

West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum Committee meeting minutes

Location: Camphill Social Club
Date: 5th April 2023
Time: 7.00pm
Attendees: Wade Pollard (Chair), Stewart Dick, Chris Dougherty, Keith Creswell, Josh Brown, Dharma Sivarasingham, Cllr Elson, Cllr Jordan, Cllr Graves
Apologies: Fran MacKay

Agenda items

ITEM NO:

1. Apologies were received as above.
2. The Minutes of the 8th February 2023 meeting with minor amendments were approved and signed by WP. The March meeting was cancelled as the AGM had been on 1st March.

3. Finances

KC presented quarterly cash flows which will be annexed to these minutes. Monies have been transferred to the new Lloyds Bank account and the HSBC account will be closed. Agreed to give the Community Gardening Group £400 to pay for a planter and plants. It will be installed on a platform at West Byfleet Station.

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4. Botanical Place Liaison Group

-The meeting this week concentrated on the naming of the five houses within the development. They have been chosen and will be publicly announced shortly. Construction continues with significant progress on the building cores. Noted that the CIL payable on the new commercial space (Plan No 2022/0266) will be £144,208 of which the Forum share is 25% (£36,052). It is payable in three instalments. The next meeting is Monday 15th May. ~~not directly by it.~~

54. Recreation Ground Pavilion/-Community Centre

We await the May meeting with Julie Fisher (CE of WBC) and Mark Ferguson (Senior Property Surveyor WBC) for an update. Mark Ferguson is preparing various options with project costings for the existing Pavilion.

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The Committee agreed that it would be in favour of creating a car park within the existing Recreation Ground provided that the adjacent field owned by Surrey CC is purchased/leased to increase the green space in the Recreation Ground. A car park would reduce pressure on parking in Camphill Road and adjoining roads, especially during school drop off/pick up times. It would enable the creation of proper disabled parking bays. The existing two in Camphill Road are narrow and dangerous to use. A car park would increase the attractiveness of a community centre for letting purposes. Additional green space from the inclusion of the adjacent field would enable the creation of spaces for a wider section of the community. For example the creation of a pond would increase bio diversity and provide educational opportunities for the two West Byfleet schools. A sensory garden would attract older residents. An orchard (with fruit and nuts) would provide a range of

different trees and again provide educational opportunities. A woodland walk would take pressure off local towpaths which are getting crowded. There is a long waiting list for allotments in West Byfleet so a community vegetable space could be created. The adjacent field is about 5 acres and so is large enough to provide the additional facilities.

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65. Recreation Ground Improvements

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WP reported on a meeting he held with a local tennis court specialist, 1st Surface. Its managing director recommends new fencing and resurfacing of one tennis court and for it to remain free to use to get the best benefit for the community. A two court pay and play facility would not be suitable for a site with no adjacent toilets and changing facilities. The Committee discussed this and agreed that the former was the better solution. It would also be within the previously agreed budget for the work. *It was also what the Committee had originally proposed.* Agreed to discuss this at the meeting with Julie Fisher.

Confirmed that we wish exercise equipment to be installed as soon as possible and for the required application to be submitted to the Council without further delay,.. Councilor Josh Brown to expedite.

76 West Byfleet Bowls Club

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WP reported that the Club has planning permission for its new facilities. The build cost is circa £1m and the Club is seeking funding for the work.

87. Community Gardening Group

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The Group is continuing to meet regularly and is doing a great job for the community. It will continue to have our support.

AOB

Summer Drinks Party - Agreed to hold one, if possible, at the Bowls Club at a date convenient to both. WP and CD will liaise with the club.

Surrey County Council - WP reported on a meeting of the Cabinet on 28th March (item 8) where it was agreed that West Byfleet would be selected for liaison with the local community in October for improvements funded by the Council. Agreed to ask our County Councillor, Amanda Boote, to keep us informed of progress.

Date of next Meeting Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 7.00pm at Camphill Social Club