

WIGSTON CIVIC SOCIETY

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2017 AT AGE UK, PADDOCK STREET

Present: Committee: Peter Cousins (in the chair), Maureen Waugh, Peter Holmes, Val Beesley, Nicola Alexander, Colin Hames, Roy Hughes, Colin Towell, (8)

Members: Malcolm and Pat Glasse, Helen Hay, Gaynor Johnson. (4)

The meeting commenced with a brainstorming session on the street names project, the results of which are recorded separately.

1 Apologies: Apologies were received from John and Yvonne Woodward.

2 The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2017 were approved and signed.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 (3.1) Overhanging Hedges: Moat Street remained as before and new cases on Meadow Way and Willow Park Drive were raised, the Chairman will report these. In addition the very poor state of a property at 4 Langton Close had been reported to the local Councillor.

3.2 (3.2) Land Adjacent to the Swimming Pool: A letter had been sent to the Council with copies as previously agreed. *After the meeting a site meeting with the Council, PotB and the Academy was arranged for 30 October at 2pm.*

3.3 (3.3) Society Poster: Suggestions for display locations were: Record Office, digital notice board, South Leics College, Wigston College, Churches and their magazines, Age UK, Billy Cox, Brocks Hill. Together with an article in Letterbox.

3.4 (3.4) Traffic Warning Signs: The Newton Lane traffic light changes signs have not yet been reported. Flood signs had been left out at Crow Mill; this was not a good idea as motorists will not take notice when they need to

3.5 (3.7) Litter: It was suggested that the boundary at the Stonesby Avenue railway bridge was on the city side. Nothing further to report.

3.6 (3.11) Peacock Place, Davenport Plaque: Jelsons to be contacted about the erection of their totem pole.

4 Society Events

4.1 14 September Lecture: The unanimous view was that the lecture had been very successful. All 80 tickets had been sold and the net profit after room hire and lecturers fees was £157.

4.2 Skittles Matches: There had been no reply from Oadby CS. *After the meeting a reply was received but although the Society would welcome a match there was no room in its calendar until early 2018, however as the Leicester CS match would be at this time an autumn event had been*

suggested. It was decided to hold a skittles evening with an open invitation, table skittles at the Conservative Club or if not at the Star and Garter. *Later fixed for the Conservative Club on Friday 17 November.*

5. Website/Facebook: The website is up to date. Some rearrangement of the site is being carried out.

6. Correspondence:

Events were as per the agenda plus a concert by the Harmonics choir on 14 October at All saints Church at 7.30pm. There was no correspondence.

7. Planning Matters:

a) Newton Lane Estate: Nothing to report.

b) Meadow Hill Cooks Lane: Nothing to report.

c) Premier Drum Site: Solid security fence now installed and demolition in progress.

d) Glen Parva New Prison: Nothing to report.

e) Long Street Admiral Factory: No action on the site and nothing to report. *Later noted that rubble from demolition of Hubert Hall's shop being cleared.*

f) Horse Trumpet Decking and Footpath: Although there had been a lengthy period of inactivity after the deck itself had been completed it was now reported that the railings were in place. There had been no notification that a footpath diversion order had been applied for. This will be followed up. Also it was noted that permission was for timber decking but in fact tiled decking had been installed, this to be checked.

g) Garage on the corner of Dorset Avenue: New petrol tanks had been installed and work is proceeding.

h) 26-28 Station Road, former probation office/police station: Forward plans Officer at the Council to be asked to include room sizes regulations in the local plan. *After the meeting it was confirmed that the car park is not included in the application and that there had been no application for developing the car park. Also that the application had been deferred for more investigation.*

i) 52 Blaby Road, convert roof space to 7 units: It was suggested that this was a retrospective application as the work had been done, check to be made with the planners.

j) Bushloe House, insert two windows to the rear: no comment.

k) Barrack Yard Moat Street: This property remained for sale, a watching brief to be kept.

l) Proposed new site on west of A5199 approaching Kilby Bridge: Concerns were expressed about: access from A5199, footpath to Tythorn School, lack of a shop, need for bungalows, room sizes, flooding and sewers.

8 Residents Forum report and items for Forum agenda

A summary of matters discussed at the Forum had been circulated and is attached to these minutes for the record.

9 Libraries

It was reported that the successful trial of automatic entry into Syston library was to be rolled out to the remaining 15 hub libraries including Wigston. The Chairman will look up the County Council report on the Syston trial. Concerns were expressed about entering an unmanned library at night with a swipe card.

10. Borough Projects. Pride of the Borough – The Pinfold:

A bid had been made to the Forum by a representative of P o t B which the Society and the Historical Society had supported. This was agreed in the sum of £900 towards the total cost of £2550. P o t B will contribute £1500, GWHS £100 and ourselves £50.

Holmden Avenue Trees

The new tree officer at the Council, Michael Bonnetto had indicated that the planting of trees in Holmden Avenue was being progressed and that funding was being identified.

11 Society Projects: History of Street Names: See notes of brainstorming session to be distributed separately.

12 Assets of Community Value

12.1 Central Wigston Shop: Discussions are ongoing between O D Lucas and the shop owner.

12.2 Library Land: There had been no activity this year and the Vice Chair will follow up with Incredible Edible.

12.3 Land Adjacent to Iceland: It was noted that land at the side of Iceland on the Bull Head Street frontage was being resurfaced after the bushes had been removed some time ago.

13 AOB

13.1 Badges for Committee Members: John, Yvonne and Nicola all requested new badges. The Secretary will ask Ann Cousins to provide.

13.2 Letterbox Items: Items on the following will be submitted by 16 October: Membership, Street names project, overhanging hedges, CS and GWHS websites. Concerns were raised about poor delivery of the Letterbox in some streets and evidence was to be obtained.

13.3 Use of members email addresses: It was agreed that a separate email group should be set up by the Secretary for non committee members and that the following should be circulated on a blind copy basis: minutes, notices of events, emergency planning applications. Only one additional email address had been received after the latest circulation of Wigstons' Voice.

13.4 Meres Walk: Concerns were expressed about litter on Meres walk and that the Walk was used to deposit builders materials/ waste when work was being carried out on gardens which backed in to the walk. It was suggested that posts be erected to prevent vehicular access and that the matter be taken up with P o t B and the Council itself.

14 Next Meeting:

Open Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday 1 November 2017 at 7.00pm for 7.15pm