

## **Minutes of the First Steps Working Group meeting 11/10/2018**

**Present:** Kathy Higgins (Chair), Ron Ellis, Dave Lee, Derek Weller, Terry Weller, Cliff Green, Mavis Boatwright, John Orr and Sheila Taylor (minutes).

**Apologies:** Rosemary Englander, Dave Boatwright and Lesley Berry

Kathy asked that items for the agenda should be sent to her when requested and not left until after the agenda had been finalised.

### **1) Minutes of the meeting held on 06/09/2018**

These were accepted by those present.

### **2) Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda**

2.1) Ron has not been able to contact Sinead. Sheila will write a note for Ron to put through her door. **Action Sheila and Ron**

2.4.3) Ron and Bill Fuller are still investigating the costs of work on the environment. When this has been done they will let Sheila have some costings for a grant application. **Action Ron and Sheila**

2.6) Lesley and Sheila wrote on behalf of TBRA to Michael Kelleher to complain about the poor handling of the HRA consultation. Michael's reply was read out at the September TBRA meeting.

4.2) The pantomime has been booked.

5.1) The Bridge - all actions were completed, except that Dave L apologised for not submitting information about RORE.

5.3) Printer - MK Community Foundation agreed its grant could be used for the purchase of a new printer.

### **3) Financial report**

Mavis reminded Sheila that she had not banked the cheque refunding the deposit for the seaside coach. **Action Sheila**

The balance at the end of August is £3870.11.

Some receipts are still required for the costs of the summer arts and crafts events and Cliff is therefore still owed for this. Agreed to pay him from petty cash, noting that this is in respect of receipts which have been lost. **Action**

**Mavis**

The forms have now been completed for Lesley to be added to the list of authorised signatories.

### **4) Grants update**

4.1) MKC made a £400 grant for arts and crafts sessions and the drama group. These activities may not now require the full sum. We will keep this under review and possibly ask to include funds for Hallowe'en activities. Sarah is organising this and has asked for £60 expenses and help with printing. This was agreed.

**Action Mavis**

4.2) The application for a grant for a coach for the pantomime has been submitted and the outcome is expected soon.

4.3) Christmas activities - Sheila was asked by the last TBRA meeting to book the Meeting Place for 15<sup>th</sup> December and for the Christmas Day meal, but she

was informed neither date was available. John will sort this out tomorrow. Sheila will apply for a grant from MKC for this. **Action John and Sheila**

4.4) Sheila said the coach would hold 61 people, so Dave L will investigate booking 4 more places. **Action Dave L** The performance is half an hour later than in previous years, so the coach booking will be altered. **Action Sheila**

## **5) The Bridge**

5.1) Kathy asked for items for the next edition. The following were discussed:

- Terry has written a poem about the environment work entitled "Our Area"
- A Christmas holiday competition for children. Terry suggested some puzzles and word searches. He will have a go at devising some. **Action Terry**
- Dave L will write something about RORE. It is important that information about regeneration is factual as residents are very worried about it. **Action Dave L**
- Ron will write about rubbish and the environment. **Action Ron**

5.2) A new printer has now been purchased and the old one has been mended. The old one is now being kept at Dave L's house. Dave L had offered to other RAs in RORE that we could perhaps do printing for them at cost. After discussion, it was felt that this was not possible, although it was agreed that Dave L could use the printer at his house to print for RORE itself. RORE would be invoiced at cost for this work.

5.3) After discussion with Cliff and Sheila, Dave L purchased ink for the new printer at a total cost of £664.90. This high price should cover 30,000 pages of printing and therefore last for over a year. The funds held for printing are £20 short for this purpose, so it was agreed to transfer £100 from the general fund to the printing fund. Dave will send Sheila and Mavis the receipt for the ink. **Action Dave L**

## **6) Resident Engagement Network**

Sheila has received notice of a meeting of the network on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Ron agreed to attend, and Kathy, Terry and Derek will also see if they are able to go. Sheila will ask Jenna Smith to include Ron's email address in mailings about the network. **Action Ron, Kathy, Terry, Derek and Sheila**

## **7) RORE**

- Dave L said that RORE is now finalising its constitution. It will come to individual Ras to ratify. It is proposed that each RA can send 4 representatives to RORE meetings. TBRA has five people who attend from time to time.
- RORE's recent letter to Councillors about problems in the regeneration process has led to considerable exposure in the press.
- FSRA had its AGM recently. The discussion between the RA and the Residents' Steering Group was positive. Bianca Bendig-Ceesay was elected as the new chair of TBRA.
- The next RORE meeting will be on 19<sup>th</sup> October and will be attended by Jenny Ferrans, Liberal Democrat Councillor.

- The Cabinet has rubber-stamped a regeneration ballot to be held on the Lakes Estate. The Lakes RA may call this in.
- RORE now has its own Facebook page.

## **8) Any Other Business**

8.1) Woughton Community Council are proposing a new agreement with Residents' Associations. Among other things, this agreement proposes making a grant of £500 per year to each RA. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

### **Action Kathy**

8.2) HRA consultation – MKC are still not contacting Council tenants directly about this and have also been unable to send a representative to a TBRA meeting. John will discuss this, including finding out if it is possible for us to produce our own leaflet for tenants. **Action John**

Dave L pointed out that the consultation form is four pages long and it might be better to write with our comments. He will draft a letter that tenants could send if they wish. He will send this initial draft to Kathy for further work. **Action Dave L and Kathy**

8.3) Welcome Pack – Kathy has commented on Rosemary's first attempt and Rosemary has circulated the resulting second draft. Kathy gave paper copies for those not on e-mail. We will bring our comments to the next meeting. **Action All**

8.4) John said that too many raised beds have been produced.

## **9) Forthcoming Dates**

Dave L reminded us of the following dates:

Wed 17 19:00 placemaking scrutiny

Fri 19 19:00 RoRE

Wed 24 19:30 Full council

Thur 25 19:00 TBRA

Mon 5 REN

Tue 6 18:30 Cabinet

**Thur 8 19:00 WG**

Wed 14 19:00 Housing

Thur 15 18:15 Regeneration

Wed 28 19:30 Council

Thu 29 19:30 TBRA

Fri 30 19:00 RoRE