

# Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association

28<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**Present:** John Orr (chair), April Towell, Donna Fuller, Kathy Mansfield, Cliff Green, Deanna Norris (Minutes) and Sheila Taylor, Tina Douglas, Vincent Pitourious, Kirsty Rennie, Kerry King, Amee Tompkins,

**Apologies:** Anthonia Lui, David Lee, Terry Weller, Derek Weller and Ron Ellis

**Guests:** Gary Marshall, Milton Keynes Council (MKC), Sean Perry and Kevin Vickers, Woughton Community Council (WCC). Donna Fuller attended both as a Tinkers Bridge resident and as the Leader of WCC.

		Action by whom
1	<b>Welcome</b> John Orr opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and listed apologies	
2	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b> The minutes of the previous meeting (23/09/21) were not available. They will be sent out.	
3	<b>Introduction of guests</b> Gary was introduced from Milton Keynes Council looking for more tenant involvement to update the tenant handbook so that rather than it being a fictional book it will be written and coerced by people living in the community. Sean Perry (Community services manager WWC), role is to cover the community cafes, larder, and community fridges. Looking to expand more into Woughton community including Tinkers Bridge. Kevin Vickers from the Woughton community Council (Community development and events), runs and does projects with coffee hall but very keen to get Tinkers Bridge involved along with other estates also. Donna fuller (Ward councillor MKC), Woughton and Fishermead, Tinkers Bridge is a part of. Attending as a guest and as a resident of Tinkers Bridge.	
4	<b>Chairs' Report</b> Nothing to report unless covered by later parts of the meeting.	
5	<b>Treasurers Report</b> Anthonia could not attend the meeting due to a last-minute emergency.	

<b>6</b>	<b>Environmental Report</b> <p>Litter pick took place, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, bags of rubbish were left on Aldenham and more has since been added to it by the public, needs to be picked up by MKC, John to chase. Work has been completed on the path behind Marshworth / Canal, details to be discussed at the working group.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Working Group report</b> <p>Kathy gave a brief description of the history and role of the Working Group. The group was set up to originally manage the first steps community action plan that only Tinkers bridge got funding for, other estates could apply. It was formed five years ago and meets every month, two weeks after each TBRA meeting. Members have specific responsibilities. They are, Kathy, Chair; Sheila, grants; Anthonia, treasurer; Cliff, printing; Ron, Terry and Derek, IT and Website; Dave. Sarah Mitchell, with help from Kathy, is editor of The Bridge. The group's agenda varies with the seasons. It plans regular events during easter, summer, Halloween &amp; Christmas.</p> <p>The Working Groups job is to take the next steps from ideas and plans rolled out during the residents' meetings and get them moving along.</p> <p>The working group took hold of the regeneration project and attended all council and subcommittee meetings, TBRA was represented at every meeting, this led the charge of the 7 estates having an association, this is called RORE, so that each estate had once voice and one main contact, ours is David.</p> <p>2021 / 2021 public realm improvement fund, as an estate we were offered money and discussed how to spend it, one of the projects was the Murals around the meeting place, we had it updated by the original artists. The community garden gazebo was renewed as it was very worn and in need of TLC. Also opening the back of Marshworth where there is a pathway and lighting to get alongside the canal side.</p> <p>TB newsletter was discussed and addressed that this is no longer delivered door to door but can be found on the book table, it is on a mail out list to be emailed and there are some available at the post office.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Funding Update</b> <p>Sheila takes charge of the funding, firstly MKC and WWC give us a grant for the general running of the organisation, for this we have to do a health check for MKC to show how we use this or plan to use this, we have always scored great on this. A portion goes on DBS checks and printing.</p> <p>Second funding is a grant aid from MKC and WWC, with thanks, WWC</p>	

	<p>has funded our seaside summer trip, also a £500 post covid celebration grant. We have spent half of that on the summer gala. We have spent the rest of this on the Halloween event and added selection boxes for the Christmas event coming up. MKC give us £800 this year, does vary year to year, this is to go towards Santa's sleigh going around and for the annual Christmas pantomime trip, organised by Deanna, this can only be advertised publicly once we have full approval, Gary has said the application has been approved just needed to be approved to be officially paid out. Enquiries have been made and all is in place to advertise and get booked in once confirmation comes through. There will be around £200 left of this, we should spend it as we have been awarded it. April wants to hold a get together for all elves and people taking part at the end of the run with hot dogs and hot chocolate ending at Colne with Santa and the sleigh. Amount to go towards this to be discussed between April and Sheila.</p> <p>It was also discussed using the £200 approx. left over from the grant for the community café start up.</p> <p>Third kind of funding is for a special grant for special event, we need to have a plan to do something, have someone in place to help and then ask for the grant to accommodate this</p> <p>With the spare money from the grant, April was asking if we could do more for the children, colouring competitions, and rewards for winning. Christmas card competition was spoken about, designing a card. Donna fuller recommended getting plain cards and envelopes for children to decorate and to hand out to residents on the estate, April is also doing hampers for the elderly so these could be handed out with those.</p> <p>John asked about bulb planting with the excess money, around the estate to brighten the place up.</p>	<p>Voted by all</p> <p>Voted by everyone</p>
9	<p><b>Updates on Regeneration MK and RORE Meetings.</b></p> <p>Not much to advise, the renewal is still ongoing, the outside of house's are being done on an ad hoc basis. The cladding is being renewed. Now it seems as and when people complain or report an issue, they are then renewing the cladding.</p> <p>A resident has brought up on how they get a landlord to take repairs etc seriously or help with a rouge landlord that won't do work required. MKC can be contact, and they can go to the landlord and explain that the tenant isn't happy with the service provided. John advised when he has previously helped tenants, he has emailed a council private sector team he will cc in the councillor for the local ward, the cabinet member for housing and also the council leader so that everybody in the chain will be aware of the issue. As chair of the resident's association and parish councillor John can support and demand actions to take the case seriously and get it seen by people who are able to make decisions.</p>	
10	<p><b>Community Café / Fridge / Larder discussion</b></p> <p>Community fridge is to help prevent waste and to stop food going to landfill but is becoming more popular to help people struggling. The larder is a membership scheme you pay a sign-up fee and the £3.50</p>	

	<p>individual fee or £7 family fee, this is cupboard food not going out of date. There is also a Café, this is for helping the community engage more and welcoming them in to talk and get out, have a cup of tea and a slice of cake and unload if needed.</p> <p>It was discussed it is not only the school mums or people on benefits that are struggling there are 'JAM' (just about managing) families that are working and claiming and just getting by.</p> <p>It is proposed that we start up a café on a Saturday, this will help a lot of people overall. April has been going to coffee hall and making a lot of enquiries at other estates to help get this rolling.</p> <p>April is very willing to get this rolling and moving so that the estate can benefit from this, it was decided that April will lead this.</p> <p>Kevin discussed about the previous discussion around this subject, starting with a Café, offering free goods from the community fridges for people attending. Going forward tonight's meeting was to decide where and where we want this to go ahead.</p> <p>Sean spoke about the larder, café and fridge on other estates and advised that he thinks starting off with a café first is wise.</p> <p>People wanting to help and get involved includes Deanna, John, Cliff, April, Kerry, Kirsty, Donna, Tina, Sheila, Kevin, Sean. April and cliff to run this alongside each other.</p>	<p>Approved by all</p> <p>Approved by all</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Pantomime Trip 11<sup>th</sup> December (Subject to funding approval)</b></p> <p>This years panto is running on the 11<sup>th</sup> December, Deco theatre Northampton, the show is Aladdin, we meet at the meeting place, a coach takes us, we watch the show and then the coach brings us back. This will cost the residents £5 per person and the rest will be paid as part of the grant from the MKC.</p>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Santa Sleigh Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December (Subject to funding approval)</b></p> <p>The sleigh, transport and Santa are provided by WWC. We are looking to go around the estate from 4pm, when it starts to get darker, Kevin, Sean, Steve and others have put lights etc on the sleigh to make it more magical.</p> <p>The sleight will go around at 4pm street to street and the elves will be handing out Selection boxes to children residing on Tinkers bridge. We will end on Colne and have a little get together with hot dogs and chocolate as a thank you and well done to everyone for helping.</p> <p>We have elf costumes for adults and children taking part in the event.</p>	<p>4pm approved by all</p>
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Feedback from Halloween</b></p> <p>Halloween was discussed, there is a map going around with residents that wish to take part and also houses that do not wish for children to knock on their doors.</p>	

14	<p><b>A.O.B</b></p> <p>Tina brought up cars parking on the roundabouts and on the side verges of the streets. Donna advise that we ask Paul Harrison to our next meeting, he looks after parking and all associated problems.</p> <p>We need to put parking / traffic on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	
15	<p><b>Date of next Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> November</b></p>	