



## Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

c/o Woodford Community Centre, Chester Road, Woodford, Stockport, Cheshire, SK7 1PS

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### Minutes of Meeting of Woodford Neighbourhood Forum Management Committee Deanwater Hotel 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

Attendance	Present	Apologies received
Mr Robin Berriman (RBB)	√	
Mr Paul Rodman (PR)		Corresponding*
Ms Evelyn Frearson (EF)	√	
Mr John Knight (JK)	√	
Mr Paul Goodman (PG)	√	
Mr Terry Barnes (TB)	√	
Ms Jane Sandover (JS)	√	
Mrs Jude Craig (JC)	√	
Ms Maxine Wood (MW)		√
Mrs Janet DeVeichis (JDV)		Not heard from
Ms Zoe Jones (ZJ)		√
Mr Chris Coppock (CC)		Corresponding*

\*Corresponding members wish to be kept in the loop but cannot routinely attend meetings

<p><b>1. Welcome</b> TB opened the meeting and welcomed those present.</p>
<p><b>2. Apologies</b> Maxine Wood and Zoe Jones. ZJ had offered a donation of £20 towards hire of the room in the Deanwater Hotel. The committee gratefully accepted this offer.</p>
<p><b>3. Declaration of conflicts of interest</b> None.</p>
<p><b>4. Minutes from meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b> Some minor queries were resolved and the minutes approved with those amendments.</p>
<p><b>5. Matters arising</b> As it was not an agenda item, JK reported on the CEC Local Plan Part 2. CEC had published the report of consultation. The next stage would be publication of the Inspector's Report. That would be end of the process. It was likely to be published by the autumn.</p>
<p><b>6. Financial update</b> RBB reported that there had been an outgoing cheque payment for £123 for the posters and leaflets for the Showcase event. The remaining balance in the bank was £696.39. RBB suggested we ask WCC to use the remaining advance grant of £178, which was shown as outstanding in a note in the WCC 2018 accounts, to pay for some future meetings at the Deanwater Hotel. <b>Action:</b> TB and JS agreed to look into this.</p>
<p><b>7. WNF responses to planning applications</b> There was a discussion about the issues we were experiencing with the SMBC system. Problems included:</p>

- Applications with insufficient information on the website, including lack of a completed application form.
- Applications in our neighbourhood area which we were not notified about.
- Applications in the neighbourhood area where the officers had not cited WNP in their reports.
- Several notifications where no documents appeared on the website. EF followed up some of these and received a reply from SMBC stating that were sent to us in error.
- The website is very frequently out of action, which makes it hard for us to review applications.

The following planning applications were highlighted and discussed:

**DC/084051**, Flag pole: No progress. Pole still present but no flag.

**DC/084056**, 10 Bridle Road: Permitted. The committee noted lack of consultation with WNF or reference to WNP.

**Bridle Road**, 2 houses as infill (DC/084618): No progress.

**DC/084187**, 63 Bridle Road, orangery. Refused due to lack of very special circumstances. The committee was puzzled.

**DC/083867**, Woodford Cricket Club, micro-brewery. No progress.

**DC/084225**, Rose Cottage Bridle Road, extension. Permitted.

**DC/085044**, 368 Chester Road extension. Permitted. The committee had objected and was disappointed.

**DC/085825**, Huws Gray, non-material amendment. This explained why work had not started.

**Action:** EF to draft a note for circulation and review by the team, to be addressed to Jane Chase, copied to Emma Curle and Brian Bagnall, highlighting the problems we are experiencing with the planning application notification system and the website.

### **8. Woodford Showcase**

The event was reviewed. The following points arose:

Some disappointment that more businesses had not attended. It was thought that this may have been due to holding the event on a Saturday when they are busy. Sunday had not been an option for David Russell and the Church.

Families had used the bouncy castle, ice cream van and other activities for children.

People from the existing village and the Woodford Garden Village had visited the WNF stand.

People who visited from the existing village were more familiar with planning issues and terminology.

The leaflets were useful to hand out. The public footpath leaflets were popular. Some of each still remain which can be placed at the Centre. JC requested a pdf of the footpath leaflet.

It would have been useful to have a hand out about the Local Plan, explaining how it will impact residents, for people to study in their own time.

Mary Robinson MP had visited the forum stand and emphasised that we should not hesitate to make contact if we needed her support with anything.

### **9. Stockport Local Plan Update**

There had been no news of progress. JK reported that SMBC was working on a new email system. It was too early to assess the impact of the new Census data. Recent changes in Government had

caused uncertainties about which ministers were involved in planning decisions. The local elections next year may have an impact on the timetable for consultation on the Local Plan due to purdah.

#### **10. Handforth Garden Village Update**

JK and PG reported that there was no news of any progress. It is an allocated site, so development at some stage is to be expected, but it could be many years in the future.

#### **11. Poynton Relief Road Update**

There was a discussion about the scale of the structures, including a very deep cutting and huge landforms. It was reported that a massive retention tank was being built to reduce the risk of flooding. There would be weight limits on roads through Poynton to reduce traffic damage.

#### **12. Places for Everyone and SGMGB**

It was noted that Stockport Council would not be obliged to adopt any of the policies in Places for Everyone, although they could choose to do so if they wished. It was agreed that the Woodford group would not participate in fundraising by SGMGB to cover any fees arising for professional representation in the Examination. The committee supported the view that legal representation would not be an advantage for SGMGB in the Examination hearings.

JK reported that there was a project underway assessing land near railway stations. There was a discussion about the ability to achieve the objectives of Biodiversity Net Gain.

#### **13. Government policy and consultations**

JK reported that the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill had started its journey through Parliament. This would be likely to take 2 or 3 years. It contains quite an amount of Planning along with other material.

#### **14. Redrow/Harrow development**

JC had counted 650 houses while delivering leaflets. There were reports of problems with sewage pipes. Redrow had reported that sales had slowed. The Aviator pub was very busy.

#### **15. WCC**

JS reported that WCC committee members had been invited to the opening of school on 30<sup>th</sup> September. A request to make contact with TB had arrived in the WNF inbox. TB had responded.

#### **16. Avro Heritage Museum**

TB reported that vandalism was a problem for the museum and Redrow. Windows had been broken. The police were not interested. The windows at the museum would be expensive to replace. Security costs were high. An event was planned on Aug 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> including a fly-past by a Lancaster and an Anson.

#### **17. AOB**

None.

#### **18. Next meeting**

AGM in October. EF and JC to liaise for a suitable date at the Centre.

Evelyn Frearson, 24 July 2022, Amended 25 July 2022