

WILFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of the AGM Meeting held on Monday 19th July 2010 at Wilford Social and Bowls Club at 7.30 pm

Present: Stephanie Taylor (ST) Chair
 David Boulton (DB) Secretary
 Brian Hardy Treasurer
 Chris Allsopp (CA)
 Sheila Atherton (SA)
 Daniel Atherton (DA) - young people's rep.
 Josie Foster (JF)
 Frank Wakelin (FW)
 Andrew Price (Cons. Councillor)
 Elaine Stenson (Neighbourhood Action Officer)
 PC Nigel Brown

Residents

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1.	Apologies: Roger Steel (RS) Bill Roughton (BR)	
2.	<p>Stephanie Taylor opened the meeting by welcoming guests and visitors to the AGM of the Wilford Community Group.</p> <p>Andrew Price and Elaine Stenson had the pleasure of making presentations to various volunteers acknowledging what people are doing in our community.</p> <p>A number of volunteers were awarded certificates namely Daniel Atherton, Lindsay Barnes, David Boulton, Brian Hardy, Pat Lister, Bill Roughton, Rose Smedley, Julian Taylor, Tony Walker. To Hilary Searle who has played a vital role in clearing up the site of the Klondyke Allotments; to Barbara Miller for 20 years of Service to Guiding and to Karen Gregg, Cub Scout Leader who worked above and beyond her line of duty.</p>	
3.	The Minutes of the 2009 AGM were not read out in full but anyone wishing to read them could do so on line or telephone the Secretary, Dave Boulton, on 0115 9818919.	
4.	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>The year since July 2009 has been a busy one with many Wilford residents responding to requests by the Community Group to express opinions and become involved in a range of issues. So my first job is to thank everyone who has taken the time to come along and join in our discussions or undertaken any tasks on behalf of the group. My particular thanks go to the committee for their support and hard work in my first year as their chairperson. Our Treasurer of many years, Sheila Atherton, resigned and Brian Hardy has filled the gap.</p> <p>Thanks must also go to PC Nigel Brown for keeping us informed about the generally downward trend in crime in our area and for responding so helpfully to our concerns, whether in relation to worrying crimes like burglary or annoying issues like inconsiderate parking and dog fouling.</p>	

Our local Councillors have helped us to deal with many issues too and have demonstrated their commitment to Wilford by helping to fund the Bowls Club through difficult financial times. Sadly, the club is still not out of danger. Cllr. Price chaired a public meeting about a proposed new cycle path and when residents rejected that proposal, the footpath behind Vernon Avenue was surfaced instead. Cllr, Price has also consistently spoken up about Wilford issues at Area 9 committee meetings and our profile in Area 9 is much higher now. Brian Hardy did a lot to begin this process of bringing Wilford into focus and I have done my best to keep up the effort.

The Neighbourhood Management Team, in the shape of Elaine Stenson, has helped to keep our environment clean and tidy by ensuring new bins were installed, arranging large-scale clear up days on the allotments and sorting out the provision of nets to stop the problem of pigeon mess beneath the two old railway bridges. Several members of the committee and other residents were recently given certificates by the Neighbourhood Management at a presentation thanking them for their efforts in the community. This was much appreciated.

The big issue in the last year has been the council's decision to close our library. We conducted a highly visible campaign locally, on the website (thanks to Dave Boulton) and in the press to try to stop the closure but ultimately without success. Nevertheless, the press has continued to be interested in the views of the Wilford Community Group and I was approached only today to comment on David Cameron's ideas about the "the Big Society".

I look forward to seeing how the proposal of asset transfer of the library building and site develops in the next few months and to finding out what residents think about it all. It has been a challenging year and there are more challenging times ahead. WCG has been successful in getting its voice heard so let's build on that for the future.

I now ask our Treasurer to present the Annual Accounts.

5. **Treasurers Report**

BH Presented this report as follows:

After SA submitted her resignation in May 2010 I volunteered to take on the role of Treasurer up to the AGM a post in which I am happy to continue unless anyone else cares to volunteer.

SA prepared the figures for auditing and Di Rivers has audited the accounts and signed them as a true record.

The only income this year has been a donation of £100 from the West Bridgford Rotary Club, of which RS is a member, who organize and run the annual November firework display in Wilford

On behalf of the Bowls Club a grant application was submitted to Nottingham Community Foundation for help with funding an Open Day in May at the Bowls Club. The application was successful and a cheque was received in the sum of **£675.£481** has been paid out and the remainder has been allocated but is awaiting invoices.

Expenditure for the WCG in the current year is **£404, which** includes £230 room hire, for our committee meetings, leaving a balance of **£503.00**.

A form has been submitted to the City Council for a "top-up" to our funds. This will be only the second application submitted since the WCG was formed.

	<p>ST stood down as Chairperson and requested Cllr Andrew Price to stand in as Chairman of the meeting whilst the election of Officers and Committee are dealt with.</p> <p>6. Election of Officers and Committee Cllr Andrew Price thanked ST for her work as Chairperson over the past year.</p> <p>The Officers and Committee were elected as follows:</p> <p>Chairman- Stephanie Taylor Vice Chairman – Roger Steel Treasurer – Brian Hardy Secretary – David Boulton</p> <p>All the Officers were elected unopposed</p> <p>Remainder of Committee: Chris Allsop, Sheila Atherton, Daniel Atherrton (Youth Rep), Josie Foster, Maureen Godfrey, Bill Roughton, Andrew Rule, Peter Stiles, Frank Wakellin.</p> <p>ST asked that we now had a committee meeting following the agenda as set out.</p> <p>7. Outstanding Items from June Minutes</p> <p>Item 4 Wilford Library/Asset Transfer (In RS's absence Andrew Rule spoke on his behalf) Following the June meeting RS had written to Councillor Trimble and he had reaffirmed his commitment to the Asset Transfer.</p> <p>8. Asset Transfer NCC has not previously dealt with an asset transfer and D Trimble is trying to make something good come out of the library closure. A decision has to be made about what to do with the library site. There is £30,00 available plus officer time.</p> <p>DB was of the opinion that we could go through the procedure of an asset transfer and get the £30,000 the concern then would be that it would be sitting in a bank.</p> <p>The library building has not a very long life and would have to be demolished and remembering there is more than likely asbestos within the building this would not be cheap to remove.</p> <p>P. Stiles said it would be a liability to take on the library site.</p> <p>Financial issues at the Bowls and Social Club have again put the club in jeopardy. The building has failed an electricity test and £8,000/£10,000 is needed to put it right. £1,000 has already been spent on the electricity testing. Roots are not prepared to fund this money and another boarded up building is not desirable. Should we be looking at pooling any monies, buy the property and make improvements and modernize the building and look at how it could be utilized for the good of the community. A limited company would have to be formed with short or long term insurance; A Rule said this would not a problem.</p> <p>First of all we have to find out if Roots would be willing to sell the building. The rent currently paid to Roots could be utilized to pay off any loan.</p> <p>M Godfrey asked if there could be another use for the club rather than have it for the use of a small part of the community?</p>	
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	<p>The suggestions were that after modernizing and updating the building it could be used as a community building in which to hold meetings, a cyber café, the bar and food could raise income. It would have to include facilities for the younger residents such as snooker and cricket nets.</p> <p>It would require two groups, one for fund raising and another to run the centre. Income could be generated from bar and food plus the flat upstairs could be let as living accommodation or for office space; the bowling green must be kept and perhaps be let to other users.</p> <p>If the club were to be run for profit there would be problems with charitable status. It is important to see how the local residents feel. A questionnaire would need to be circulated among the residents this to be actioned by Brian Hardy, Andrew Rule, Daniel Atherton, Stephanie Taylor and Andrew Price.</p> <p>AP would be willing to help with funding for this publicity.</p> <p>To summarise the above there are many issues to be looked into and the Asset Transfer committee will be able to report with more detailed information at the September meeting on the issues we have to take on before we make any final decisions on the asset transfer.</p> <p>9. Plans for the Victoria Embankment</p> <p>It was agreed that the WCG could not take this on board as it was out of our boundary, however, we are making the residents aware of the future plans and it is up to individuals to make their own comments.</p> <p>10. Iremongers Pond</p> <p>The pond has received a Green Pennant Award and congratulations go to Julian Taylor, chairman and Bill Roughton. On August 7th there will be a Chairman's Fishing Match Event, so far 86 members have bought tickets.</p> <p>11. Railway Bridge Netting</p> <p>Has been postponed until Thursday 22nd July.</p> <p>12. Park Life Event</p> <p>ES gave us information about a Park Life Event on Tuesday 17th August at the Farnborough Playing Fields in Clifton. An opportunity to have your say, it is only one of three events covering a much wider area than before.</p> <p>13. Ruddington Lane Playing Field</p> <p>Felicity Walker is the new Park Officer and has organized an event to assess what residents/children/parents would like to see on the playing fields, this will take place on Friday 13th August between 2.00 and 4.00 pm.</p> <p>DA suggested it might be a good idea to bus the children around different parks to show them what is available, alternatively show them photographs of different play equipment.</p> <p>It is a major failure not getting publicity out to the schools before they close for the summer break.</p>	
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	<p>Work on this project is a priority but nothing will happen this year, there is £50,000 already towards the funding but the council needs to look at further funding and consult residents over the next 12 months. This was disappointing news to the WCG as talks about renewing the playing field equipment had been started in 2005.</p> <p>14. Waste/Dog Bins</p> <p>ES spoke about a complaint that had been received re the waste/dog bin on Holly Avenue adjacent to the allotments stating that this was a potential crime issue as it posed a high risk to the security of the allotments, the criteria for removing the bin is an issue of safety and crime prevention and ES asked the WCG should the bin be moved to the other side of Holly Avenue away from the allotments? Because of the cost involved each time these bins are moved to another position the WCG committee decided to leave it where it is for the time being and see what happens in the future.</p> <p>15. Crime</p> <p>PC Brown reported that crime is down in Wilford. Local Area Commander, John Woodford had walked out of his post but had been replaced by Mark Stanley. CPO Alan Wadley, who has been on long term sick leave, will be back in a couple of weeks.</p> <p>16. Any Other Business</p> <p>Street signs off Bader Road need replacing but the council has refused, saying they are still readable.</p> <p>DB reported that the web site would not be updated for 4 weeks.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.30 pm</p> <p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Monday 20th September at 7.30 pm at the Bowls and Social Club, Wilford.</p>	
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