

Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum (RMNF)

MINUTES OF MEETING

7th December 2016

FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT: Margaret Howard, Ruth Howard, Councillor Cecile Biant, Maxine Jaeger, Morley Morgan, Liz Rutherford, Bill Taylor, Fran Healey, David Ireland, Diane Ireland, Win McGhee, Nick Green, Margaret Green, Helen Moore, Christine McHugh, Andy Meek and Alan Rawsterne

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Sam Smithard

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: John Newcome, Janette Newcombe, Jen Holt, Roy Thornley, Jim Murphy and Denise Madgin

MINUTES: The meeting commenced at 19:30

This informal meeting was held at Alan Rawsterne's and Fran Healey's home address. Housekeeping (fire exit and toilets) and the meeting code of conduct would only be referred to as required.

1. Introduction

Andy Meek (AM) opened the meeting, welcomed all and handed over to Alan Rawsterne (AR) to lead the meeting.

2. Neighbourhood Plan (What / Who / When)

AR referred to the previous meetings presentation from PPS Planning and gave some examples of policies (current and expired) that could be considered for our Area.

We agreed to form a working group who will look to define policy and identify projects that align to the forum's charitable objectives. Once underway funding could be sought for any required expert help. A definitive list of projects would aid prioritisation and grant applications should the forum wish to realise any projects.

AR, John Newcombe (JN) and Roy Thornley (RT) have volunteered to be part of this group

ACTION: AR to arrange meeting dates in the New Year and send out invitation to all forum members to seek volunteers.

3. Neighbourhood Event for 2017

We agreed to consider another event in August 2017 and form a working group to create an event plan. The main focus of the event would be to share Neighbourhood Planning Policies with our community to seek their input and record any comments, concerns or ideas. AR and Win McGeeh (WM) have volunteer to support this.

ACTION: AR to arrange meeting dates in the New Year and send out invitation to all forum members to seek volunteers.

4. Open Forum & AOB

▪ Action Log Review

AR noted we had received £88.09 through Gift Aid, our accounts had been audited and found to be satisfactory, details of our two new trustees have been sent to the Charities Commission and end of year reporting has been completed with HMRC and the Charities Commission. A number of actions are still outstanding - AR committed to provide an update with the published minutes.

ACTION: AR to provide minutes and action log update.

- **What did we think of the BBC programme**

Everyone agreed the BBC programme was a great success and a great advert for Rochdale and our area.

Helen Moore (HM) advised her husband was willing to supply a suitable permanent fixing for the BBC plaque.

AR requested this be discussed with Gwyn & Jack Fitton to ensure they supported any proposal.

AR noted that the forum had agreed to provide funds for a permanent fixing and requested HM to make the forum aware, before going ahead, if forum funds were required.

ACTION: HM to arrange permanent fixing for plaque.

- **Calendar**

AM noted the forum calendar would soon be available and thanked Liz Rutherford and Bill Taylor for arranging this. AM encouraged people to place their orders as the print run was limited to 100. The response to this initiative has been very positive with the project covering its' own costs and securing a small donation to the forum. A number of orders were taken at this meeting.

- **Donations to other organisations**

We agreed to donate £100 to Littleborough Oakenhoof Folk Arts in acknowledgment of their support and that of Rossendale Clog Heritage Dancers at our launch event.

ACTION: AR to arrange donation payment.

AR handed a £20 Tesco voucher [previously secured by Liz Rutherford (LR) for our launch event] to LR. We all agreed this voucher should be used to buy bottles of wine for the two photographers who freely gave their time and photographs to record our launch event.

ACTION: LR to arrange wine for photographers.

- **Phone Box & Defibrillator**

Cecile Biant (CB) proposed RMNF purchase the phone box in Catley Lane Head.

CB advised the cost to purchase the phone box would be around £1 and it could be used to house a defibrillator that could be accessed in an emergency. CB thinks, but cannot guarantee, that we can get a defibrillator for free.

A member of the forum was concerned that trying to access a defibrillator could cause delay calling an ambulance and suggested it would be better to ring 999.

CB did not have the defibrillator process available and AR committed to get this information and send an email to forum members so they can vote on this proposal.

ACTION: AR to email to forum members with information about the defibrillator so members can vote on the proposal for RMNF to buy the phone box in Catley Lane Head to house a defibrillator.

- **Village Sign**

CB advised the leader of the Council, Richard Farnell, supported our idea to have heritage signage for Catley Lane Head. Greater Manchester Police has provided a grant to improve signage that will request careful and considerate driving. CB suggested the forum put a proposal to the Council for consideration.

HM mentioned the quiet lanes initiative and all agreed it would be a positive step to adopt this initiative and perhaps include it as part of the signage proposal.

ACTION: AR to seek support to draft a proposal.

- **Trustee Training**

AR made an open invitation to trustees and forum members to attend a trustee-training day. Both AR and Morley Morgan (MM) attended a training session in Manchester that they highly recommend. Approximate cost £10 per person paid for by our forum. All reasonable expenses, like the cost of travel, are recoverable if supported with a receipt.

ACTION: All – Let AR know if you would like to attend a trustees training day.

- **Exhibition**

An initial enquiry has been made with Touchstones Museum to see if they would consider working with RMNF and the Pioneer Museum to create a display about the Cotton Famine Road. Perhaps this could be incorporated with the Heritage Open Days in September 2017 and include a vintage bus tour to Catley Lane Head to see the BBC plaque, the start of the Famine Road and partake in Heritage Walks. Suggest we should also consider Manchester Histories Festival and contacting the Peoples History Museum in Manchester.

ACTION: AR to seek support to investigate the potential for an exhibition.

- **Prickshaw**

AR advised the Council are being very helpful in trying to resolve the issues with Prickshaw Dam.

A replacement cattle grid is expected to be installed near to Knacks cottage.

- **Shawfield Turbine**

AR advised the Councils planning enforcement officer had failed on several occasions to acknowledge or respond to requests for updates regarding noise from the turbine and the position of the turbine. AR described the lack of acknowledgment as rude. CB suggested escalating the complaint if acknowledgment and / or information were not forthcoming.

- **HGV Traffic**

Maxine Jaeger (MJ) noted that HGV traffic was coming too far up Rooley Moor Road. CB & AM confirmed they had reviewed this as it was mentioned at our last meeting. Both CB & AM believe this is down to driver error and signage is adequate. There is little the forum can do to influence this situation and it is hoped the quiet lanes initiative might help to deter vehicles going too far up the road.

- **Business Start Up Grants**

CB advised grants were available through the Council if anyone was considering starting a business in the area.

- **Friends of Healey Dell**

Please let AR know if you have any contacts that are involved with and influence the upkeep of Healey Dell. Our forum has been trying to make contact as it is possible our respective organisations have similar aims and objectives and we may be able to support each other and / or work together.

5. Next Meeting

- TBC – In the New Year