

## **Minutes of the First Steps Working Group meeting 14/02/2019**

**Present:** Lesley Berry (Chair), Ron Ellis, Dave Lee, Cliff Green, Derek Weller, Terry Weller, Rosemary Englander and Sheila Taylor (minutes).

**Apologies:** Dave Boatwright, John Orr, Mavis Boatwright and Kathy Higgins

### **1) Minutes of the meeting held on 10/01/2019**

These were accepted by those present.

### **2) Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda**

- MKC have acknowledged Lesley's letter about the 20-mph speed limit and about placing a mirror on the roundabout in the centre of Tinkers Bridge. Sheila will chase this up if no more is heard by the end of next week.

#### **Action Sheila**

- A reply was received about the height restrictions at the Bleak Hall tip. It was read out at the last TBRA meeting. John is believed to be taking this further. **Action John**
- Dave L is chasing the information about the night shelter grant that Ron needs for Unite. **Action Dave L**
- Cliff bought the gazebo and has now been reimbursed.

### **3) Financial report**

Mavis was not present. She sent a message that Ruth Cooke has agreed to act as auditor again this year.

### **4) Grants update**

- MKC has agreed to the idea of using the outstanding grant of £180 on the Welcome Pack. Monitoring forms and receipts have now been submitted for all MKC grant spending so far.
- The grant of £1000 from the Community Foundation for the newsletter has now been spent and monitoring forms submitted.

### **5) The Bridge**

The following items were put forward for the February edition:

- The AGM, encouraging as many people to attend and to bring ideas for activities and offers of help.
- Terry will try to produce some more children's activities. **Action Terry**
- A recipe – Rosemary will produce something suitable for people with diabetes. **Action Rosemary**
- Environment – stressing the need to carry on with recycling even though it is difficult to get hold of the clear bags
- Nature column
- The Big Conversation – Dave L will write this. **Action Dave L**
- Some information about the work on gas pipes and street lighting that is going on at present. Lesley will write this. **Action Lesley**

Dates for the February edition are:

- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> all copy to Sarah
- Feb 24<sup>th</sup> to Cliff for printing and Dave for the website

- Feb 25<sup>th</sup> to Ron for distribution

### **Action Sarah, Cliff and Ron**

### **6) Regeneration and RORE**

- John, Ron, Terry and Derek went to a meeting about the Big Conversation. MKC asked for responses about what residents want from regeneration. There were only two responses – one from RORE and one from TBRA. MKC then cancelled the next planned Big Conversation meeting and asked instead to have individual meetings with each RA. All the times offered from these meetings were in the working day. It was agreed to ask for an evening meeting. We will also ask for an agenda for this meeting in advance. **Action Dave L**
- RORE's AGM is tomorrow. Terry said that he and Derek often find RORE meetings difficult to follow. They do not feel comfortable attending the meetings. After discussion, it was agreed to suggest to RORE that they should think about how they make their meetings more accessible.
- The second half of the RORE AGM will be taken up with a presentation by MK Forum about a vision for Fullers Slade.

### **7) MKC resident engagement**

- John and Ron were unable to attend the last Residents Network meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January, but we have since been sent the minutes. MKC is changing the process by which it does the Healthcheck, which decides the level of grant that is made for the general running of the organisation. Dave felt that the new process was designed to give MKC more control over RAs. It is important to strike a balance between being co-operative with reasonable requests and being assertive about TBRA's status as an independent organisation.
- MKC is undertaking a Housing Allocation consultation. After discussion, it was agreed Terry and Derek would respond with help from someone who uses a computer. **Action Terry and Derek**
- Other ideas currently under discussion include a Facebook page for all RAs, the formation of a Council tenants' repair and maintenance group and a named person now appointed for Tinkers Bridge. We do not yet have this person's name but when it is known it will be advertised in the Bridge.
- Since the meeting it has emerged that, contrary to our previous understanding, MKC has not had a planned maintenance programme for the external wood in TB houses. It now looks as though this will be part of a cyclical programme of repair from 2020 onwards but there is no information about when TB houses will be dealt with. We believe this is an issue of importance for TB Council tenants. Dave will include this information in his item about the Big Conversation for the February Bridge.
- The next Residents' Network meeting will be at the end of April.

### **8) Agreement with WCC**

In John's absence there was no further information about this.

## **9) Welcome Pack**

- Rosemary thanked everyone for their comments and reported that she, Sheila and Dave had had a meeting to plan what more needs to be done before the pack goes to Sian, the designer. This included checking that web links worked and that our pack is compatible with one being produced with WCC. Dave L is now doing a final version ready to show to Sian.

### **Action Dave L**

- Some other details such as how Ron is to be contacted and what we write about the location of stopcock, boiler etc were discussed. Rosemary will take this forward. **Action Rosemary**
- Rosemary, Dave L and Sheila looked at different binders. They recommended an A5 transparent one. After discussion, it was agreed we will explore printing the pages of the pack on our own printer, as it would not be practical to produce too many at a time. It may be necessary to buy some more ink, the cost of which could come at least partly from the £180 that has been agreed by MKC.

## **10) Safeguarding Policy**

The draft policy has been amended in the light of comments from Tash Darling, WCC Safeguarding Officer. We need to confirm the names of the responsible person and a deputy, both of whom will need training. We must also finalise proposals about DBS checks. **Action Sheila**

## **11) Any Other Business**

- A resident has asked that his picture be taken off the TB Official Facebook page.
- Lesley, Terry and Derek discussed some ongoing anti-social behaviour on Hatton. Ron recommended that they approach the Community policing team.

## **12) Forthcoming meetings**

### **February**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 19.00 RORE AGM

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> 19.30 Full Council – budget approval

### **Thursday 28th 19.30 TBRA AGM**

### **March**

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> 18.30 Cabinet

### **Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> 19.00 Working Group**

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> 19.30 Full Council

Weds 21<sup>st</sup> 18.15 Regeneration Cabinet Sub-Committee

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> 19.00 Community and Housing Scrutiny