Whalley Range Community Forum

Minutes of meeting Date: 12th January 2023 Via Zoom

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| **Attendees:** |  |
| Carol Packham – Whalley Range Youth Opportunities Association & Time to Change | Chris Ricard – WRCF worker |
| Jim Donohue – Residents British Muslim Heritage Centre Development Liaison Group | Bill Williams - WRCF |
| Paul Benson Hannam – WRCF, Friends of Alexandra Park | Kate Richardson – WRCF Admin support |
| Ann Knowles, WRCF, Rainbows, Guides | Freddi Greenmantle, Age Friendly WR |
| Malgorzata Kmita – St Edmunds Church |  |
| **Apologies:** |  |
| Martin Rathfelder | Claire Cowell |

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and received apologies. There was a round of introductions

**2. Minutes of last meeting.** Last minutes agreed.

**Matters arising**: Question about who is replacing Steve Marsden as ward co-ordinator – no information at present. Update have heard since the meeting that the new ward co-ordinator is Allan Mandindi.

**3. Updates**

**3a) Parliamentary Constituency:** No new information, more information available via this link <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/6487?postcode=M160BG>

**3b) Impact of Cost of Living crisis/funding:**

**Warm Hub:** joint venture between WRCF and Manley Park Methodist Church. Funding from Manchester City Council and goods in kind donated by health neighbourhood teams. Refreshments , information leaflets , board games, guest speakers available. Query raised about attendance, highest attendance has been around 16 people.

**Leaflet:** A cost of living leaflet designed by WRCF and funded by Manchester City Council has been distributed door to door throughout Whalley Range. The WR Climate Action group produced a leaflet about how to save money on energy bills which was distributed along with this**.** Chris will make sure Trafalgar Court has copies. Jim was impressed with the range of services available in Whalley Range.

**Pavilion Café in Alexandra Park:** this will be opening on Tuesday as a warm hub, **Chris will find out details**.

**3c) Residents British Muslim Heritage C****entre Development Liaison Group (RBDLG):** Verbal report received from Jim Donohue. Currently the British Muslim Heritage Centre are undertaking a needs analysis to inform their planning application. No planning application has been submitted yet. RBDLGhave met with Afzal Khan MP. **WRCF and RBDLG will continue to liaise with British Muslim Heritage Centre to find out how their plans and consultation with communities are going.**

**3d) Whalley Range Community Forum/Age Friendly WR & Chorlton:** Whalley Range community map is with the designer, awaiting final details of bee network. Map should be available soon. This will be launched at AGM if ready.

High levels of activity including: cookery sessions on low energy devices, planning bread making session; festive feast attracted between 40 and 50 people – generally good feedback; new boost resilience course starting 18th January; all other groups are running some are well attended and have a waiting list. WRCF have noticed an increase in foodbank referrals and housing queries recently. We are hoping to have a welfare rights placement from Manchester MIND in the near future.

Chris and Kate are currently completing six months of monitoring for current funders. Manchester City Council OMCVS. We are waiting for a decision about our application for the next three year funding from OMCVS – decision will be made in February 2023.

**3e) Celebrate**: Planning to have a meeting in the next few weeks looking at funding and people who can help organise. Need to look for larger amounts of money and work with other organisations.

**Celebrate will be put on the agenda for the ward co-ordination meeting.**

**Kate and Chris will prioritise once monitoring done.**

**3f) Nello James Centre:** Proposal to turn this site into housing. No further updates.

**3g) Friends of Alexandra Park****:** Lodge is openMonday/Wednesday/Friday 11am – 2pm. Café open until at least end of February assume will continue until tender resolved. Photography competition has been launched.

**3h) Whalley Range Climate Action group:**. Let’s Talk Clean Air event on Saturday 14th Jan at St Edmunds Church, video available. Report has been received and has been added as a report with these minutes.

**3i) Whalley Rangers:** no reports received. WRCF to request representative to attend meetings.

**3j) Carlton Club:**  no reports received. WRCF to request representative to attend meetings.

**3k) Walk/Ride Whalley Range:** report received under Let’s Talk Clean Air.

**4. Reports**

**4a) Police** Not present at meeting. Update received after meeting. GMP are resuming their monthly crime surgeries for residents at JNR8: PCSO Iain Tuft will attend the warm hub on Friday 20th January 10.30 – 11.30am.

**4b) Councillors**: WRCF question about attendance at meetings. Have been invited to warm hub and Chris is referring people to them.

**4c) Planning:**

LGBT Housing Complex – Anchor have withdrawn currently looking for new partner.

St Margaret’s Sports Field – local residents concerned about impact of this development on green space. Link to development is here <https://www.anwylchorltonplans.co.uk/en>

Deadline for comments has been extended to 18th January 2022.

Manley Park – Chris has requested an update from Majid.

Co-op Withington Road – proposal to split retail unit into three parts – no news.

**4d) Ward Co-ordination:** there will be a meeting soon. **Update** since WRCF meeting we have found out that the new ward co-ordinator is Allan Mandindi.

**5. Information Sharing:**

Pride on the Range is 27th May 2023. Kate has been attending meetings in her role as an Ashville surgery health champion.

Newly planted trees on Dudley Road/Russell Road have been out-growing tree guards – five trees have been released by removing tree guards.

**6. Any other business:** none received

**Next Meeting:** Second Thursday of every other month – 6th March 2023.