

**Minutes of the WAG PUBLIC MEETING
Held Tuesday 28th March 2017 at 6.30pm
at The Oakwood Academy**

Present:

Sue Jablonskas (SJ) – Chair and resident
 Pat Clark (PC) – Vice Chair, Committee, resident and Parish Councillor
 John Clark (JC) – Treasurer, Committee and resident
 Cal Bryant (CB) – Committee and resident
 Cllr Alistair Hamilton (AH) – Parish Councillor and resident
 Cllr Mike Robinson – Parish Councillor and resident
 Cllr Pauline Allen (PA) – County Councillor
 Cllr Tammy Bisset (TB) – District Councillor
 Cllr Michael Payne (MP) – County Councillor
 PCSO Darren Scatcherd (DS) - Police
 Carol Pepper (CP) – Candidate for County Council elections
 James Falconbridge (JF) – Candidate for County Council elections
 + 7 residents

Apologies:

PC 2365 Andrzej Hawrylak
 PCSO Sarah Anderson
 Diane Plewinska (DCP)
 Terry Young (TY)
 Alison McDonald-Loseby (AMcDL)

No.	Item	Info/Action
1.	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>SJ welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. SJ placed on record the Committee’s appreciation to those residents who had assisted with the distribution of the agenda.</p> <p>All present introduced themselves.</p>	
2.	<p>a. Financial report and update on funding</p> <p>JC distributed the financial statement showing that the Current Account has a balance of £810.64 and the Business Reserve Account has a balance of £5,748.92.</p> <p>JC also informed the meeting that the WAG Committee now has access to on-line banking.</p>	
3.	<p>Community Governance Review – Feedback and Update</p> <p>SJ circulated copies of the Service Manager, Elections and Members’ Services’ report on the outcome of the Member Reference Group convened to formulate draft recommendations following the first round of consultation.</p>	

4.

Feedback on meeting with John Robinson, Chief Executive, Gedling Borough Council

Following an exchange of letters between John Robinson and the WAG Committee, 3 members of the WAG Committee attended a meeting with him on 3rd March 2017. Also in attendance were Helen Barrington, Director of Organisational Development and Democratic Services and Tammy Bisset (TB) our local District Councillor.

The WAG Committee members, SJ, PC and JC, have produced some notes produced following the meeting outlining issues discussed. SJ circulated copies to those present.

Community Governance Review – WAG Committee Members asked who are the District Council Members of the Reference Group but were told on 3rd March that it had not yet been established. We received the information on 6th March by email that the group consisted of:-

3 Labour members – Councillors Ellis, Collis and Paling
2 Conservative members – Councillors Barnfather and Powell (Councillor Barnfather is also the County Councillor representing Bestwood Village).

6th March is also the date on which the report arising from the Member Reference Group was published.

At the meeting with John Robinson concern was expressed by the WAG members on the low number of signatures required to trigger this process. This is 7.5% of the electorate but the WAG view was that this should have been of all parishioners rather than just the Village parishioners as the Community Governance Review affects the whole parish not just the Village Ward. Helen Barrington stated that the criteria had been met.

It was stated that anyone who had responded to the first consultation would receive information on the recommendations and inviting them to take part in the second consultation. However, it was pointed out to John Robinson that those who had responded online did not receive an acknowledgement that their comments had been received. Helen Barrington assured the WAG members that everyone who had responded would be included in the 2nd consultation.

Neglect of the area/needs of the area – WAG members clarified that local residents felt that the area had been neglected not only by the Parish Council but also by GBC.

John Robinson and some of his officers together with local politicians have undertaken a Ward walk. John Robinson acknowledged that the area looks neglected and in a poor state. He acknowledged that as several organisations share responsibility for the area this leads to confusion. He is looking to organise a meeting with Notts County Council, Nottingham City Council, Nottingham City Homes etc.

Following on from the meeting with John Robinson a colour coded map is being produced to identify which organisation is responsible

	<p>for what in the area e.g. litter picking, lighting, tree issues etc. A copy will be provided for the WAG website and will include contact details so residents know how to report problems to the correct organisations.</p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding the increase in dog mess in the area, particularly occurring during the evening. MP advised residents to report it, take photos and if the Wardens are provided with evidence of who the perpetrators are they will sue.</p> <p>John Robinson has asked one of his Locality Coordinators to support this area and JC and SJ met with the officer, Jenny Eurge, to discuss the needs of the area. She has been asked to support this area for 2 days per week. Jenny has already been active and since then work has been undertaken to tidy up the entrance and pathway into Plantation Wood, removal of household waste and also cutting back some problem trees at the back of Tyburn Close. Nottingham City Homes have been asked to produce a plan of action for keeping the area tidy.</p> <p>PA suggested that the WAG area needs a deep clean.</p> <p>AH suggested that Parish Councillors and WAG members could do regular Ward walks to identify anything that needs doing.</p> <p>SJ said that since the meeting with John Robinson the Road and Pavement Cleaners have been seen more frequently in the area.</p> <p>As time was running short, it was agreed that the information from the meeting with John Robinson will be placed on the WAG website.</p>	<p>Residents to note</p> <p>SJ/CB</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Update on development of Muirfield Road Recreation Ground</p> <p>Notices have been placed on lamp posts that the installation of the MUGA will commence soon. Notices have also been put through the letter boxes of the properties that directly edge the Recreation Ground (Stockdale and Aldwych) to forewarn residents of potential noise and disruption during installation</p> <p>SJ explained that the MUGA will not be lit at night as when previously consulted residents did not want to encourage the use of the MUGA at night. Sue shared a plan of where the MUGA will be located on the Recreation Ground.</p> <p>One resident had raised concern about the possible increase of parking on Stockdale when the MUGA comes into use. SJ had contacted the Play Development Officer at GBC who said that experience of similar MUGAs in other locations had not resulted in an increase in parking problems. The location is not a 'destination park' and it is expected that the majority of users will be local and arrive on foot. However, residents, WAG and GBC will need to continue to monitor the situation.</p> <p>DS said that the service do monitor and if residents experience obstruction to their properties they should ring 101. Name and shame stickers can also be issued by the PCSOs. DS explained that it is not</p>	

	<p>an obstruction if the driver remains in the car, even if this is across a dropped kerb. Once the driver leaves the vehicle it becomes an obstruction.</p> <p>Residents can purchase notices (to put on fences/walls) from the internet (£2 approx) asking people to leave entrances free at all times.</p> <p>It was stated that 2 of the 3 solar lights along the path across the Recreation Ground are currently working. The one facing the park is not working but really needs to be turned away from the park to provide light on the path. The path is well used.</p> <p>Funds (approx. £12,000) still need to be raised for the Outdoor Gym Equipment and a further funds (approx.. £43,000) for the refurbishment/extension of the playground.</p> <p>SJ reported that for the second year our application to Notts County Council Supporting Local Communities had been unsuccessful.</p> <p>SJ again asked if there was anyone who would be willing to explore opportunities for Crowd Funding.</p> <p>Consideration has been given to Veolia funding but the problem is that 20% match funding is required.</p> <p>Previously WAG has looked into the possibility of acquiring the Community Church site but did not have access to sufficient funds for this. MP agreed to make some enquiries about the site history.</p> <p>SJ said that (AMcDL) one of the WAG Committee is looking into the possibility of establishing a wildflower meadow in a corner of the Recreation Ground.</p>	<p>Residents to note and offers from residents would be appreciated.</p> <p>MP</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Discuss the Top Valley Ward Draft Action Plan</p> <p>Following a request from the Chair of the Parish Council, MR had pulled together a draft action plan using the previous Area Based Initiative Plan from 2006 and suggestions from fellow Parish Councillors and WAG Committee members. Copies were shared at the meeting.</p> <p>Consideration was given to some of the items included:-</p> <p>Notice boards – in 2015 the Parish Council agreed to fund an additional Notice Board for the WAG area with a second being matched funded by Notts County Council Supporting Local Community Fund (SLC). However, this has dragged on for so long that the SLC money has been lost. The Parish Council can reapply for this again but the next round does not close until December 2017.</p> <p>TB has agreed to make enquiries about GBC re-filling grit bins.</p> <p>Parish Councillors and WAG have been identifying where additional Grit Bins and Litter Bins are needed. PC agreed to send information to MP.</p>	<p>PC</p>

	<p>MP stated that GBC trucks do go out in icy conditions where needed.</p> <p>MR feels a guard rail is needed at Tithe Gardens opposite Top Shop (<i>the location might actually be on Aidan Gardens</i>). PC said at the moment Highways do not have funds to do this but have recorded the request, together with a request for a guard rail on Muirfield Road at the end of the path across the Recreation Ground.</p> <p>MR agreed to keep WAG Public Meetings updated on progress on implementation of the Action Plan and for any additions identified by residents to be included.</p>	MR
7.	<p>Crime Stats</p> <p>SJ shared copies of the Crime Stats for this area for February 2017. She commented on the worrying appearance of crimes where a knife was used /obtained.</p> <p>DS asked for volunteers to help with the production of the Crime Stats.</p> <p>DS stated that patrols are undertaken of the Park area and will continue when the MUGA has been installed.</p> <p>SJ stated that complaints are again being received regarding quad bikes/motor bikes using Muirfield Road and Bewcastle Road as a circuit. Speeding is an issue. DS informed residents to use Crime Stoppers to report this.</p> <p>MP said he has been in touch with the Police and Highways regarding assistance in respect of the speeding issues.</p> <p>DS said that volunteers are still required for Speedwatch. Something can be put on the WAG website regarding this. MP will send SJ some information provided by GBC regarding requesting volunteers.</p> <p>DS to inform WAG of the date of the next Priority Setting Meeting.</p> <p>SJ informed DS that female dog walkers are again reporting incidences of harassment by the same male dog walker. DS to enquire what action was previously taken.</p>	<p>Residents to note that offers of help would be appreciated by the Police</p> <p>Residents to note</p> <p>MP</p> <p>DS</p> <p>DS</p>
8.	<p>Update on Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as accurate. Time did not allow for the minutes to be considered in detail. Residents accepted that actions were being taken where necessary and any outstanding issues will be picked up at the next meeting.</p>	Next agenda
9.	<p>Residents' question and new issues</p> <p>A resident said it had been reported at a previous meeting that Parish Councillor Bennington had informed the Parish Council that the alterations had been completed and the bus was now stopping inside</p>	

	<p>the Morrisons area. He said this is not the case and people still have to cross the busy road to catch the bus home.</p> <p>MP agreed to make enquiries.</p>	MP
10	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 27th June 2017 at 6.30pm <i>Please note John Robinson, Chief Executive of Gedling borough Council has agreed to attend</i></p> <p>Meeting to be held at The Enterprise Centre, The Oakwood Academy</p>	Residents to note