

**Minutes of
Tinkers Bridge Residents Association Meeting**

Meeting Place. 7.00pm 04.08.2016

Present: Kathy (Chair) Lesley (Secretary) Ron, Cliff, Nicky, Derek, Terry

Apologies: John, Sheila.

1. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

1.1 The most significant matter arising was under 3.3 where it was noted that as Sheila did not have the required documentation (specifically the Audited Accounts of TBRA) the application for a grant to fund a coach trip could not be submitted. It was agreed that the issue of getting TBRA accounts up to date and audited is now extremely urgent.

1.2 Ditto for the environmental grant under 3.4 re. the grant application.

Action point. Kathy and Nicky to ask for John's assistance on this.

Pothole Survey. A lot of work done by Dave Lee on this. It is an on-going project until the Council takes action.

Website. The Website is established and looks really good. www.tinkersbridge.org

Queen's Birthday Picnic. This went well- a very enjoyable time.

Tea Dance. Went well 20 attendees.

Cliff's Letter of Complaint to WCC. This has been answered.

2. Terms of Reference for the Working Group

Kathy presented Draft 2 of the TOR with the revisions to draft 1 suggested by the group during April/May included. The most substantive of these changes was to add a bullet point: To monitor the Regeneration MK initiative. The Terms of Reference was agreed by the Working Group

Action Point. Kathy will re-send the revised TOR by email to the WG.

3. The Website Development

This is looking good. Dave needs photos of anything to do with the estate and also any content to be put onto the website. The Working Group gave a vote of thanks to Dave Lee for all his hard work.

4. Grants (subcommittee update)

In Sheila's absence the meeting addressed the agenda items as well as possible:

4.1 The Bridge Newsletter. The WG noted how well the newsletter is received and wants to make sure it survives as long as possible. Thanks were expressed to Rosemary for this initiative. Substantive discussion on its future will wait for Rosemary's return to the meeting. In the meanwhile there was a quick brainstorm of possible ways of extending its life beyond the current funding amount we have available.

E.G. 1) Subscriptions 2) Buy a printer 3) Fewer editions 4) Raise more money from advertising. Ron has raised the subject of funding with the council.

Action points. a. Re. Printer: Terry and Derek will find out the cost of a colour printer which will do double-sided copies. Nicky and Kathy will look up Which Reviews. Nicky will look at Amazon prices. Cost analysis to be done.
b. Put The Bridge on the Agenda for a substantive discussion when Rosemary is back.

4.2 Environmental Grants

Ron informed the meeting he has supplied all the information Sheila required and had obtained quotations for the wood. John has one quote but is waiting for further quotes. John and Sheila are working together on the grant applications.

Action Point. To ask Sheila for a full report on the status of this application for the next meeting. Kathy.

Serco. Ron reported that the company has been very good at recovering items that have been dumped. Kathy suggested we monitor and photograph incidents of fly-tipping and put these on the website and in The Bridge. Ron said we can use Lorraine Essam from WCC to assist us in the monitoring and in speaking to offending Residents as she has an official status in this matter.

Action Point. Kathy to add a Fly Tipping activity to the Action Plan.

4.3 Summer Trip

It was disappointing to report that this did not take place – see 1.1 above.

4.4 Audited Accounts

Ron explained again that the Council no longer does this for us. Nicky suggested that we may be able to join forces with other Residents Associations to get the accounts audited. This would keep down any costs.

There was a long discussion about the importance of the WG having up to date knowledge of the status of the accounts so that grant applications can be made and activities planned. The WG and the TBRA needs a Treasurer who can take part in the meetings and provide regular written financial reports. The Group

agreed that Carly has done a wonderful job in carrying on the Treasurer role despite her other commitments and we owe a debt of gratitude to her.

The meeting held a brainstorming to generate possible options to recruit a Treasurer who could attend regular meetings and provide regular financial reports. We need to check with John and Carly for advice on the way forward.

Action point. a. Ron will find out who the Netherfield rep is and ask who audits their accounts. b. Nicky and Kathy will brief John. c. Rosemary will pursue a contact at the OU. d. Lesley will find out if there are any retired volunteers listed at Acorn House.

4.5 Insurance. April has again reminded us that this is due this week.

Action Point. Nicky and Kathy will add this to the list to follow up with John and Carly and ensure a cheque is dealt with before the end of next week.

5. **Review of the TBRA Constitution.** This is in hand being taken forward by Sheila as it is one of the policy documents required for grant applications. The meeting discussed Kathy's amendments and further suggestions were made. The wording of "ground rules" should be changed to "Code of Conduct"

Action Point. a. Kathy will redo the amendments and re-send to Sheila. There is still time for members to make further suggestions and send to Sheila individually. John will need to agree a final version to be signed off. b. Sheila will find out who needs to be the Council signatory.

6. The Action Plan

It was agreed that monitoring the Plan will be a quarterly Agenda item and the next time we will review will be in the autumn.

Action Point. Kathy will update to August and send round.

AOB

Discussion of the future of the TBRA

Treasurer- We need a treasurer who is able to come to the meetings. Carly is a very good treasurer but is not able to make the meetings and it was felt that the Working Group especially should have information about the available funds to hand at all times.

Secretarial Duties

Lesley will spend some time with Nicky learning how to use the computer with a view to being able to produce and email typewritten minutes.

Community Involvement

Numbers are dropping at general meetings. We need to advertise more by 1)

Flyers through doors 2) Events 3) Knocking on doors 4) Possible change of date

of publication of The Bridge so that meeting reminders are closer to the meeting date.

We discussed needing more activities at the meeting Place despite not having Council support.

Action points

Lesley will visit Acorn House and obtain a list of volunteers who may be able to help out with basic book-keeping.

Kathy to find out when we can book the hall eg for a coffee drop-in on a Wednesday morning.

Date of next meeting for the working group is 08-09-16 from 7pm-9pm.

Meeting closed at 9pm.