



Woodford Community Council

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 7th NOVEMBER 2018

WCC members present:

Terry Barnes Acting Chairman

Jane Sandover Secretary

Robin Berriman Treasurer

Ron Beatham, Chris Coppock, Ken Coxe, Evelyn Frearson, Avril Furness, Khan Moghal,
Rev David Russell, Maxine Wood.

The meeting was attended by approximately 21 residents and visitors.

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Terry Barnes the acting Chairman opened the meeting by introducing himself and extending a warm welcome to all. He also welcomed local councillors Brian Bagnall, John McGahan and Mike Hurlston and presented apologies from Cheadle MP Mary Robinson, who was unable to attend because of her Parliamentary duties and Morag White. He also noted that Evelyn Frearson would update the community on the progress of the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 17th November 2016

The Secretary reported that the draft Minutes of the 2017 AGM had been available on the WCC website since January 2017. Nothing had been noted that needed any amendment and she asked the meeting to approve the Minutes as a true record.

This was proposed by Chris Coppock, seconded by Paul Rodman and carried unanimously.

3. Chairman's Annual Report

Changes around Woodford

The Chairman began his report by noting that around 140 homes were now occupied on the Redrow development and that there was already a committee member on the Community Council. Although SMBC had decided to omit the airfield from the Neighbourhood Forum residents were within the original parish of Woodford and thus were included in the Community Council.

He also mentioned that the Avro Heritage Museum in which he was a trustee, has been a real success with new items adding to the legacy of A. V. Roe and invited everyone to visit.

Traffic calming measures had been introduced by SMBC; quiet lanes to Church, Blossoms and Jenny \lanes and the cushions etc. down Moor Lane, with varying degrees of reaction; some good some bad.

A lot of work has been done jointly by WCC committee and WNF to keep abreast with the emerging new Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, but at the moment there is no news as to when this will be issued for consultation.

The new A6MARR has now been opened although there have been accidents at the junction to Poynton above the oil depot roundabout with an accident last night but we understand that this is being looked at.

There have been some delays in Poynton relief road which is to end at this junction. Its route is across the airfield mainly in SMBC before joining the Macclesfield Road at the Adlington industrial estate. We understand that it will start around 2020.

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum has now submitted their neighbourhood plan to SMBC. A separate document has been created highlighting some of the aspirations that came out of the public consultation which could not be part of planning policy. One of the main things was to improve safety when crossing the road yet retain the rural feel of the village. Thus the Community Council committee was involved with pushing for Quiet Lane status with a 20mph in Blossom and Church Lanes where there are no footpaths, so that cyclers, horses and walkers are not so challenged by speeding motorists. Some reduction in speed has been noticed although some motorists fail to see the signs particularly when turning off Chester Road into Church Lane.

Community Council Activities;

Some committee members have continued to be involved in maintaining liaison with the Redrow development. This year there had been only two meetings with the Technical Director and Sales Team as there was difficulty setting these up and Cllr Brian Bagnall had been effective in helping with this. It has been noted that the Scout hut has now been improved courtesy of Redrow and they were to introduce a newsletter. The attendees to Redrow's liaison meeting also expressed concern about the promotional information which did not promote Woodford. The Bodycote site was mentioned as it is in fact part of the Neighbourhood Area but at the moment there has not been an application submitted. The committee together with the Neighbourhood Forum have commented on the emerging plans for North Cheshire Growth Village behind Blossoms Lane in Cheshire East but it is not expected to have any influence. The future of the Community Council has been discussed and covered later.

This concluded the Chairman's Report.

4 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer introduced the Financial Report for the year to 31st October 2018 and gave a brief summary of the main points.

Southfield House and Notcutts did not renew their sponsorship in 2018 but Avro Heritage Museum and GreenThumb have become sponsors in 2018, joining Jackson, Barrett & Gass.

The increase in expenses 2017 to 2018 is largely due to longer periods for website hosting package and domain name fees paid in 2018, and a price increase in hosting package fees.

In 2015 WCC received £1100 grant for Woodford Neighbourhood Forum (WNF) for WNF expenses to be paid by WCC on WNF's behalf. £258 was paid during 2018 (2017 £0), leaving £178 WNF expenses yet to be paid.

The balance stands at £1396, but there is concern as the sponsorship will just about cover the website costs which means that there is little money to pay for other costs. It may be necessary to look for more funding/sponsorship.

Proposed by Evelyn Frearson and seconded by Chris Coppock

4 The Future of Woodford Community Council

The committee has been discussing the future of the Community council and saw the confusion about roles of WCC, WNF, WWMCC; this will be clarified by the presentation after the formal meeting, but some of the issues are duplication of effort in WCC and WNF,

insufficient volunteers for the committee, minor amendments to Constitution needed, however at the moment the resolution for the moment is to keep calm and carry on.

5 Election of WCC members

The Secretary noted that the committee could be up to 15 elected members over the age of 18 who reside with the Woodford Boundary (that is the parish boundary). All the committee members have agreed to continue and will be joined by Terry Barns who was co-opted on earlier in the year which gives us a total of 10 including Maxine Wood, a long term member and resident of Woodford who had recently moved just out of the area but willing to stay on the committee as a co-opted member and will represent the Community Centre Trustees.

Proposed by Chris Coppock and seconded by Helen Buszard.

6 Constitutional Changes

The Community Council needs to work out where it fits and where it is going and questions had arisen with regards to whether it is correctly called a “community council”. In addition, under the existing constitution, which is on the WCC website, the only members of WCC are the members of the committee who are elected from among residents at the AGM. It was felt that it should be changed so that everyone who is over 18 years of age and lives in the Parish of Woodford is a member of the community council. There was a move to amend the constitution.

This closed the formal part of the meeting.

Evelyn Frearson presented a brief description of the three organisations in Woodford

Woodford Community Council

Established in 1974 when Woodford became part of the newly-formed Stockport Metropolitan Borough.

All Woodford residents are automatically members of the council and are eligible to become a member of the committee at the AGM

Purpose is to promote the interests of the residents of Woodford by addressing issues that affect the community and liaising with Stockport Council and other relevant bodies.

It is funded by website and newsletter sponsorships and donations.

Website: www.woodfordcommunity.co.uk **Email:** info@woodfordcommunity.co.uk

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

It is a legally designated organisation established in 2013, in accordance the 2011 Localism Act.

The designated Area is all of Woodford, except the former aerodrome site (which was excluded by Stockport Council at the request of Harrow Estates).

Its membership is open to anyone who lives or works in the designated area.

The aim is to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Neighbourhood Area.

The main task has been the preparation of the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan.

The preparation of the Plan is aided by Government grant funding and technical support.

Website: www.woodfordnf.co.uk **Email:** woodfordneighbourhood@gmail.com

Woodford War Memorial Community Centre

It was opened in 1953, having been funded primarily by local donations (including A.V. Roe) and fund raising.

A registered charity the members of the Management Committee are its Trustees.

All Woodford residents are automatically members and it is home to the Woodford Players and the Woodford Women's Institute.

With two halls and a large field available to hire for a variety of functions ranging from weddings (including the ceremony) , celebrations and children's parties to craft events and dog shows it is widely used

It is funded by hire of facilities, the annual Bonfire and Firework display and donations.

Website: www.woodfordcom.com Email: woodfordbookings@googlemail.com

WCC produced a letter for Redrow to pass on to new residents explaining all this but it does appear it has not have been distributed.

The WCC used to have a notice board outside Budgens but it was damaged badly by an errant motorist. However this will be replaced soon and thanks are due to our local councillors and assistance from SMBC.

Woodford Neighbourhood Plan

In 2014 every household in Woodford was consulted initially through a questionnaire in 2014 followed by questionnaires to businesses and organisations and through flyers, newsletters, a workshop, an exhibition, the website, email circulation, Facebook and Twitter pages articles in the Church magazine, and public meetings including annual AGMs. Evidence was produced including footpath surveys, hedgerow and thus habitat surveys, independent assessments of Woodford. Eventually from all the feedback and evidence 6-7 objectives emerged which then gave planning policies. A pre submission consultation was undertaken in May and over 200 responses were collated and responded to by amendments. All these documents and evidence required under the act were submitted to SMBC who then had to do a consultation. In the New Year it will be examined by an inspector and it is hoped its final version will go to a referendum May 2019.

Within all this consultation some other aspirations emerged which is not planning policy but include things that the community would like to see. The Community Council may pick these up to try and get them actioned.

WNF would like to thank the councillors for their support along the way and the moral support of Mary Robinson throughout this time.

Greater Manchester Strategic Framework

ONS (the government national supplier of statistics) has produced new figures for the numbers of homes required. The Government has suggested using the early numbers which are much more than the recent ONS numbers and the Mayor promised not to reduce the amount of greenbelt. All 10 authorities and their councillors have to agree to the new framework. At the moment the new GMSF has not been finalised.

SMBC Local Plan

The update for the Borough Local Plan is also being produced and a large amount of Brownfield land (land which has been built on or contains redundant buildings) has been found which would reduce the number of homes to be built in the greenbelt land.

7. Closing Remarks

The Chairman thanked Evelyn for her presentation and response to all the issues raised by residents. He thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Minutes Approved, on behalf of the Community


Chairman

Date: 26th November 2019.