

WHALLEY RANGE COMMUNITY FORUM



**General Meeting Thursday 9th July 2026
British Muslim Heritage Centre**

Attendance:

Martin Rathfelder, WRCF Treasurer, Kingsbrook Residents Association (trustee)
Mary Watson, WRCF, Age Friendly Whalley Range & Chorlton (trustee)
Ann Knowles, WRCF, Rainbow & Guides leader (trustee)
Chris Ricard, WRCF Development Worker
Kate Richardson, WRCF Admin Support Worker
Catharine Hardy, Celebrate
Tommy Callahan, local resident
Gareth George, Time to Change
Naveed Hassan, British Muslim Heritage Centre
Doug Russell, Let's Talk Clean Air
Cllr Angeliki Stogia, Manchester City Council
Abdul-Rahman Hameed, Local Resident
Laura Cassidy, Manchester City Council

Apologies:

Carol Packham WRYOA, WRCAG, Time to Change
Jane Ward, Whalley Range Climate Action Group
Christopher Sedman – Range Road Residents Group
Jo Cox-Darling, Manchester Methodists
Shakila Khan, Whalley Range Women's Group (trustee)
Tanveer Shah, local resident (trustee)

Welcome, Introductions and apologies

Ann Knowles chaired and introduced the meeting

Apologies were recorded.

Everyone introduced themselves and said which organisation(s) they were part of.

Chris Ricard explained that Carol Packham had resigned from the Acting Chair position because of ill health. The meeting noted their thanks to Carol for her hard work for Whalley Range over the past four decades.

Notes from meeting on 12th March 2026 and update on action points

These were agreed as a correct record (proposed: Martin Rathfelder, seconded: Mary Watson)

A bulletin regarding the Renters Rights Act was circulated

Reports

Police – not in attendance they will be hosting a “Meet the Police” meeting at JNR8 Community Centre on Saturday 19th September 12noon

Councillors – Cllr Angeliki Stogia reported on issues she was working on at the moment including: flytipping; supporting events in Alexandra Park; trying to get play equipment replaced in Manley Park; procuring apple trees which will be planted at the Cricket Club;

Pride in Place (chair and trustees will be appointed soon); Nello James (site has been acquired by Wythenshawe Community Homes so hoping that affordable housing will be built).

Age Friendly - Mary Watson reported about the Age-friendly Walk that happened in May to honour Bill Williams. It was well attended and his family joined the walk.

The Co-op provided refreshments and the Happy Tuesdays music group provided musical accompaniment.

The next walk is being planned for October 2026 to commemorate the International Day of Older People

WRCF Funding – Chris Ricard reported that Rowlinson Constructions, the building contractors for Kindred House are supporting community projects including £900 for the JNR8 music group and £1000 for 4 age-friendly/health events in Whalley Range/Chorlton.

Let's Talk Clean Air – Doug Russell reported about their transport campaign including surveys for a bus route past the shops on Withington Road and a possible shuttle service to connect with tram stations. They are also devising walking routes to connect with bus/tram stops.

Kindred House – there will be a tour of the site organised soon. Agreed to invite Adam Preston from the LGBT Foundation to a future WRCF meeting to update us.

Celebrate – the monitoring report was circulated and discussed. Gareth mentioned how beneficial Time to Change volunteers found the experience. Next year will be the 30th Anniversary and the provisional date will be 5th June 2027. The consensus was that Manley Park is the best venue for Celebrate.

Pride of Place – there have been interviews conducted for the local chair for the Moss Side/Whalley Range committee and they are currently appointing trustees

British Muslim Heritage Centre – unfortunately the representative from the BMHC was called away revised planning permission will be submitted in July 2026. It was agreed to ask if anyone from Whalley Range Community Forum would be prepared to represent the Forum on the BMHC Liaison Committee. The commitment would be to attend a meeting once every 3 months.

Publicity - resident's newsletter – WRCF will circulate a newsletter to all Whalley Range residents in the near future (there are funds for this). It was suggested that a WhatsApp group would also be helpful

Constitution – it was agreed to ask the trustees to set up a small working group to amend the constitution to reflect how Whalley Range Community Forum is currently operating.

Vacancies – the admin support worker post and Chair will be advertised soon

Next Meetings

Thursday 10th September 6.30 – 9pm venue tbc

Thursday 12th November 6.30 – 9pm venue tbc

The meeting closed at 9pm