**Minutes of West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum Committee Meeting 11th December2014 Partners Training Room WAITROSE West Byfleet**

**Present**

Penny Hoskyn (PH) Joint Chair

Emma Davis

Ross Goodman (RG)

David Hastie (DH

Phil Wilson (PW)

Wade Pollard (WP

Nazrin Shahbazi (NS)

Chris Dougherty (CD) Secretary

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Pauline Hedges, Gary Elson and Rob McHattie were unable to attend and sent their apologies

2. The minutes from the last meeting were agreed without amendment.

3. Two new forum members were accepted on to the committee, Nazrin Shahbazi was proposed as treasurer by Ross Goodman and seconded by David Hastie and Chris Dougherty was proposed as secretary by Phil Wilson and seconded by Wade Pollard.

4. The AGM which was held at The Church on 24th November was attended by about 45 people and PH has received good feedback from the meeting.

5. Green Belt Meeting held on 1st December 2014. This was a joint meeting with Pyrford Forum.

There was some confusion over the start time of the meeting, but it was very well attended with a number of people attending from Byfleet. What came out of the Green Belt meeting was an opposition to any development on the West Hall land. PW thought it was a very good meeting and has now put the developments on the radar. A letter will now be sent to the local Councillors and the Ward Councillors for West Byfleet, Byfleet and Pyrford, and our MP Jonathan Lord, explaining the views of the Forum and asking for a reply. PH will prepare a letter to this end and circulated to the forum members for their input before being sent, it will also be put on the West Byfleet Forum website.

Also suggested was to ask Gary Elson to attend our next meeting.

6. The forum has £283 to be used by the end of December, a number of small amounts need to be paid for photocopying etc., but the rest of the money will be used to buy paper for next year’s questionnaire etc. This will be arranged with Imprint on Camphill Industrial Estate by PH.

7. RG reported on a meeting he attended with the West Byfleet Residents Association and others arranged by the planning dept. of Woking Borough Council. A presentation was given by Ernest Amoako on the proposed use of our green belt land for housing.

8 There was an explanation of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) which will come into force on 1st April 2015. This is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new developments and then the money can be pooled to fund neighbourhood and community needs. A Neighbourhood Forum may be entitled to 25% of this levy.

The levy will be charged per square metre on a building. It is not just for housing. This levy is meant to be more transparent but there is some confusion about what it can be used for. The levy can be paid in kind (land and any existing buildings) Suggested a meeting with Ernest Amoako.

9. Detailed results from the questionnaire will be published on the website, it was understood that Richard Wilson/PH would ask the local schools to encourage parents to fill in the questionnaire on line and to this end the questionnaire will be extended to 23th December.

Preliminary results indicate a response from 33l residents of which over 50% were over 60.

10. Planning Group – DH, RG and WP. A further questionnaire may be produced in the New Year. Keith Cresswell will be asked for their input, on flooding, traffic etc. Keith would like to promote more cycling in the borough. RG went to a meeting in Pyrford where there was discussion about the Pyrford Forum setting up a Community Benefit account. Any money for this Forum would go direct to this account instead of going via WBC. This could be considered by the West Byfleet Forum.

11. It was brought up about the churches being party of the forum, and decided that both churches in West Byfleet and local businesses can be members and also people who may live elsewhere but have interests in the area.

RG would like a property developer involved in the forum and it was suggested that Roland Nevett be invited to the next meeting.

***Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 14th January 2015 at 7.30pm in the partner’s room at Waitrose.***