

Minutes of the First Steps Working Group meeting 11/10/2017

Present: Kathy Higgins (Chair), John Orr, Ron Ellis, Lesley Berry, Derek Weller, Mavis Boatwright, Dave Boatwright, Dave Lee, Cliff Green, Sarah Mitchell and Sheila Taylor (Minutes).

Apologies: Rosemary Englander and Terry Weller

1) Minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2017

These were confirmed as a correct record.

2) Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

2) John has not yet given Lesley the memory stick so that she can write up the Minutes of the last TBRA meeting. **Action John**

4.1) Sheila submitted the feedback form to MKC for the grant for the Funday.

4.3) The Christmas party will be held on 2nd December.

6) and 7) the report on registering areas for preservation and the Community Plan will be discussed at the next meeting to allow more discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan referendum and the newsletter. Dave L will re-circulate the document about registering areas for preservation. **Action Dave L**

9) Lesley reported that she and Kathy decided on behalf of the group to give a gift to Nicky to thank her for her work for the Association. Lesley bought a £30 gift voucher which was given to Nicky on her last day living in Tinkers Bridge. It was agreed she should be reimbursed for this. **Action Mavis**

10.1) Sheila reinstated the Association's insurance on the day after the last meeting. Mavis is now the named person for future correspondence from the insurance broker.

10.3) The future venue for the meeting has now been changed to 45 Old Groveway, so that it can continue on Wednesdays.

3) Financial Report

Mavis circulated a spreadsheet showing the position as at 30.09.2017. The closing balance in the bank account is £4295.98 and petty cash stands at £100.24.

Two adjustments were agreed to how the report should be presented: the funding received from MKC following the Healthcheck will be combined with Reserves and there will be a column to show expenditure on printing including the newsletter.

Action Mavis

It was agreed that the reserves should not go below a minimum of £1,000.

Action Mavis

4) Grants update

1. The application for a grant for the coach for the pantomime trip to Woughton Community Council was successful and the coach has been booked.

2. An application will be made to Milton Keynes Council (MKC) for a grant of £400 for the Christmas party. The opening date for this application is 1st November. **Action Sheila (application) John (party)**
3. £1500 remains in the funds from Tesco. Bill, Ron, Terry and Derek are working on this.
4. Ron is approaching the Unite union for funding, which could be put towards the Christmas party or Christmas Day lunch. **Action Ron**
5. Sheila will re-send her newsletter article about grants to Sarah as a word document. **Action Sheila**
6. John reported that Local Giving is about to launch its Grow your Tenner campaign for this year. After discussion, it was agreed this could be used to double the donations that the Working Group have agreed to make for the printing of the referendum leaflet. John will circulate the information. Members will make individual donations of £10 each (or more) as agreed at the last meeting. Those who are not online will have help from others to do this **Action John and All**

5) Woughton Neighbourhood Plan referendum

The referendum is scheduled for 19th October. Kathy presented the leaflet that she and Lesley have produced with help from Cliff, Dave and Nicky. It is being printed by Cliff and will be delivered by Ron and his team by Tuesday 17th.

Action Cliff, Ron and team

Cliff suggested giving some leaflets out outside the school and shop on the day of the referendum in the hope of persuading people to vote while they are out.

Ron volunteered to do this outside the shop. **Action Ron**

John has had no information from Kevin Wilson about how to register a Yes campaign or to present its accounts.

6) Meetings

1. The next meeting of the MKC Regeneration Committee is on 14th November. This is a useful meeting to find out what is happening.
2. No-one could attend the last Cabinet meeting.
3. There is a meeting of the full Council on 18th October at 7.30. Several agenda items may be relevant, including one on proposed housing and regeneration re-structuring. Several people hope to attend. **Action all**
4. Dave went to the AGM of the Fullers Slade Residents' Association (FSRA). There was a presentation by the independent consultant employed by YourMK, who have set up a separate residents' group for the consultation, rather than using FSRA. It appears that YourMK staff, including Anne Bircham, are all now engaged on Fullers Slade and have not been seen on Tinkers Bridge, although the repair service appears to be working well.
5. A Regeneration Watch group has not yet been set up.

Dave L commented that there are two levels on which we can fight regeneration – the local and the strategic. To fight on the strategic policy level we have to attend meetings such as the Regeneration Committee and the full Council.

7) The Bridge

Sarah joined the meeting and was welcomed. She is hoping to have a draft newsletter ready by Friday 13th October. She will send it to Kathy who will check it and then forward it to Cliff for printing. Depending on how long this takes, it may be delivered with the referendum leaflet or separately. **Action Sarah,**

Kathy, Cliff, Ron and team

Sarah shared some ideas for the development of the newsletter, which were warmly welcomed.

8) Any Other Business

1. Ron reported that more rubbish has been dumped in an alleyway which has just been cleared. MKC has been informed but has taken no action. John suggested making a formal complaint to them as landlord. Lesley will write on behalf of TBRA, using information from Ron and John. **Action Lesley, Ron and John.** Kathy suggested putting “before and after” photos in a future newsletter as a general point, rather than being specific about any particular address. This was agreed. Ron will give photos to Sarah. **Action Sarah and Ron**
2. Cliff said that some residents of Marshworth are using Holmfield Close for car repairs and to dump rubbish. Ron advised him to report it to the police on 101 and to involve Lorraine Essam of WCC. **Action Cliff**

9) Dates of next meetings

Working Group Wednesday 8th November 7.00 at 45 Old Groveway
TBRA Thursday 30th November 7.30 in the Meeting Place