

Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association

Minutes of the Working Group Meeting held on 14th July 2021 by Zoom

Present

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

Apologies

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

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2021 - these were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

None

Treasurer's report

Anthonia met Ruth as planned and received useful advice about how to use the spreadsheet. There was no financial activity in June. The balance in the bank account and petty cash combined is therefore unchanged at £2807.73.

Community and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Dave noted that we have been asked to make comments on a range of environmental issues to this committee. The relevant meeting is on Tuesday 20th July, with the deadline for comments on Thursday 17th. Dave identified three areas on which we should comment:

- Landscaping and maintenance of HRA (Housing Revenue Account) land on estates – it is noted that work on tree maintenance has started on the estate. Anthonia commented that a lot of work has been done behind Colne but it has not yet been cleared up satisfactorily. It was felt that this work is to be welcomed but comment should be reserved till more has been done.
- Pest control – rats and other vermin have long been a concern for residents, although there seem to have been less complaints recently. The provision of wheelie bins might help with this.
- Cleansing/litter/fly tipping – our regular litter pickers have not been able to do as much as usual because of Covid. Fly tipping is a major problem and has got worse during the lockdown. Better enforcement is needed. All estates have been offered the use of litter picking tools and we have requested some but it was felt this was not a relevant comment for the committee at this stage.

Sheila will send these comments to the committee by the deadline. **Action Sheila**

The Bridge

Assuming that the publication date will be just in time to advertise the next TBRA meeting on 29th July, it should be possible to publish information about summer activities (see below). Cliff asked if the Bridge should now go back to being 4 pages long. It was agreed to leave this to Sarah and Kathy. **Action Sarah and Kathy**

RoRE

- Emily Darlington attended the most recent meeting and talked about the Decent Homes Standard. The Council's target is now to have 95% of homes meeting this target in 3-4 years. The previous target was 67%.
- The £60m funding for the demolition and re-provision of Serpentine Court on the Lakes Estate has been to Cabinet and is being discussed at Full Council tonight.
- Tom Bulman of Citizens MK gave an interesting presentation about how change happens, using the example of how pupils at Southwood School on Conniburrow tackled the problem of litter on their estate.

The summer gala

John has not yet had a formal meeting about this but he has had discussion with a number of people and he made the following proposal:

- The event should be held on the green area next to the Meeting Place rather than the Community Garden because it is likely to be more Covid-compliant and will give us access to the facilities of the Meeting Place..
- Three areas of work are suggested – music and other family entertainment such as karaoke/"Tinkers Bridge Has Got Talent", food and drink and children's activities.
- John has talked to Darren Fuller, Cliff and Sarah about these three areas and has had other offers of help.
- He is proposing that grant funding should be divided equally between the three areas
- Sheila pointed out that she has had no reply to her email to WCC asking about how to access this funding.

Agreed Actions:

- **Continue to plan the event with named people – John**
- **Talk to WCC about the funding – John**
- **Write to Donna Fuller to ask for her help with funding – Sheila**
- **Meet to discuss catering – John and Cliff**

Grants report

- See above for update on the summer gala.
- Sheila and Deanna have been discussing the seaside coach trip. An application was made to WCC for a grant but there will not be a response till 22nd July, which will make it very difficult to organise the trip for its provisional date of 7th August. After discussion, it was agreed to change the date to Wednesday 25th August. Sheila will get new quotes for this date and will update the WCC application if necessary. Deanna will give Sarah information for the Bridge if funding is granted. **Action Sheila and Deanna**

Any Other Business

- Cliff asked if anyone else had received recycling bags that were faulty. Most people said they were not yet using the most recently delivered bags, **Action – all to check and let Cliff know**

- Community Action initiative about community intelligence – there is a meeting about this on 20th July at 2pm. John will try to go and Sheila will write to Kathy to see if she is interested. **Action John and Kathy**
- Welcome Pack – Sheila to discuss with Rosemary **Action Sheila**

Dates of next Zoom meetings

TBRA Thursday 29th July at 7.30 pm NB there was discussion about whether this should be a real, rather than a virtual, meeting but it was decided to leave this for at least one more month.

Working Group Wednesday 11th August at 7.00 pm Cliff and Sheila will both be away for this.