

Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association

Minutes of the Working Group Meeting held on 8th September 2021 by Zoom

Present

Dave Lee, Cliff Green, Anthonia Lifu, John Orr and Sheila Taylor (minutes)

Apologies

Ron Ellis, Derek Weller, Terry Weller, Rosemary Englander, Deanna Norris and Kathy Mansfield

Action notes of the meeting held on 11th August 2021 - these were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

None

Treasurer's report

Anthonia amended the spreadsheet she had sent out earlier in the day to include a payment of £78.24 for Gala Day expenses. A further £180 for the Gala Day was given in cash to John. John said he had in fact spent about £20 over this amount. Sheila asked that he give the receipts for this £200 to her first so that she can scan them for the feedback to WCC. She will then pass them on to Anthonia for her records. This must be done urgently, so that WCC's timescales are met. **Action John and Sheila**

The coach trip was underfunded by £6 because one seat on the coach was not filled. It was agreed that this £6 will come from general funds. **Action Anthonia**

Grants report

- 1) Sheila confirmed that the coach trip was a success and that full feedback has been sent to WCC. Initial interest was less than in some other years and it was decided to reduce the size of the coach. This resulted in a refund to WCC of £90, as the grant application was based on the cost of the larger coach. In discussion with WCC it was agreed to repay this, along with a further £17 outstanding from underspending of the Easter grant. Anthonia will arrange for this cheque to be produced. **Action Anthonia**
- 2) Sheila asked about the Gala Day, as she is in the process of producing the feedback report for WCC. The following issues were discussed:
 - Overall attendance was not as good as hoped, although exact numbers were not clear. Publicity for the event was mainly through Facebook, with no posters being produced. Some usually active people did not come.
 - Two of the three elements of the event, food and live music, went well and were appreciated. Cliff and Darren Fuller helped to organise these two elements.
 - The third element, children's activities, was less successful. John explained that he had asked two people to organise this but, for reasons that were not clear, they had not done so. John suggested that we should recruit a larger group of event

organisers, particularly for children's activities. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next Working Group.

- Anthonia commented that the children who did attend appeared to enjoy the day.
- WCC were very helpful in loaning equipment. One member of staff, Kevin, stayed all day.
- The £500 funding for the day was underspent by about £225. It was agreed that this should be spent on children's activities. There was some discussion about enhancing the celebration of Hallowe'en and/or Guy Fawkes' Day but, after discussion, it was agreed this might not be necessary. Dave suggested asking WCC if we can use this funding to shop early for presents for the Christmas party. Sheila will see if WCC will agree to this. **Action Sheila**

- 3) Sheila asked for suggestions about how to use the £800 annual grant aid from MKC. In recent years this has been used for a pantomime trip and for the Christmas party. Dave has investigated getting tickets for the pantomime at the Deco theatre. Tickets this year will be £6.25. Available dates may be limited because of bookings deferred from last year. It was agreed that we would like to provide this if possible, using the MKC grant. Dave will investigate further.

Action Dave

Other suggestions included the usual Christmas party (minus the cost of presents if WCC will pay – see above), face paints for future children's activities and bunting for future events. This will be discussed further at the next TBRA meeting. **Action Sheila**

The Bridge

The following items were suggested for the September Bridge:

- The next TBRA meeting on 30th September. There was a debate about whether this should be our first face to face meeting, with a campaign to get as many people there as possible to debate the need for more helpers, especially for children's events. After discussion it was agreed to leave this until October to allow for more discussion at the next Working Group. Various suggestions were made about people who might be invited to this meeting.
- Cliff reported that work has now begun on the path behind Marshworth so this can be publicised in the Bridge.
- John suggested that there should be an advertisement for organisers of events, especially with children.

Sheila will pass these ideas on to Kathy and Sarah. **Action Sheila, Kathy and Sarah**

RoRE

Dave said that there was not much to report from RoRE. At the most recent Community and Housing Scrutiny Committee, RoRE promoted two areas of scrutiny – the implementation of ISO 9001 and the regular reporting of staff turnover. The committee agreed to the latter but not the former.

There is a full Council meeting tonight where RORE will be promoting the introduction of metrics for fly tipping and for improved tenant involvement in housing repairs.

Any Other Business

Cliff thanked people who are helping with the book table, which is now well stocked with adult books. More children's books are still needed. There has been a problem recently with magazines on the table. They have been taken and littered around the estate.

Dates of next Zoom meetings

TBRA Thursday 30th September at 7.30 pm

Working Group Wednesday 13th October at 7.00 pm