

Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association Meeting AGM 23 February 2017

Present: John Orr (Chairperson); Lesley Berry (Secretary); Ron Ellis (Vice-Chairperson); Anne Bircham (YourMK); Lauren Wainwright (P.C.S.O.); K. Adams; T. Douglas; A. Douglas; W. Fuller; N. Galloway; C. Green; S. Hegarty; Kathy Higgins; P. Horcombe; N. Johnson; D. Lee; M. Skeets; S. Snelus (MK Council); S. Taylor; D. Weller; T. Weller; A. Wells; B. Wilkes.

Apologies: R. Englander; B. Fuller; C. Green.

John Orr welcomed all to the meeting.

1.0 Minutes of the last meeting

1.1 Approved and signed.

2.0 Chair's Report

John has attended several Council meetings at the Council and has asked how much of our taxpayers' money is sent to the Government. The reply was that they did not know. John had calculated that £1.5 billion had been sent but that the Council received only 1-2% of this back. John asked that the Council stand up to the Government but the Council replied that they did not know what he meant.

Further points arising out of Chair's Report.

a) John said that Local Government funding has been changed without consultation and will be down to nil by 2020. MK Council Tax meanwhile has been raised by 5%.

b) New Homes Bonus. Milton Keynes will not receive this.

c) Housing and Communities Committee. Discussed the role of Residents' Associations.

d) The People's Assembly Conference. John addressed the conference on the subject of austerity.

Regeneration Watch MK has been set up representing the 7 estates to be regenerated. Each estate will be consulted upon how they wish to proceed. Each estate will get a referendum concerning what they want done. The results of the Stock Condition Survey are awaited.

3. 0 All Council Meeting minutes can be found on the relevant websites.

4. 0 There have been four meetings of the Council's Regeneration Committee, which oversees the relationship between MKC and Mears.

4.1 The next meeting is on 12th April at 6.30.

4.2 Sheila asked that as many people as possible attend Council meetings and wear their I LOVE TINKERS BRIDGE tee-shirts.

5.0 Discussion ensued relating to the viability of the estates and whether the buildings were ever meant to be permanent.

5.1 Anne Bircham said that the Council was taking up offers on the 'Right to Buy' homes.

5.2 It was possible that the Council would buy privately owned homes, which it would manage and let to its own tenants.

6.0 Treasurer's Report (John Orr)

6.1 Mavis Boatwright will take on the role of Treasurer.

6.2 The accounts have been passed to an auditor.

6.3 There will still need to be 3 signatories for the accounts.

6.4 The Chair thanked Nicky for all her hard work.

7.0 Environmental Report (Ron Ellis)

7.1 Clutter has been removed.

7.2 Low branches have been cut off; shrubs have been cut back; the chippings have been used on paths and gardens.

7.3 Residents have adopted some of the raised beds and are tending them.

7.4 Rubbish - a few problems exist because some residents are unaware of the procedures for putting out rubbish on collection days. Pamphlets have been delivered to all residents explaining the procedures and availability of bags and boxes.

7.5 Ron thanked his team and also Lorraine Essam, the team from Woughton and Serco.

8.0 Election of Officers (John Orr temporarily stood down from the Chair during the election of a Chairperson. Chair occupied by Sam Snelus)

8.1 Chairperson - John Orr (nominated by Kathy and Barbara; seconded by Ron) Carried.

8.2 Secretary- Lesley Berry (nominated by John; seconded by Barbara) Carried.

8.3 Treasurer - Mavis Boatwright (nominated by John; seconded by ?) Carried on condition that reports will be made available to the meetings.

8.4 Vice-Chairperson - Paul Horcombe (Sheila Taylor, Kevin Adams and Paul Horcombe were nominated; Kevin and Sheila withdrew; Paul was elected by a show of hands.) Carried

8.5 Events' Co-ordinator - Position still vacant.

8.6 Environmental Officer - Ron Ellis. Carried by mutual consent.

8.7 Committee Members- quorum of 6 - Terry Weller; Derek Weller; Nicky Johnson; Dave Lee; Kevin Adams; Sam Hegarty; Barbara Wilkes; Bill Fuller.

9. Confirmation of the Constitution

9.1 Constitution approved and signed.

9.2 Constitution to be reviewed in 2019.

10. Clearing of rubbish

10.1 Mavis requested clearance of rubbish near her area and Ron suggested obtaining a reference no from the Council.

10.2 Funding for cleaning has been cut and street cleaning will occur every eight weeks.

11.0 Milton Keynes Police (Lauren Wainwright PC.S.O)

11.1 If anyone has issues they should raise them with Lauren.

11.2 Crime figures are down. There was a theft of tobacco from Tesco.

11.3 Lauren will write an article for The Bridge.

11.4 Should anyone require advice or help re crime prevention, contact Ed Allington.

12.0 YourMK (Anne Bircham)

12.1 Please email Anne if you have questions - her details are on the website.

12.2 Information is being circulated re The Prince's Trust scheme and Anne hopes that 13 young people from the Regeneration estates will become involved.

13.0 First Steps Working Group (Kathy Higgins)

13.1 The Working Group is making progress with executing the community action plan.

13.2 A need for an Events' Co-ordinator.

14.0 Funding Sub-Committee update (Sheila Taylor)

14.1 Tesco Bags of Help Scheme: 1st March - 29th April.

There will be widespread publicity.

14.2 January 28th Celebration Event - Apart from committee members and other officers etc., fewer than ten adult residents attended - those who did enjoyed it but it was very disappointing.

14.3 Residents are invited to give us their thoughts on future events so that we can apply for funding grants if necessary.

15.0 Any Other Business

None

The next meeting of TBRA will be held on Thursday 30th March 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.0 p.m.