

## **Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association**

### **Minutes of the Working Group Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021 by Zoom**

#### **Present**

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

#### **Apologies**

Ron Ellis, Derek Weller, Terry Weller and Rosemary Englander

It was not clear if the new TBRA secretary, Deanna Norris, wants to be part of the Working Group. John will discuss this with her. **Action John**

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

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

- The March TBRA meeting agreed that future AGMs should be held in March, so that it could receive the accounts for the previous year after they had been signed off. However, the minutes of this meeting have not yet been produced. **Action John**
- Kathy bought the flowers for Ruth Cooke and Sheila delivered them. Ruth sent her thanks.
- There is no information about the Play Rangers' visit on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- No Bridge was produced in March.

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

- Anthonia has had a family bereavement and has been unable to produce her report in advance of this meeting. She gave the verbal information that we have received grant income of £300, with no expenditure, leaving a balance at the end of March of £1966.74, with £173.26 in petty cash.
- Following Anthonia and John's visit to the bank, Anthonia is now receiving bank statements directly.
- Kathy's son has worked on the laptop and has improved it. Kathy will now return it to Anthonia. **Action Kathy**
- Next month Anthonia will circulate her report in advance of the meeting. **Action Anthonia**

#### **Grants report and Estate Improvement Fund (EIF)**

Sheila gave the following update on grants:

- The Easter event appears to have gone well. £17 of the £100 grant from WCC was unspent. Sheila will check whether this has to be returned or if it can be held over for a future event. **Action Sheila**

- Other possible grant applications were discussed including for a coach trip and a summer gala with food and live Music. For this latter project, a small working group is needed, initially to produce a costed proposal so that a grant application can be made. John will approach Sarah, Deanna and Cheryl about this with a view to producing this initial plan by the next WG meeting. **Action John**
- £80 remains of John's 20-21 ward allowance after £120 was spent on software for the laptop. It has been agreed to leave decisions about this for now.
- Two EIF projects, the pergola and the murals on the walls of the meeting place, will soon be starting. Tina Guile of MKC has asked for photos of the pergola as it is being built. Cliff will do this. **Action Cliff**
- Kathy, Cliff and Liz O'Shea met Anita Sutton and Euan Darling from the MKC Landscape Team to look at the canal side path. Euan proposed build a woodchip path with "windows" onto the canal for fishing or other waterside activities. MKC can provide woodchips now and on an annual basis thereafter. This means that the main costs of the path will be for labour. Euan will produce costings in 3-4 weeks. He will send them to Tina Guile, who will liaise with TBRA. It is unsure when the work will start.
- Sheila pointed out that WCC originally offered to approach the Payback Team about providing the labour for the path. John will discuss with Donna Fuller and Steve McNay that we will not now be taking up this offer. **Action John**
- There was discussion at the meeting about street lighting along the path. Kathy pointed out that this is not TBRA's responsibility.
- Euan also commented on the proposals for work on the trees on Tinkers Bridge. He was unsure that much could be done and in any case the canal side path will take up most or all of the remaining EIF money. This will be a disappointment to many residents, who have been led to hope that action could be taken about some of the problems caused by trees. Sheila will write to Anita Sutton about this. **Action Sheila**

### **MKC Annual Health Check**

Kathy will complete a first draft of the Health Check form and will send it round to others for comment and other contributions. When the form is complete, Sheila will submit it with other supporting documents. **Action Kathy, Sheila and all**

### **The Community Plan**

The plan was discussed with the following outcomes:

- We will try to find out if residents still have the priorities that they expressed when we wrote the plan. We will note the general headings used in the plan, with space for new priorities to be added, and ask people to name their top three. This will be done on Facebook by Dave and in a one-off full circulation of the Bridge. **Action Dave and Kathy**
- In a recent email, Dave raised the issue of the Welcome Pack, which was produced more recently than the Community Plan. He asked if Rosemary would be willing to update the Pack. She agreed to do so when her health allows and also asked for information about the take-up of the Pack and any feedback that

has been received. It was agreed to find out how many Packs have been distributed so far. Cliff will check with Ron and Sheila will ask the MKC Housing Department. **Action Cliff and Sheila**

### **The Bridge**

Apart from the special edition mentioned above, we remain unsure that delivering the newsletter to every house is cost-effective. In the one-off edition we will tell residents that we intend to stop doing this unless there is strong feedback that the newsletter is valued. Contents of this edition will be:

- Advertising TBRA meetings
- A questionnaire about priorities for a new Community Plan (see above)
- A request for Feedback about the value of delivering the Bridge to every door.
- The proposal for a summer gala and a request for people to help organise it.

### **RoRE**

- RoRE's recent AGM was followed by a workshop on fly-tipping. Eaglestone RA reported on some success with fly tipping, involving a lot of hard work by members of the RA.
- Dave reported that the Estate Renewal Forums on Fullers Slade and the Lakes Estate have had some problems. The Forums on Woughton estates will begin in September.
- RoRE has passed on the suggestion that candidates in the forthcoming local elections should be asked about the ISO 9001 standard which deals with how local authorities deal with customer complaints.

### **Any Other Business**

Cliff asked for feedback on his recent email to John, in which he explained that he had used the TBRA printer to produce documents in connection with the appeal by the owners of 4 Holmfield Close against MKC refusal of planning consent for a new house to be built in their grounds. In the email, he proposed that he should pay TBRA £26 as a reimbursement for this private use of the printer. This was unanimously accepted.

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

TBRA Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm

Working Group Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 pm