

WIGSTON CIVIC SOCIETY

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 6 JUNE 2018 AT HAWTHORN COMMUNITY ROOMS, PADDOCK STREET

Present: Committee: Peter Cousins (in the Chair) Maureen Waugh, Colin Towell, Val Beesley, Roy Hughes, Colin Hames, Peter Holmes, John and Yvonne Woodward(9)

Members: Malcolm and Pat Glasse, Gaynor Johnson, Helen Hay, Ann Cousins. (5)

1 Apologies: Apologies were received from Nicola Alexander.

2 The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2018 were approved and signed.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 (3.1) Land Adjacent to the Swimming Pool: There had been no further response from the Council on this matter. But it was reported that the fencing looked unsightly and dangerous.

3.2 (3.2) Peacock Place, Davenport Plaque: The bid to the Residents' Forum had been successful and Jelsons had been requested to send a cheque for their part of the funding. (*subsequently received*). It was agreed that the order with the supplier should be placed irrespective of the receipt of Jelson's money or the Forum grant. *This was done on 10 July, however there had been some difficulty in getting the artwork into the required format and this is ongoing as at 18 July.*

3.3 (3.3) Definitive Paths: An update was given on the need to register rights of way by 2026. This matter had been raised at the Residents' Forum. It was reported that necessary maps are available at Oadby library.

3.4 (3.4) Eyesores of Wigston: A composite list was read out by the Secretary, the properties on it will be monitored and added to as necessary

3.5 (3.6) Farmers Market Display: *After the meeting the market organiser had advised that the cost of a stall is £10 and that the Society could erect its display board and gazebo on 3 August or 7 September. It was considered that after this date there could be bad weather conditions.*

3.6 (8.0) GDPR returns: Most forms had been returned and most subscriptions paid. The Secretary and Treasurer will compile a letter to send to members whose returns are outstanding.

3.7 (14.0) Meres Walk: A response had been received from the Council on the questions raised by the Society. This will be circulated to members and is attached to these minutes. The Secretary will meet with the members concerned to agree on a way forward.

4 Society Events

4.1 Awayday: Work is continuing on dealing with the action list from the awayday on 6 February. The patchwalk had been held before the meeting, see separate notes. A member asked about Forward Plans for the Borough. This will be followed up by the Secretary. *The position on the local plan will also be checked.* Regular checks on awayday actions will continue.

4.2 Annual Lecture: Advertising was proceeding and it was becoming urgent that members sell tickets to family and friends.

4.3.1 40th Anniversary reception: It was agreed that after Stuart's funeral, Neil Crutchley would be approached as a speaker, if he could not help, then Cynthia Brown would be asked. *(after the meeting Neil agreed to step in)*

4.3.2 Anniversary Quiz: As agreed, each member present purchased £5 worth of quiz sheets and were urged to sell even more if possible.

4.3.3 Anniversary edition of Wigstons' Voice: The editor stated that the deadline for articles would be 11 August. The following special articles were suggested: comments from former members such as Barbara and Roger Garratt; what I like about Wigston, why I live in Wigston; shops and sole traders in Wigston such as Billy Cox. A photo of the defibrillator on the Co-Op Funeral office could be used!

5. Website/Facebook:

There were indications of more Facebook usage

6. Correspondence:

These are as stated on the agenda backing sheet plus an announcement that the new WWI memorial seat in South Wigston would be dedicated at 11am on Saturday 4 August.

7. Planning Matters:

a) Newton Lane Estate: The site marketing name of Wigston Meadows had been queried with Barratts but they are very unlikely to make a change due to the level of marketing that had already taken place. However a meeting had been arranged for 10 August, at their suggestion, to discuss the matter with Barratts. An application had been submitted for an additional 32 units and it was agreed that an objection would be submitted. *(It was later noted that the new roundabout was in use by 14 July)*

b) Premier Drum Site: It was noted that the road works associated with the site were commencing, these would require pathway and road closures from 15 July

c) Glen Parva New Prison: A recent residents consultation meeting had not been well advertised although the design of the blocks in the full application looked reasonable. There are and will be traffic and air quality problems on Saffron Road. No comment to be made.

d) Long Street Admiral Factory: Nothing new to report.

e) Horse and Trumpet Decking and Footpath: The footpath diversion order had been published and the Society had submitted strong objections. There was no update available but reports indicated the flower display was good.

f) Barrack Yard, Moat Street: It was reported that apparently this property had been taken off the market. To be removed from the agenda in future.

g) Proposed new site on west of A5199 approaching Kilby Bridge: There was nothing further to report.

h) WMC Long Street: This application had been recently approved.

i) Hat and Cap factory 41-43 Canal Street: No further information was available.

2 New Footbridge over canal at Ervins Lock: This application to be supported.

3 64 Fairfield Street, new front porch: Strong objection to be submitted.

4 Stoughton Road Oadby, 310 dwellings: After some discussion it was agreed that as this site is not in the Society's area of interest, no further discussion would take place or comment be made.

8 Council Committee reports

A member suggested that the Place Shaping Committee (which was not on the list) should be of interest to the Society and that she would monitor this, it was agreed with thanks. Reports of other meetings were carried forward to the next meeting.

9 Residents' Forum Debrief

A summary of responses to matters raised by the Society was given and will be circulated with/after the minutes.

10. Borough Projects.

10.1 The Pinfold: It was reported that work is about to start on this project in order that it is complete in time for the Britain in Bloom judging. *(it was subsequently noted that the scheme looked very impressive and arrangements were made for the Society's agreed contribution of £50 towards the cost to be paid)*

10.2 Holmden Avenue Trees: It was stated at the Forum meeting that trees on verges were a County responsibility and this would need to be taken up with them, however a view was expressed that the Avenue would look better without the present trees.

The situation at Brocks Hill was mentioned and this is to be on the agenda at the next meeting.

11 Assets of Community Value

11.1 Central Wigston Shop: There had been no progress on registering the property as an asset of community value.

12 Business Membership and Co Option onto the Committee.

As decided at the last meeting, local shops had been visited but the impression gained was that they are not interested in membership of the Society, however a leaflet had been left in each case. It was suggested that the term 'corporate membership' could be used and sponsorship should be explored. Also non-trading businesses could be approached. It was noted that the Arcade was looking untidy and needed attention.

13 Any Other Business

13.1 Waste/recycling collections: Recycling bins were currently being delivered. It was considered that residents should have had the option of bins or bags. Bins were being left on pavements, even where there was the ability to move them to the rear of properties, this was especially bad in Central Avenue and Horsewell Lane. It was considered that residents would eventually put recycling bins out only every two weeks as bins were not filled in one week and this would ease the task for the collection teams. It was confirmed at the Forum that no changes are currently planned for waste collections.

13.2 Change in voting station in Wigston Meadowcourt Ward: This was noted.

13.3 Insurance: Despite the request for all users of Age UK O&W to have public liability insurance being removed, a quote had been obtained in the sum of £206.36, it was reported that another quote received had been much cheaper. No further action is to be taken

13.4 New members' information: It was agreed that new members should be given a freebie CD containing details of significant buildings, blue plaques and the constitution and the last newsletter.

13.5 Letterbox Autumn edition: The closing date is 23 July and the following items were suggested: Patch Walk report; definitive paths; overhanging hedges update; public lecture advert and 40th anniversary article.

13.6 Paint disposal permits: It was agreed that a compliant should be made to County that such longwinded and difficult applications to obtain permits discouraged responsible disposal of paint and encouraged fly tipping.

13.7 St Wistans Church: It was noted that the church was now closed for services and the churchyard gate was padlocked. Clearly some stonework had fallen out. *It was later ascertained that the east end wall was in danger of collapse and temporary timber support is to be erected to make the building safe.*

14 Next Meeting:

Open Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, 1 August 2018 at 7.00pm for 7.15pm

South Wigston Residents' Forum: 11 July