



WANA Steering Group Minutes

Wednesday 24th April 2024 Witherley Parish room
6.30-7.30pm

Present: Kim Liggins, Chair (KL), Dayle Flude, Vice Chair (DF), Roger Lainé, Treasurer (RL), Lynne Lainé, Secretary (LL), Tony Carter (TC) David Hickie (DH), Margaret Hickie (MH), Joy Simpson, Social Events Subgroup Chair (JS), Richard Wade, Planning Subgroup Chair (RW), Clare Wharton (CW), Sarah Smith (SS).

Apologies: Kate Chorley (KC), Val Graham (VG), Ian Rawson-Mackenzie (IRM), Rachel Roberts (RR), Jackie Albrighton (JA), Rob Flude (RF), Jan Humble (JH), Mick Humble (MH), Keith Simpson (KS), Pat Helyer (PH),

	Item	Action
1.	Welcome KL welcomed all to the meeting and invited everyone to introduce themselves as CW and SS were attending their first meeting.	
2.	Draft Minutes meeting 26th March 2024 agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. Action log- open action closed following discussion.	
3.	Correspondence Three items of correspondence discussed.	
3.1	Chris Brown, HBBC Head of Planning, An offer to meet with Chris was accepted and attended by RW, Rod Bell and RL on the 19 th April. RW reported that the meeting was positive and informative. The meeting focussed on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process on deciding the Kennel Lane development.• Flooding and sewage issues• Affordable housing allocation	
3.2	Lord O'Neill A letter was sent to Lord O'Neil and his agent with a request that the land on Church Road near the Football Club be utilised by WANA on behalf of residents as a community garden. A response received on the 9 th April 2024 declining consent.	
3.3	Witherley Parish Council Witherley Parish Council (WPC) have not responded to date to all WANAs communications. When the former Clerk was placed on Gardening leave, all correspondence previously sent to WPC was resent to the Chair and all Councillors. On the 11 th April 2024, at the Parish Meeting, it was identified that WPC had responded to two pieces of	

	<p>communication but used an incorrect email address. The Clerk resent the communication to the correct email address on the 14th April 2024.</p> <p>No response has been received to the letter of concern re the Gravel Hole Consultation sent on February 26th 2024.</p> <p>RL gave a summary of the Gravel Hole Consultation, for the benefit of the new Steering Group members, describing the location of the area, historical use and WPC intention to make an amendment to the 19Century minutes.</p> <p>A formal complaint submitted on the 12th March 2024 regarding the Parish Council meeting on the 14th March was responded to on the 14th April requesting it be rephrased.</p>	
4.	<p>Feedback from meeting with Bull Cullen Chief Executive of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) on 12th April attended by KL, DF, LL and IRM. KL summarised the meeting with Bill Cullen (BC) and Julie Kenny (JC), Director of Corporate and Street Scene Services and Monitoring Officer as being productive and informative. Both BC and JK are fully aware of the ongoing challenges and issues with Witherley Parish Council.</p> <p>Key areas discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A vote of no confidence • Governance review • The ongoing issue with resident reluctance to stand for Council while the Court Case is ongoing. <p>JK agreed to seek clarity on whether a judgement against WPC would be against the corporate body or individuals. The challenges of holding Parish Councils to account was discussed, with the system relying on electors at the ballot box. DH agreed to review legislative framework to ascertain whether there is any opportunity to challenge the Principal Council's role in accountability.</p>	DH will review legislation to identify whether there is an opportunity to challenge re a governance review.
5.	For approval	
5.1	Revised Draft structure- approved	Review in six months
5.2	<p>General Rules v3- addition of statement.</p> <p>There was a discussion as to whether the additional statement agreed at the April meeting should be included in the document.</p> <p><i>“To enable effective operation of Sub Groups, they are permitted to make decisions without reference to the Steering Group, provided that decisions are made with the agreement of at least one officer”</i></p> <p>A vote was requested, of members present, to determine whether the statement remained or was removed. The outcome of the vote was that the statement remained as drafted. It was agreed to review in six months.</p>	Review in six months
5.3	Revised cash Handling and Banking Statement v3 - approved	

5.4	Draft Sustainability Statement v2 - not approved, to clarify wording re goals and aims	To be redrafted and presented at the May Steering Group Meeting
5.5	Planning subgroup Terms of Reference v2 - agreed	
6. 6.1	<p>Subgroup Feedback</p> <p>Social events subgroup</p> <p>JS reported that the subgroup has met twice since the last steering group- we have an enthusiastic group of wana bees.</p> <p>Plans for Mental Health awareness Week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Sports Day 18th May • Walk a mile with a smile 10.30am and 6.30 pm daily 13-19th May. Walk for those with dogs being planned. <p>D-DAY 80. Poppies on field around memorial- made from plastic bottles, lamp being lit at 21.15 by Keith Wilson ex Coldstream Guardsman. Rev Emily reading International Tribute.</p> <p>Field Day 15th June 2024- lots of events being planned to include stalls inc tombola, cakes etc. Raffle being arranged by WMPFT.</p> <p>Womble 6th July 2-4 pm- booked with HBBC clean neighbourhoods Officer.</p> <p>No events planned for August as school on holiday.</p> <p>Garage Sale 14th September 2024</p> <p>Gary Rees as Gary Googlay booked for October 5th in Parish Room</p> <p>Community Cinema for Winter Months- 7th and 8th December planned as first showings.</p> <p>Games morning as a warm space initiative over Winter months in Football Club</p>	
6.2	<p>Planning subgroup</p> <p>RW provided a report on progress, noting that the meeting with Chris Brown had been covered under correspondence. RW wrote on the 22nd April to the community Communications officer at Severn Trent to enquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what plans Severn Trent have regarding the ongoing flooding and sewage problems? • Whether any evaluation work has been undertaken following the outline planning approval for additional houses? 	
6.3	<p>Newsletter</p> <p>May newsletter being delivered this week, WANA Volunteers thanked. LL reported a volunteer has offered to support the design of the newsletter- which is very welcome.</p>	

	It was noted that promoting the Blue Lion new menu was not appropriate content for the newsletter.	
7.	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>A Bank account has been opened.</p> <p>RL confirmed Current cash position £437.91, with £200 deposited in the bank account, with balance as petty cash. All agreed that format of report was acceptable.</p>	
8.	<p>Junior WANA BEES consultation</p> <p>KL explained that a group had met today at the school to discuss the development of the Field Nature area, and that this is a first step in working with the school children. CW will be working with another resident on the design, implementation of evaluation of the area.</p> <p>JS expressed an interest in engaging teenagers- possibly through sport activities on the Field. KS may hold some circuit training.</p>	KL encouraged all to think of positive ways to engage children and young people in WANA
9.	<p>Witherley Uncovered</p> <p>Update on meeting on the 18th April 2024.</p> <p>KL shared that several older Witherley Residents were invited to afternoon session in the Parish Room to share memories of growing up and living in Witherley, as a way of gauging whether there was an interest in capturing Witherley history from the lived experiences. The afternoon brought back memories, and tales of families living and working in Witherley were shared.</p> <p>All those who attended want to progress the project. A proposal made was that a longer session be arranged, possibly in the Football Club with invitations to attend offered more widely. Support and information may be available from a local historian and possibly the Atherstone Historical Society.</p> <p>The outputs from the project may lead to the publication of a book</p>	KL to contact the Atherstone Historical Society
10.	<p>Any Other Business</p>	
10.1	KL raised issue of light pollution from the industrial area on Carlyon Road and whether there is any merit in WANA lobbying for non-directional lighting.	RL to review legislation and report to the planning subgroup
10.2	Lord O'Neil Land off Church Road- proposal to explore whether the land should be registered as a community asset.	KL to progress registration of the land as a community asset
10.3	TC noted that the new sand box has been purchased by Witherley Parish Council and has been delivered. The grit box needs re siting- TC will seek support to move.	
11.	<p>Items for the next agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Statement v3 • Review whether August meeting will be required as attendance may be impacted by holidays. 	
12.	<p>Date of Next meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday 22nd May 2024 7.00-8.00pm Parish Room, Witherley</p> <p>The meeting closed at 19.40hrs.</p>	