



Attendees:

John Orr (Chair); Cassandra Pearson; Wayne Clements; Ron Ellis; Rebecca Brown (Community Action MK); Paul Hurcombe; Barbara Willis; Carly Wright; George; Jenny Hathaway and Gideon Clark; Marissa Anderson; Sam Hegarty. Nicky Johnson (notes).

Apologies:; April Rennie; Kirsty Rennie; Nicky Noyce

**Action
by whom**

1 Welcome and introductions

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed members.

2 Minutes of the previous minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting (29 May 2014) were approved and were available on the Facebook page for those who had access. If you do not have access to the page, please contact April or Nicky and they will provide you with a printed copy.

Matters arising

Several members expressed concern that it had been reported that the Tesco Express on the estate may move to Ashlands. John Orr would investigate the matter and report on it at the next meeting.

3 Chair's report

Street dance was well attended and going from strength to strength. A small amount of funding has been obtained, but this was not enough to support it wholly and members were being asked to contribute. The hall costs £10 per hour with insurance costs and the instructor is paid £40 per week. As the hall is there for the residents it was considered an unfair charge and should be provided free of charge. There were issues with the T shirt quality that Cassandra was dealing with. John will investigate a £250 grant for Residents Association costs that may be available from Woughton Community.

Arts and Crafts also going from strength to strength. An average of 20 attendees was quoted. The activity will stop in the holiday period, with

ad hoc sessions only.

The 3rd Estate Clean Up had been successful in clearing Colne. 17 Tons of rubbish had been cleared. Much of this was due to poor handover of housing and neglect on the part of the council.

April and John had walked around with representatives from the council. The rubbish on the estate and that moved by the clear up day were results of different departments within the council. i.e. Landscaping for the bushes and grass/weeds, Housing for the ivy cleared from walls. The representative also asked that rubbish cleared on these days were put into black bags for normal collection.

On a walkaround yesterday, a list of fly tipping had been made.

It was noted that the grass had not been cut for the last event in Colne Park and that much of the rubbish found would be alleviated by bins in the park. There are presently no bins there. The bins by Bascote park were the result of lottery money and are maintained/emptied by joint effort of residents and the council, with the residents emptying them every second week. It was felt that the Council could come up with money to provide bins as the council tax had gone up by 5% and money was being saved on grass cutting/landscaping across the community.

4 Financial report

Funding has come in for seaside trips and for street dance. We are holding a small amount of money for Woughton Football and street dance. The monies held for the juniors had been doubled by match funding.

5 Events

Skegness (26 July) and Weymouth (9th August) will be visited this year. Funding had come in resulting in only a £5 per person charge for residents. There is a non-refundable deposit to secure seats and the remainder can be paid by weekly instalment.

Woughton Carnival will be taking place Saturday 28th June. Marshalls are still needed for this event.

The 4th estate clean up will take place at the end of July and concentrate on Hatton.

Britain in Bloom judges will be coming on 3rd July. The scoring system includes 40% for community activities 30% for environmental activities and 30% on gardening, so we are hoping for a higher than expected result and the opportunity exists to increase our score in years to come.

Serco have requested an environmental day to show case the vehicles and educate people on recycling. John to contact Helen or Robin

Watson to arrange this. There is an opportunity to link this to Tony Brown's landscaping endeavour to educate about recycling and waste with the leaflets "How to recycle in Milton Keynes". It may also be a subject for the juniors association.

6 Trees

A public meeting to deal with trees, (maintenance and management) was called for. The 3 ward councillors will be invited. There are too many trees on the estate, too close to the housing stock causing damage to it and cracking/moving pavements. Many of the trees are diseased. They need chopping back, thinning and some need removing. On the whole the trees owned by the Parks Trust are managed, but those nearer the houses are owned by the council who do not manage the trees.

Coffee Hall has had some success in persuading the council to manage theirs and gaining funding. Wayne Clements to collaborate with John Orr on this.

A meeting on 21st August was proposed and unanimously agreed.

A request was made for the promised report on diseased trees from last year.

7 Noisy neighbours

Problems with noisy neighbours had been experienced on Colne and Congreve, including music, shouting and revving/racing cars around. Mediation is taking place. There is an out of hours number to call in the event of excess noise: 01908 226699.

The homeless man on Brent had been removed, but his car is still there. It is expected that this will be removed shortly.

8 No cold calling zone

It was suggested that Tinkers Bridge become a no cold calling zone. This would not affect known traders or staff from the community calling/knocking on doors. This was unanimously passed.

9 AOB

Rebecca was doing a short wellness survey. Volunteers to complete the survey were given forms to fill in.

10 Next meeting:

31 July 2014 7.30pm