

**Attendees:**

John Orr (Chair); Nicky Johnson (notes); Ron Ellis; Sam Snelus (MKC); Sarah Power (WCC); Paul Hure; Anne Bircham (YourMK); Jenny Hathaway; Dave Lee; Anne Bircham (YourMK); Sheila Taylor; Neasham Galloway; Sam Hegarty; Vincent.

**Apologies:**

Lesley Berry; Kathy Higgins; Barbara Willis; Terry Weller; Derek Weller; Rosemary Englander

**Action  
by whom**

**1**

**Welcome**

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed members.

**2**

**Chairs report**

John Orr attended the Services meeting at WCC. The grant that the working group had applied for for the trip to the Panto had not been approved because of prior advertising. Objection was made to this as we had merely canvassed for interest and responded immediately upon WCC complaining of advertising the event. It had been recommended at the council that we re-apply in November. However, this was unlikely to give us enough time to organise the trip especially as deposits were needed and we had hoped for setting up payment plans.

Gideon had contacted the Charles Warren Academy and secured agreement with the head to be able to play football there once a week. Gideon was currently processing the checks to ensure child protection.

WCC are looking at the council tax and currently looking at a 3% or 6% rise.

Grant aid of £500 had been approved from the environmental fund to improve the raised beds.

£250 had been received from Pauline Prop to put towards the Christmas dinner. Donations for this would be welcomed. The hall had also been booked for this. The hall had also been booked for the 3rd December for the children's party.

We had received a cheque for £25 from the Justice and Peace network for a talk John gave on Regeneration and The Housing Act of 2014.

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### **Environmental Report**

Ron is currently working on removing as much ivy as possible from the houses. Raised beds: Terry and Derek have started on the beds in the community garden and have done a wonderful job. Paul has been doing a lot of work around the estate clearing litter and was thanked for this. Ron also paid tribute to Paul for all his help, including when he was on a week's holiday from work.

Serco have picked up quite a lot of rubbish however, there are two places where there is persistent fly-tipping at the back of Colne and at the back of Hatton. Lorraine Essam was working with Ron on this.

The lights on Colne and the rest of the estate have had a lot of problems. The two on the roundabout are particularly difficult to get the council to action. Ron and Paul are working on this.

4 or 5 bags of leaves have been raked up by Ron. Serco's new management has organized some more bags for us for this purpose. Ron needs help raking leaves. A blower is being lent by WCC to help with moving them. He has also got a hedge cutter and has been trimming hedges.

An outside firm 'Ringways' had been engaged to survey the problem of roots disturbing the pathways on Tinkers Bridge. They were seen to be inspecting roots this week.

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### **Treasurers report**

We currently have £3,445.94 in the bank. We have paid out for the website £70 and donated £50 for the queen's birthday party to the brownies. In addition to the £25 cheque from the MK Justice and peace network and the £500 grant money for the raised beds mentioned before we also received a cheque from Pauline Prop which is to go to the organisation of the Christmas meal.

We have spent £511.66 on Printer; paper, stapler; staples; Toner; Cable from printer to pc connection; paper. Leaving £128.30 in the petty cash. There was a large amount of printing we did this month for WCC in order to get the responses for the neighbourhood plan. We have spent an extra £135 on toner which has not gone through the petty cash yet. The treasurer has yet to get to the bank to replenish the petty cash tin. As we had approximately 4 times the amount of printing than we would normally expect, we are unable to give an approximate costing for the newsletter.

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### **Neighbourhood plan**

Copies of the summary document, an adjusted response form and an example form had gone out with the newsletter. The importance of the

response was explained. Some responses had been posted through Nicky's door but not many. There would be a door knocking exercise to retrieve the rest over the weekend. Ron would do Buckby, Broadwater and Marshworth with Paul. The brothers would do Hatton and Colne. Nicky and John would do Brent, Blisworth; Bascote and Congreve.

Nicky would let Ron have a list of all households who had already responded.

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## **Regeneration**

The YourMK website was up and running. You can report repairs, see responsibilities and various other items. If anyone sees errors, please let Anne Bircham know.

Tinkers Bridge condition survey would be in phase 2 due to take place after Christmas. Council tenants will get a letter before 4<sup>th</sup> January giving details.

A new magazine MK at home is being delivered to council tenants. There are stock piles at WCC and family centres for anyone else who would like to see it. It was requested that Anne bring some to the next meeting.

The National Economic foundation has been contracted for community guidance on changes. The survey will give a feel of what the community wants in terms of change.

The loanshark money is still up for grabs, however, it was felt that timescales are too tight to be of use to this community at the moment.

Hedgerows are keen for Tinkers Bridge to use its facilities. Although we advertise a few events in the newsletter, there were many more. Anne would speak to Tina of Hedgerows who will email details to Nicky.

The chair asked who to email about financial matters of YourMK. Answer: David Gleeson.

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## **Working Group**

There was an MK regeneration committee meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Several of the members attended in TB T-shirts and found it useful and informative. The next one would be on 10<sup>th</sup> January. The meeting did not have a scrutiny function. Sheila would investigate which of the housing committee meetings did have this and advertise it in The Bridge.

There was a housing forum meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November between 7:30 and 9pm.

The working group times had changed from Thursday to Wednesdays and will take place at The Charles Warren Academy.

WCC held an 'Apple day' on 15 Oct. those that attended said it was a

really good day and thanked WCC for arranging it.

The Working group made a request for more people to volunteer to help projects get off the ground. There were a small number of people doing a lot and some projects could not go forward as there were not enough people to organize events.

Sarah from WCC tabled Chairs Award nomination forms. She noted that there were new categories this year and a list could be found on the forms. Nominations were required by 31<sup>st</sup> December.

## **9 Website presentation**

There was a presentation of the website by Dave Lee. Dave had done an enormous amount of work on the website and was thanked by the group.

## **10 WCC Grants**

A consultation/celebration is planned for January (28<sup>th</sup>) with purpose (among others), of recruiting more people to join in organising activities. It will showcase what has been done so far and will include food and entertainment. The meeting place is available for this. The meeting agreed to apply to WCC for grant aid to fund this event.

Help was needed to carry out the project of renewing the raised beds. John would order Timber.

We did not get the application for the Panto trip from WCC. There was a lot of disappointment about this. It was felt that if we re-applied in November there would not be enough time to collect deposits and make arrangements. It was agreed that John would speak to WCC to express our disappointment. It was also agreed that John would speak to Kevin Wilson on monies that may be used instead.

## **11 Next meeting:**

24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 it was noted that there would be no meeting in December.

JO/nj