

WIGSTON CIVIC SOCIETY

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018 AT HAWTHORN COMMUNITY ROOMS, PADDOCK STREET

Present: Committee: Peter Cousins (in the chair), Maureen Waugh, Colin Towell, Val Beesley, Nicola Alexander, John and Yvonne Woodward, Peter Holmes, Colin Hames. (9)

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

1 Apologies: Apologies were received from Roy Hughes. Members were advised that Sue Howard had decided not to seek membership of the Committee at the AGM.

2 The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2018 were approved and signed, subject to the amendment of the name in item 7c, the Premier Drum site, to 'Wigston Retail Park'.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 (3.1) Land Adjacent to the Swimming Pool: There had been no contact from Mr Hone. *At the Forum meeting on 14 March, Mr Hone was present and when asked outside that meeting he indicated that he would deal with the matter urgently.*

3.2 (3.2) Peacock Place, Davenport Plaque: There had been no further contact from Jelsons despite a reminder.

3.3 (3.3) Meres Walk: There continued to be problems with builders' rubbish. *See notes of Residents Forum meeting on 14 March re Public Space Protection Orders.*

3.4 (3.4) Bassett Street Centre/ Registrar's Office: A report on the discussion at the South Wigston Residents meeting is awaited. The library is closed and residents will have to use Blaby or Glen Hills libraries. Concern was expressed about a plaque on the outside wall of the building which should be saved if the building is demolished.

3.5 (3.6) Pennywise, Bell Street: A Councillor had confirmed verbally to the Chairman that a Public Protection Order had been issued but it was not clear if this was by the County or Borough Councils. *See notes of Residents Forum on 14 March.* There had been no trollies left out for several days.

3.6 (12.2) General Data Processing Regulations: The Society needs to take action in relation to these new rules that come into force on 25 May. The LRFHS, Probus and a church examples will be used to create a form for the Society to be issued with subscription renewal letters.

4 Society Events

4.1 Awayday: The location had proved to be not suitable and was very cold. For the future, a pub, the Peace Park pavilion or the fire station were suggested, the latter in the evenings only. Notes and actions had been circulated but dates needed to be added to the action list. The Chairman and Mike Forryan had met Joe Harkin at the Council concerning the 'Welcome Project' which would be web based. The Council were encouraging and The Chairmen had many ideas.

4.2 Library Display: The display boards had been refreshed but the interest at the library was poor with about 6 people stopping to look and talk. The library generally was quiet. A display at the Farmers Market in Bell Street will be investigated.

4.3 History Fair: The rota was agreed.

4.4 Skittles match with Leicester CS: The date is Friday 6 April at 7.30pm at the Black Horse Aylestone. Tickets are £8.50. Numbers to be advised to the Secretary by 24 March.

4.5 South Wigston walk: The Secretary will arrange posters at South Wigston churches and council notice boards and in church magazines.

4.6 AGM: 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. It was decided not to proceed with Amberwood or the unidentified house on Newton Lane.

4.7 Annual Lecture: No further discussion at this stage.

4.8 40th Anniversary event: Buffet menus had been obtained from the Conservative Club and the Chairman and Secretary will visit the Club to discuss and to ensure that we would have exclusive use. The date to be late September/ early October on a Saturday afternoon. Members will pay but guests will not be charged. *At the visit it was found that exclusive use could be had from 2.30pm to 6.30pm, and the room could accommodate 80 people with the stage, screen and microphone. In the meantime it was found that Age UK could also provide a buffet on a Saturday pm using the large room and lounge area with the screen etc. Prices are awaited. This may be a better option depending on cost.*

5. Website/Facebook:

These are now up to date with new links and searches and the website is well used and is first on the list when Googled.

6. Correspondence:

These are as stated on the agenda backing sheet.

7. Planning Matters:

a) Newton Lane Estate: It was reported that work had commenced on the site. The Society had been advised of the street names decided on by the Council. Some of the Society's suggestions had been used for the 24 streets, the rest were suggested by GWHS.

b) Premier Drum Site: Nothing further to report.

c) Glen Parva New Prison: It was reported that demolition of the existing buildings will commence in May 2018.

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

e) Horse and Trumpet Decking and Footpath: Nothing to report but *See Notes of the Residents Forum on 14 March*. It was confirmed that the building is on the Significant List.

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

g) Proposed new site on west of A5199 approaching Kilby Bridge: Nothing new to report. *It was later noticed that this application was to be considered at the development Control Committee on 15 March. The application was granted.*

h) WMC Long Street: No further news was available.

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

j) 9 Newgate End, demolish wall and rebuild: It was noted that this application had been refused.

k) 71 Blaby Road, extension of opening hours to 3am: It was noted that this application had been refused.

2) 49 Canal Street: it was noted that this application had been previously refused. Comments to be submitted.

8 Definitive Paths

The need for all footpaths to be recorded on the definitive map by 2026 was reported. If this did not happen the footpath would be lost and could be built over. Mike Bates is leading on this issue and Helen Hay will keep the Society advised and circulate existing definitive maps.

9 Residents' Forum Questions

A number of questions were circulated and agreed.

10. Borough Projects.

10.1 The Pinfold: This project is proceeding well. *(A full report on this project was given at the Forum on 14 March.)*

10.2 Holmden Avenue Trees: The Tree Officer had replied that the issue would be on the next S106 meeting. *But see report on Residents Forum.*

11 Society Projects: History of Street Names

Draft web pages had now been designed by the webmaster and he will circulate a link to members so that they can try out the website design. Any changes or new data is to be emailed to Mike Forryan.

12 Assets of Community Value

12.1 Central Wigston Shop: The basis of a business plan had been commenced by the Secretary.

Caution was expressed about the likely cost of purchasing the site which the Society would have to raise.

It was reported that construction of the new record storage facility at County hall is likely to start in mid 2019 but that there had been no consultation on the Record office move.

13 Wigstons' Voice Articles

Further articles were needed by 14 March. *After the meeting no further articles were received but the required space was filled with appropriate material and the edition was at the printers on 16 March*

14 Any Other Business

14.1 Grand Wigston Show: The show will be held on 8 September but in view of the craft nature of the show it is likely that the Society will not participate.

14.2 Eysores of Wigston: Several examples were identified such as: Bungalow on Newton lane; 59 Central Avenue; 4or6 Langton Road; Ralley Bridge area; land at rear of Iceland; Halls/Admiral site Long Street. A decision on how to proceed will be taken at the next meeting.

14.3 Conservation Volunteers: This scheme would now continue under the direction of the Brocks Hill Ranger. Volunteers are needed to maintain the sites at Fludes Lane and Pochins Bridge.

14.4 South Wigston Health Centre: Members were advised that the Centre is to join with Central Surgery in Oadby for the benefit of patients in both practices. All existing services will continue at South Wigston.

14.5 Meadow Hill: The street names for this site had been advised by the Council.

15 Next Meeting:

Open Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, 4 April 2018 at 7.00pm for 7.15pm
South Wigston Residents Forum, 7 March 2018
Wigston Residents Forum, 14 March 2018 at 7pm