

## **Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association**

### **Minutes of the Working Group Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 on by Zoom**

#### **Present**

Kathy Mansfield (Chair), Cliff Green, John Orr, Anthonia Lifu and Sheila Taylor  
(minutes)

#### **Apologies**

Dave Lee, Ron Ellis, Derek Weller, Terry Weller, Deanna Norris and Rosemary Englander

**Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021** - these were agreed as a correct record.

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

The following points arose from the AGM:

- Sheila wondered if the AGM should be changed to March, so that it could receive the accounts for the previous year after they had been signed off. After discussion, it was agreed that the WG should recommend this to the next TBRA meeting.

##### **Action John**

- Ruth Cooke has now submitted signed accounts for 2020-21, which will be presented to the next TBRA meeting. At the AGM it was suggested that a gift should be given to Ruth to thank her for her work as inspector of the accounts and in helping Anthonia and Sheila over the period of transition to a new treasurer. It was agreed that the 5 WG members present would each give £5 for the purchase of some flowers. Kathy said she would try to buy the flowers. **Action Kathy**
- The WCC Play Rangers have offered to come to Tinkers Bridge on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Sheila will write to Tash Darling of WCC to ask for details of the event so that we can advertise it as follows:

The Bridge: Kathy to add to list sent to Sarah

Website: Dave

Facebook: Rosemary

Posters: Cliff

##### **Action as named**

#### **Treasurer's report**

- Anthonia said that there was currently nothing to add to the report presented at the AGM.
- Anthonia and John have visited the bank and filled in forms to arrange for Anthonia to receive bank statements in future.
- Ruth has given Anthonia guidance on how to produce monthly reports for the Working Group. From next month these reports will be circulated in advance of the meeting. **Action Anthonia**
- Anthonia and Ruth found that the laptop is working very slowly and also appears to need renewed virus protection. Kathy looked at it and found that basic virus

protection is still provided. Cliff's son Lawrence is now working on the slow running.

### **Grants report and PRIF**

Sheila gave the following update on grants:

- WCC have agreed that £100 of the “in principle” post-covid grant could be used for the socially distanced Easter activities suggested by Sarah. Kathy and Sheila have been in discussion with Sarah about this and are in the process of sourcing 80 Easter eggs. They are waiting for Sarah to reply to a request for what other resources she needs. If required, Cliff can print leaflets etc and John offered the use of a laminator.
- £80 remains of John's 20-21 ward allowance after £120 was spent on software for the laptop. It was agreed to leave decisions about this for now.
- Two Estate Improvement Fund (EPF) projects, the pergola and the murals on the walls of the meeting place, have now been commissioned by MKC. It was found out too late that the quote from Men in Sheds for the pergola did not allow for the “Welcome to Tinkers Bridge Community Garden” sign. The quote for this was an extra £400. It was agreed to leave the sign for now.
- MKC has also been investigating the other two EPF projects, the canal side path and work on trees on the estate. Tina Guile of MKC has written to us offering a site visit in April to look at the canal side path. She also commented that the costings we have supplied for this project would bring us up to our full allocation of £12K, leaving nothing for the tree works. It was agreed to reply to Tina, welcoming the site visit and stressing that the tree works are important. It is possible that MKC can make savings in the costings of the canal side path by using their own suppliers for materials etc. **Action Sheila**
- Anthonia reported that Anita Sutton has been helping her with her problems arising from tree roots near her property.

### **The Community Plan**

Dave supplied a summary of the actions in the Community Plan. He proposed that each person shown as the lead for an action should write a paragraph updating the plan. After discussion, it was agreed that each member of the Working Group should look through the whole plan with a view to deciding how to move forward with it. There then will be an email discussion about this.

### **Printing costs**

- Ruth supplied a very detailed breakdown comparing income and costs for printing in 2019-20 and 2020-21, with some recommendations for 2021-22. She commented that there are some details which are not known, so her recommendations should be treated with caution and reviewed as the year goes on. In summary she considers that we should be able to afford to print the reduced size version of the Bridge and some other documents within the funds available for the general running of the organisation.

- Kathy commented that the low take up of the Bridge during the period when we have not been delivering is very disappointing. We no longer feel confident that the Bridge is valued and read by the community. It was agreed to suspend door to door deliveries even after they become possible. We will then try continuing with a much smaller print run, combined with delivering the Bridge in as many other ways as possible, including on noticeboards and by electronic means such as the website and on Facebook. It was recognised that these electronic means have not been used consistently in the past and this must be improved.
- There was a further discussion about other uses for the funding for the general running of the organisation if we are able to reduce printing costs. This can be considered as part of the review of the community plan.

### **The Bridge**

The following ideas were put forward as content for the March edition:

- The Easter activities
- The Play Rangers' visit on 7<sup>th</sup> April
- Swan diary
- The new bus service starting in April
- The census

Content should be sent to Kathy by the weekend 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> March

### **RoRE**

Dave circulated the minutes of the last RoRE meeting and of the fly tipping workshop. In his absence, there was no further discussion on this item.

### **Dates of next Zoom meetings**

TBRA Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm

Working Group Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00 pm