



Woodford Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 MARCH 2011 AT THE VICARAGE, CHESTER ROAD, WOODFORD

PRESENT

Mrs H Buszard Secretary
Mrs M Wood Treasurer

Mr R Berriman, Dr D Buszard, Dr L Evans, Mr D Hall. Mr I Hanson, Revd J Knowles,
Councillor B Leck

OPENING OF MEETING

In the absence of the Chairman, the Secretary took the Chair.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Beatham, Mr F Brown, Mr S Downes, Mr P Rodman and Mrs M White.

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 14 February 2011, were approved as a correct record.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

There were no matters arising other than those already covered by the Agenda.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

(a) Treasurer's Update

The Treasurer reported that the current balance was £1,170. There were two outstanding invoices payable – for the advertisement in the Parish Magazine and for photocopying – totalling £72.50.

(b) Fund-raising

Dr Evans reported that Total Fitness had decided to advertise in *Inside Bramhall* and would not therefore be sponsoring the website. He offered to contact other local businesses and suggested that the best approach would be to make the initial contact by email to provide background information and then to follow up with a personal call.

The Secretary confirmed that the donation had been received on behalf of Southfield House.

Dr Buszard reported that he and Mr Berriman had prepared the application for funding for a website forum and had submitted it to Manchester Airport Community Trust. A response was awaited.

4. SPRING LITTER DAY

This would be taking place on Saturday, 2 April 2011, as planned. Mr Luck had agreed to provide equipment again and residents had been notified, most recently in a hard copy newsletter that had been delivered over the previous few days. Members who were able to assist were asked to meet at the Community Centre at 9.45 am, ready for a 10.00 am start.

It was suggested that perhaps volunteers might take responsibility for picking up litter in their immediate vicinity on an ongoing basis. There would need to be some means of disposing of the rubbish collected, since it could not be included with the normal household waste/recycling. It was agreed that this was a good idea in principle and would be pursued.

5. SUB-GROUP REPORTS

(a) Development of BAE Site

Mr Berriman reported that since the last WCC meeting he and other members of the Sub-Group had attended two meetings of the Poynton Local Area Partnership (LAP) Working Group on BAE Woodford.

(Secretary's Note : More information about Poynton LAP can be found on the following page of Cheshire East Council's website:

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/community_and_living/local_strategic_partnership/local_area_partnerships/poynton_area_partnership/poynton_working_groups.aspx)

The initial meeting had been held on 9 March 2011 when an action plan and timetable had been agreed. The second meeting had taken place on 23 March 2011 when consideration had been given to the submissions/comments received on the seven principles of SMBC's Supplementary Planning Document. The Woodford submission – which had been drawn up by the Sub-group, incorporating comments from WCC members – had been the most comprehensive and was being taken as blueprint for further work, although there would, of course, be the need to reach a general consensus. Another meeting was being held on 31 March, to which planning officials from Stockport and Cheshire East had been invited.

The Committee congratulated the members of the Sub-Group on their excellent document and thanked them for all the hard work that had gone into its preparation in such a short period.

Various considerations were raised during the general discussion that followed.

Cllr Leck reported that solicitors for BAE had confirmed that there were no covenants that would restrict the future uses or development of the site.

It was pointed out that in Stockport's Core Strategy document, which had just been adopted, it had been stated that any development must not adversely affect the openness of the existing Green Belt. The whole of the BAE site was, in fact, within the Green Belt and the two areas A & B were not Brownfield sites, but simply areas with permitted development rights.

It was felt that merging Area B with Area A would result in significant over-development in Woodford and have a serious impact on issues relating to infra-structure, particularly roads. At the same time, it was recognised that the size of any development, particularly with regard to the number/type of houses to be built, would be directly related to the additional infrastructure that could be provided by a developer.

It was noted that Stockport MBC had now issued its timetable for the Public Involvement Programme and a copy had already been added to the website. The most important stage would be the Design Workshop, which was scheduled to take place during the week commencing 13 June 2011, and it was agreed that it would be essential for WCC representatives to be fully involved. It was anticipated that the Sub-Group would be taking a lead in this.

(b) E-newsletter and Website

The Secretary reported that Olivers Restaurant had agreed to sponsor the new Photo Competition by providing a meal for two as the main prize. Full details were given on the website and information had been included in the e-Newsletter and on the Notice Board. The closing date was 31 May 2011.

It was noted that a Newsflash had been circulated to draw attention to the Public Involvement Programme. Members recognised the need to disseminate information as quickly as possible, but requested that copies of all such documents be circulated to the Committee first in order to allow the opportunity for comment.

(c) Woodford War Memorial Community Centre

There was nothing to report.

(d) Stockport Council Issues

There was nothing to report in the run up to the Council elections on 5 May 2011.

(e) Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Hall commented that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in his area was working well and that participants were kept well informed by the local police liaison officer.

It was noted with regret that there had been more burglaries in Woodford recently and also an unpleasant robbery at Budgens Stores.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Attention was drawn to the difficulties caused by cars being parked at the end of Church Lane in the area where buses turned round. It was suggested that yellow lines were needed to warn motorists. Cllr Leck agreed to follow up.

ACTION: Cllr Leck

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

As previously agreed, the next meeting will take place on Thursday, 26 May 2011 starting at 7.30 pm.

Approved

Date.....