutes RS would like it on record that it is the Trent Bridge Rotary Club that gives a donation to the WCG and not the West Bridgford Rotary Club.

After amending ST signed the approved September Minutes.

3 Review Outstanding Actions: (Item 3) ES had emailed PC Brown with regard to double yellow lines around the entrance to Holly Avenue and Grange Close. The immediate response was No but NB will speak to FW and discuss further. ES asked for this to be reviewed, as it is a big issue for residents. NW said that the Traffic Management Team have ticketed at least 10 vehicles and CPO Alan Wardle had also visited the area at the crucial times. It was further noted that yellow lines are not enforceable without signs stating the restrictions; signs will be put on lamp posts in the near future and the police will continue to monitor parking issues.

(Item 5) "Grab a Grand" – Coronation Allotments submitted an entry for refurbishment of the toilet block and have been short listed; be sure to vote at the appropriate time. (Item 7) SA has given a cheque, inclusive of VAT, to the Social Club for our use of the premises. ST asked if we should go ahead with an invitation to Tony Walker, Chair of the Bowls Club, to join our meetings, the majority of the committee felt this would be suitable as it was then a decision to be made by Tony Walker or a representative of the club's committee to respond. ST would write to him. (Item 8) The proposed new cycle path – ES said that all properties in Wilford Village would be notified about the meeting on November 4th at the Rugby Club. ES has spoken to Sandra Patterson, Safer Routes to School, who will monitor the crossing by the Becket School on Wilford Lane after reports of inappropriate behaviour by students. (Item 10) There are no photographs of the flower displays that achieved a Merit Award - BR will action. Andrew Price has the

ST

BR

costings for bins around the Pond and BR suggested that two would be sufficient.

4.

Library/Post Office: DB has been in touch with the Co-op Head Office at Manchester to discuss the option of a Post Office within the local Co-op. Andrew Price has had a meeting with the Libraries Group and has suggested a small group – ‘Friends of Wilford Library’ makes applications for grant money from various sources to fund a feasibility study to accommodate a Post Office within an improved library. JSC asked if 106 money was available, if so, it should be pursued to fund a Post Office; Ian Malcolm (Lab. Councillor), Brian Hardy, Andrew Price (Con. Councillor) and Stephanie Taylor (Chair) to carry forward these suggestions. JSC suggested, if available, the Maypole on Wilford Lane could be developed into an area similar to the precinct on Compton Acres ie a coffee shop, hairdresser’s and a Post Office.

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ES said they were working with the owners of the now redundant P/Office with regard to the removal of the layby which will cost £5000,00 and Area Committee has agreed to release this sum, however, before any work can take place a Traffic Regulation Order is required, as the layby is seen as a loading bay and will need a further £3,000; ES to ask Ward Councillors if they would contribute. Part of this money would include double yellow lines, these are recommended as a safety issue because of the junction. On a show of hands only FW voted in favour of yellow lines, therefore ES would ask for these not to be part of the scheme.

ES

RS spoke of his involvement with the owners in preparing plans and dealing with the Highways Group and with the Planning Application. An Architect is involved and they have put forward their recommendations. Issues have arisen regarding removal of the cycle track also bus access into Main Road will be difficult unless the kerb was flattened or removed. RS went on to say that the wording “temporary” on the door of the Post Office meets the regulations of the Post Office and there are different criteria rules with regard to distance residents have to travel to the nearest Post Office. Relocation of the letter box will be to an area by the Co-op for ease of collections by the mail van and will take up to 3 months to relocate. RS feels a case for combined facilities is the way forward; he will email his notes and plans to ES.

RS

- 5 Open Spaces Meeting:** SA reported on the meeting she had attended; a skateboarding park at Clifton lead to arguments about what is being proposed with a lot of negative reaction. In 2006 it had been decided to prioritise improvements to the 5 big parks in Clifton; two had been completed, two were in the process of completion and the fifth will be by a school. Silverdale and Noble Road have a very active group of residents and are putting in their own funding. JSC identified local areas that could be used as play areas in Wilford, which included land at the bottom of Bader Road through to the Allotments (behind the pumping station). The Park on Ruddington Lane has a covenant on it and residents in that area are very reluctant to see it turned into anything that takes away the green area but it would be ideal to have a carbon copy of the park on Queens Drive.

The Head Teacher of St. Patrick’s School may contact WCG to see if we can help raise funds to have part of their field marked out as a football pitch with floodlighting. This info came via Julian Taylor, Chair of the Iremongers Pond Group. ST will write to Julian to find out more information. 106 money will probably be available from the developers of the Becket School land on Ruddington Lane. Andrew Price has said that we need to have definite ideas for what and where before any monies are released. Martin Harris may be able to help with any decisions after his visit to the November meeting.

ST

- 6 Crime Report:** PCSO Nathan Wright has been working in the area for 3 weeks and is in the process of getting to know everyone. He is around when pupils leave school and one of his concerns is children walking down the centre of Main Road near the Toll Bridge, he has spoken with them and moved them on. BR asked him to occasionally walk around the pond area, which he agreed to do and mention

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was made of someone making a nuisance by riding a mini moto in that area; there were also concerns about the stone throwing off the railway embankment. The good news was that all crime figures have gone down in Wilford and Silverdale.

- 7 **Training Opportunities:** ES reported on various training opportunities taking place. Health Inequalities in Clifton, Wilford and Silverdale on Wednesday 25th November at the Green Lane Youth Centre, Clifton; BH said he was interested and took the details. Training sessions "On How to Produce a Newsletter" are being held at 14 Houndsgate, Nottingham on 16th November.

BH

- 8 **Any Other Business:** BH voiced his concerns about the deteriorating condition of the walls leading onto the Toll Bridge and these were posing a risk to public safety. He had walked the bridge with CPO Alan Wardle who agreed and in one part could easily topple over. RS said he had also been to have a look and in his opinion did not pose a threat to the public's safety. ES had been in touch the Ian Bretton of the Bridge Team and the Highways Agency Team who do not consider it to be a problem; there is also limited funding for this type of work but ES has requested a time scale when it might be repaired. Although RS does not think it dangerous at the moment it would not be a big job to repair and asked ES to address it as a matter of urgency. BH was still of the opinion it was a danger but it would also be financially prudent to repair sooner rather than later. ES reported as part of their training the YTS are to rebuild the wall on Cribb Close. BR asked if ES could investigate why the path between Bell Lane and the stile has been ripped up in parts and has left potholes and pebbles and it does need attention.

ES was asked about a resident's request to have the bollards removed from the grass verges on Ruddington Lane. The Highways Inspection Services had identified an area of erosion on the grass verge and to stop pupils from the Becket School zig zagging across the road. Of course, the school was now closed and no longer posed a pupil problem; several residents had complained and are keen to know how to have them removed. RS said the Highways Inspection have been over zealous and should have consulted the residents and we were there to represent the residents, however, it was pointed out that no approach had been made to the WCG by the residents and ES added that the usual notification had been placed on the lamp posts.

RS spoke about the road bumps on Ruddington Lane and he remembered, that many years ago, at an Area 9 meeting a statement was made that when the new housing was built the bumps may be taken out and replaced by a mini island. Their removal could be requested at an Area 9 meeting when other road repairs are being carried out.

Alistair Brown asked if something could be done about the old Village Shop as it was such an eyesore; as it is private property the answer is no.

SA asked if anything could be done about the foxes roaming around the roads and gardens as they are setting dogs barking in the early hours of the morning and also concerns about the mess they are leaving in the gardens. ES said she would email the number of the Pest Control Unit to the group, foxes are looked on as vermin and they may deal with the problem.

The Trent Bridge Rotary Club Bonfire on the ferry field on 7th November RS has made arrangements for vehicle parking at the Gresham Sports Park.

ES together with Angela Mills, Youth Worker in Wilford, are convening a meeting for youth workers and asked if anyone from the Committee would be interested in joining the group. SA and DA would like to join the group and said they preferred a Wednesday night. ES had spoken to local shopkeepers and they have no issues with young people; it is more their needs that require discussion. JSC

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mentioned that the Friday night Youth Club had started again and was available for everyone.

ES produced information leaflets about an Advice Centre for Wilford, Silverdale and Clifton, it is a satellite provision to talk confidentially about welfare rights

ST mentioned the withdrawal of the QMC bus link funded by the County Council and feels this is another facility lost to Wilford and Silverdale Residents. Should this be pursued to see if it could be reinstated? BH suggested we leave it until after the November meeting when Laura from the PCT will be coming to discuss the link giving communities a stronger voice with regard to health issues.

JF raised the issue of sending out the minutes to residents before the Committee had approved them. It was agreed that all Committee Members should read, comment and approve them before issuing to the residents via the website. ST would also sign an approved hard copy of the minutes at the following committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Date of Next Meeting: 7.30 pm 16th November 2009 at Wilford Social and Bowls Club.

Invited Guests: 7.30 Laura from the PCPT 8.00 Martin Harris – Open Spaces