

## Meeting

Community house  
Tinkers Bridge  
31st July 2014



### Attendees:

John Orr (Chair); Alex Carvello; Vincent Pretorius; Alison Wright; Ron Ellis; Carrie-Ann Pugh; Cheryl Wales; Amy Wales; Lisa Anderson; Cassandra Pearson; Bill Fuller; Cllr Donna Fuller (Woughton Community Council); Nicky Fulton (WCC); Paul Hurcombe; Sam Hegarty; Tina Douglas; Anthony Douglas; Barbara Willis; Kayleigh David; Carly Wright; April Rennie; Nikki Storey, George Vincent, Rebecca Brown (Community Action MK); Nicky Johnson (notes).

Late :Alex Wells;

Apologies: Kirsty Rennie; Jenny Hathaway and Giddion

### Action by whom

#### 1 Welcome and apologies

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed members.

#### 2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting (31 July 2014) were approved and were available on the Face book 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.

#### 3 Chair's report

Arts and Crafts will be re-starting in September. Street Dance was ongoing. The fun day took place and was well attended. Funds were raised by the juniors, Street Dance, gave two performances .Dog show well attended and there was an added agility category this year.

Members were requested to continue reporting incidents of fly tipping to April or mention it on Face Book and these will be logged with Serco by phone.

Vandalism should be reported to 101 or crime stoppers

The juniors would like to do litter picking , John will organize these with Paul. Members were reminded that in the interests of safeguarding the children should be accompanied on this activity by a minimum of two adults. If you wish to organize one of these, let John know and he will

ensure that the tools are available to do it.

One tree survey had been done and another would be organized soon with Alex Carvello, who has a background of structural engineering. His help is much appreciated in identifying the consequences of the placement of the trees on the housing stock.

#### **4 Treasurers report**

The insurance sort and paid for the year. Funds had come in from fun day and the accounts were looking healthy, but there was nothing further of note to report at this time.

#### **5 Proposal of planning permission (extra item)**

Alex Carvello and Vincent Pretorius, landlords of several properties on the estate had proposed the alteration of 13 Blisworth from a 3 bedroomed property to two, two bedroomed properties. The Council had requested our views on the proposed plans. Issues raised:

Parking: the estate already has a significant parking problem, this would mean more cars.

As the landlords were part of the 'Homes in Partnership' programme, designed to encourage the housing of homeless families by using government services for advertising, interviewing and securing tenants, most families housed in this way do not own a car, so no impact would be felt on the parking issues currently experienced.

In addition, they have applied to the council to buy the front areas between the road and the house in order to lay Grass Cree, which will stop damage done by cars parking on the grassed areas.

Noise: There was already a high noise level both within the houses and in the open spaces on the estate.

As part of the renovations, all houses owned by these landlords had received an extra layer of sound proofing on adjoining walls, in addition to the extra insulation in the roofing space made possible by the use of grants which would also impact on the amount of noise travelling between houses.

A vote was taken on recommending approval of the planning permissions. The vote was passed by 11 to 3 with 7 abstaining. A recommendation was made it should be asked of 'Homes in Partnership' and the council that priority was given to overcrowded council tenants already living in Tinkers Bridge.

John will work with Donna to draft an answer to the council.

#### **5 Arts and Crafts**

Our arts and crafts club has been running for a while now and has gone from strength to strength thanks to the efforts of all those involved. Originally set up in partnership with the Woughton

Community Council. Due to the community councils youth worker resigning after the first two weeks of the club the bulk of the work-load of running it fell on the shoulders of members of the residents association. The club surprised all by announcing that they were becoming an independant organisation with immediate effect. Consequently, with the help of Nicky Fulton at the community council and Rebbeca the community action mobiliser the group had become a constituted group and would now be able to apply for funding in its own right. Nicky Fulton spoke on the groups behalf and Cassandra said that the sessions would continue as before. WCC will help with training.

The group were congratulated on their progress, a vote was taken and unanimously passed by the meeting to wish the club every success. The group thanked the Residents Association for their support in enabling and empowering them so far.

## **6 Alleyways**

The blockages in the alleyways is causing problems for people needing access for a mobility scooter in one area. It was noted that all alleyways had problems with rubble/rubbish blocking them. The alleyways were a significant security concern and an eyesore. Some had gates but most gates had been stolen over the years. Repeated requests to the council to clear them had yielded no results.

It was noted that Serco was due to receive the contract for landscaping in November and recommended that particular mention to the alleyways be made in the contract. This would help us in demands for action on them. Maurice Barns will be invited to the next meeting. Lorraine Essam will also be writing to the council on behalf of the individual with the mobility scooter.

## **7 Street Dance**

Street dance attendance had been slipping lately. The Chair asked for support from the association for the relaunch of the Street Dance class. Discussions are continuing to investigate ways to improve the sessions.

In order to help the children concentrate during the sessions and to minimise distractions, it is asked that only those who are dancing are present in the room. Ideally parents should drop children off and collect them at the end. If parents wish they can wait in the kitchen and corridor area. Concern was expressed by a mother that vulnerable children would need the support of a parent present in the room, what would happen if a number of children played up at once or if a child was to run out the door. The chair assured the meeting that where necessary exceptions could be made in such cases until the child settled into the class. Mothers are allowed to take part in the lesson as there is no upper age limit.

It was felt that the instructor had worked extensively with the children and significant results in children's behavior had been seen.

John will also organize a door knocking exercise to encourage membership and Nicky Fulton will speak to youth workers to see if they have children who would like to attend.

**8 Raffle**

The raffle for the bike was drawn and won by Terry Baines from Fishermead.

Half the money will go to Lisa's Fund and the other half to Leanne Duggans fundraising 'Baby's with Wings'.

**9 AOB**

The other items on the agenda were not discussed due to lack of time. They would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**10 Next meeting:**

26 September 2014 7.30pm

JO/nj