

# WIGSTON CIVIC SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON

### WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 2018 AT HAWTHORN COMMUNITY ROOMS, PADDOCK STREET

**Present:** Committee: Maureen Waugh (in the chair), Colin Towell, Val Beesley, Nicola Alexander, Roy Hughes, Colin Hames. (6)

Members: Malcolm and Pat Glasse, Gaynor Johnson (3)

**1 Apologies:** Apologies were received from Peter Cousins, Peter Holmes and John and Yvonne Woodward.

**2 The Minutes** of the meeting held on 7 March 2018 were approved and signed.

### **3 Matters Arising**

**3.1 (3.1) Land Adjacent to the Swimming Pool:** Despite his indication at the recent Residents' Forum meeting there had been no contact from Mr Hone.

**3.2 (3.2) Peacock Place, Davenport Plaque:** Despite a further reminder there had been no contact from Jelsons. This is most disappointing. One more line of enquiry will be tried.

**3.3 (3.3) Meres Walk:** There continued to be problems with builders' rubbish but some other rubbish had been removed. Enquiries are to be made with the Chief Executive about the use of a PSPO for Meres Walk.

**3.4 (8.0) Definitive Paths:** There was no report available.

**3.5 (14.2) Eyesores of Wigston:** A list containing details of problems at 37 Newton Lane, 28 Newton Lane, 4 Canvey Close as well as Meres Walk had been provided. In addition the Alleyway between Poundland and Boots and the small yard at the rear had become very littered again and the poor standard of work to the gravel on the Bullhead Street frontage of Farmfoods was highlighted.

The Canvey Close property is to be reported to County as an overgrown hedge. A composite list is to be created with articles in Letterbox and reports to be made to the Forum and Pride of the Borough.

### **4 Society Events**

**4.1 Awayday:** Work is continuing on dealing with the action list from the awayday on 6 February.

**4.2 Skittles match with Leicester CS:** Numbers were poor but guests had responded well to invitations to join in. *The result was a win for Leicester and 50% of the raffle takings of £35 were received by the Society, a good night was enjoyed by all.*

**4.3 South Wigston walk, 6 May:** All arrangements and advertising is in hand. **Members need to book with the Chairman.**

**4.4 AGM, 9 May:** Start at 7pm with refreshment, then AGM, Presentations and Talk. Commendations to be Jelsons Peacock Place site on Moat Street, the refurbished house/ business on Moat Street and the new house behind the old vicarage.

All Committee members present agreed to stand again. The Secretary to check with Peter Holmes also as examiner (*he subsequently agree to stand and continue as Examiner*). It was agreed that the subscription, currently £9 for 2018 be increased to £10 for 2019.

**4.5 Heritage Fair with Leicester CS 26 May:** the Secretary will email members asking for volunteers for the rota, 10am to 4pm at Bishop Street church. The stall cost is £9, this may be donated.

**4.6 Annual Lecture:** No further discussion at this stage.

**4.7 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event:** Following further discussions with Age UK they were not able to confirm at this time that they could provide food. However Age UK was the preferred venue and members agreed that food could be brought in from M&S/Sainsburys. Although Age UK will charge a fee and the Conservative Club will not. Stuart Bailey had confirmed that he would be delighted to speak but was available on only two of the dates offered, so he was booked for Saturday 13 October, although this is the start of half term week, Age UK had been booked for this date. Back ground music/choir was suggested for entertainment. A cake was to be provided.

Other Anniversary events discussed are: Quiz (confirmed by Mrs Kind), Wigstons' Voice special edition with colour picture of Bell Street School on the cover, 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary pop up banner, welcome to Wigston on line project, upgraded annual lecture.

## **5. Website/Facebook:**

In the absence of the webmaster there was no report.

## **6. Correspondence:**

These are as stated on the agenda backing sheet. (*the Goddard exhibition was very interesting, there will be a display at the Heritage Fair on 26 May*)

## **7. Planning Matters:**

**a) Newton Lane Estate:** Nothing further to report.

**b) Premier Drum Site:** Nothing further to report.

**c) Glen Parva New Prison:** It was reported that full planning permission had not been given although this did not prevent demolition work commencing but debris cannot be taken off site.

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

**e) Horse and Trumpet Decking and Footpath:** It was suggested that a deadline for action be requested as well as clarification on ownership of the site.

**f) Barrack Yard, Moat Street:** Nothing to report.

**g) Proposed new site on west of A5199 approaching Kilby Bridge:** Following outline approval on 15 March 2018 there was nothing further to report.

**h) WMC Long Street:** Despite the fact that this application was made in 2017 it appeared, according to the website, that no action was being taken on making a decision.

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

**j) 9 Newgate End, demolish wall and rebuild:** Although this application had been refused, a revised application 18/00129 was submitted on 6 April 2018.

**7.2 RF Brookes variation of conditions:** No Comment

**7.3 35 Long Street CoU first floor offices to retail:** All internal work, no comment.

**7.4 52 Blaby Road divide existing into 3 units with new shop front:** existing DIY shop, no comment.

**7. 5 52 Park Road erect pair of semis:** The question was asked, is this garden grabbing?

## **8 General data Processing Regulations**

The Society needs to comply with these new regulations which come into force on 25 May 2018. A proposed letter was circulated which will need to be completed and signed by all members. Communications to non-committee members will need to be by blind copy so that individual email addresses are not disclosed to other members. The letter was agreed and was inserted in the Wigstons' Voice distribution.

## **9 Residents' Forum Debrief**

The Secretary distributed a summary of the relevant matters discussed at Wigston Forum and also the points submitted about the terms of reference proposed by the Council for the Forums. There was a report on the events at South Wigston Forum which had not been a satisfactory meeting. The information given by the Council's legal officer indicated that the Forums were not legal and residents could not discuss matters with Councillors before the meeting. Furthermore the ToR indicated that written minutes could not be amended by residents to reflect what was said at the meeting. This was of great concern to members.

## **10. Borough Projects.**

**10.1 The Pinfold:** This project is proceeding well, the wording for the information board had been agreed and work is likely to commence quite soon.

**10.2 Holmden Avenue Trees:** There was concern that the Council (both County and Borough) appeared to be saying that trees could not be planted in the verges because of service pipes and cables. This is to be contested and s106 reports to be monitored for funding provision.

## **11 Society Projects: Welcome to Wigston Project**

In the absence of the Chairman there was no report on this project.

## **12 Assets of Community Value**

**12.1 Central Wigston Shop:** There was no further progress on the Business plan. It had been suggested that a letter be sent to the shop owner outlining the Society's ideas. But some concern was expressed that such a letter may not be welcomed by the owner. Nevertheless a letter would be drafted by the Secretary for consideration and approval at the next meeting.

### **13 Wigstons' Voice Articles**

The Voice had been completed and copied. Together with a 'stop press' item, the GDPR letter and the letter inviting members to renew their subscriptions were enveloped and handed out for distribution. There were no members' contributions for this edition.

No suggestions were made for Letterbox articles for which the closing date is 16 April, the Secretary will discuss with the Chairman

### **14 Council Committees Allocation**

Following the discussion at the Awayday list of Council Committees was circulated in order that individual members could indicate which committee they would like to monitor to aid the Society's understanding of what the Council is doing. Volunteers are required for: Change Management; Licensing and Licensing Sub; Service Delivery.

### **15 Any Other Business**

#### **15.1 Farmers Market display.**

The Secretary will make enquiries to see how to book a place.

#### **15.2 County Council Vision for Growth.**

It was decided not to comment on this document.

### **16 Next Meeting:**

**AGM:** Wednesday 9 May (**one week later than usual**) at 7pm

Open Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, 6 June 2018 at 7.00pm for 7.15pm