

Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum (RMNF)

AGM

MINUTES OF MEETING

2nd November 2017

FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT: Andy & Mair Meek, Gwyn Fitton, Morley Morgan, Councillor Cecile Biant, Margaret Howard, Fran Healey, Win McGhee, Helen Moore, David Ireland, Phil Massey, Margaret & Nick Green and Alan Rawsterne

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Holden

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Jim Murphy, John & Janette Newcombe, Jen Holt, Denise Madgin, Christine Thomas, Steve Davidson, Nigel Morell, Sue Morgan, Elaine Marsden and Irene Pope

MINUTES: The meeting commenced at 19:30

1. Introduction

Andy Meek (AM) opened the meeting, welcomed all, dealt with housekeeping (fire exit and toilets), the meeting code of conduct and apologies (detailed above)

2. Minutes of AGM 6th October 2016

AM confirmed minutes were circulated after the AGM and no amendments were made.

- Morley Morgan (MMn) proposed to accept the minutes
 - Fran Healey (FH) seconded the proposal
 - The minutes were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

3. Review Action Log

AM reviewed the outstanding actions and noted the following:

1. Planning applications are monitored weekly and loaded to the RMNF website. They are available for anyone to review if they wish. This action is on going.
2. The Neighbourhood Plan action is on going and there is a more detailed update later in the meeting. It was noted that the farming community have had little input into our forum and RMNF trustees will strive to engage with and involve the farmers.
3. Catley Lane Head conservation status – There have been a number of objections. The Conservation Project Officer is planning to publish a simple guide to explain conservation status. The guide will be posted to objectors and it's expected the decision will be made at the Township Meeting in December.
4. Shawfield Turbine – it was noted the turbine is currently not in its consented location, might be operating illegally and a second set of footings, presumably in the consented location, have been installed to protect the applicants planning permission. Members of the forum involved in the Neighbourhood Plan process and some representatives from affected communities have requested a meeting with planning to understand what criteria is being used to determine compliance management. The RMNF Neighbourhood Plan Group believe they require a better understanding to facilitate a meaningful plan that is helpful to council officers. Cecile Biant (CB) advised a meeting was provisionally diarised for the 16/11/17.
5. Catley Lane Head drains – It was noted that this action was still outstanding and will be carried forward as sediment washed down from the moor is an on going issue. It was also noted that the footpath on left as you enter the rural section of Rooley

Moor Road traveling towards Catley Lane Head was in poor condition and requires cleaning and repair.

ACTION: CB to request a gully cleaner

ACTION: CB to request the footpath noted above to be cleaned and repaired

- Win McGhee (WM) proposed to accept the outstanding actions
 - CB seconded the proposal
 - The outstanding actions were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

4. Accounts for year ending 31st August 2017

FH explained the accounts and recommended to increase our reserves policy to £400 to cover insurance and website costs for the coming year.

- Gwyn Fitton (GF) proposed to accept the accounts
 - Miar Meek (MMk) seconded the proposal
 - The accounts were unanimously accepted on a show of hands
- MMn proposed to accept the reserves policy
 - Helen Moore (HM) seconded the proposal
 - The reserves policy was unanimously accepted on a show of hands

5. Legal & Administrative Information

AM explained the legal and administrative information

6. Reports from Trustees and Officers

Alan Rawsterne (AR) explained the content of the report

ACTION: AR to post the report on RMNF web and social media sites

- FH proposed to accept the trustees reports
 - WM seconded the proposal
 - The trustees reports were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

7. Propose change to our constitution required to accommodate the position of Honorary President

The wording for insertion in to our constitution is as follows:

‘Honorary President

The Trustees may from time to time elect an Honorary President of the Forum to hold office for a period of three (3) years. No subscription shall be required from an honorary member and the Honorary President may stand for re-election for additional terms.

The Honorary President has no executive function and the role carries no Trustee responsibility.

The Honorary President shall be entitled to attend meetings of the forum, but not to vote.’

- FH proposed to accept the wording for insertion in to our constitution
 - WM seconded the proposal
 - The proposal was unanimously accepted on a show of hands

ACTION: AR to update constitution and make it available on the website

8. Appoint Honorary President, Trustee Resignations & Rotation

David Olusoga has agreed to accept the position of Honorary President.

- FH proposed to accept David Olusoga as our Honorary President
 - WM seconded the proposal
 - The proposal was unanimously accepted on a show of hands

The following people stood down from their positions:

- Roy Thorniley - Trustee and Vice Chair
- Frances Healey – Trustee & Treasurer
- Nick Green – Trustee
- John Newcombe - Trustee

The following people are stood for election:

- Frances Healey – Trustee & Treasurer
- Nick Green – Trustee
- John Newcombe - Trustee

MMk proposed to approve the resignations and appointments

- Seconded by: HM
- Unanimously accepted on a show of hands

AM noted thanks to Roy Thorniley for his contribution to our forum and was pleased to report Roy will remain as a member of the forum. AM asked members to consider if they wished to become a trustee and let AR know if they did. CB suggested trustees vacancies should be advertised when skill gaps become apparent. All agreed the importance of Vice Chair was realised at this years event when AM wasn't able to officiate.

ACTION: AR to ask if anyone would like to take up the position of Vice Chair and (or) trustee.

There was a proposal to ask Sue Devaney to be a 'Patron' of our forum.

- FH proposed to accept the proposal
 - CB seconded the proposal
 - The proposal was unanimously accepted on a show of hands

ACTION: AR to contact Sue Devaney

9. Next Steps – Neighbourhood Plan

AR gave an overview of next steps and timelines. All agreed this would become more meaningful when draft policies become available for review. Involvement of the farming community was noted as very important and the trustees present at this meeting agreed to make contact.

10. Open Forum

- Community event – There were mixed feelings about holding another event. We discussed having an event:
 - At a different place and time

- With a different theme
- The following year

ACTION: AR to seek event group membership to discuss this point further

- Donations to other charitable organisations that supported our August 17 event. We agreed to donate:
 - £50 to the Okenhoof clog dancers, and
 - £50 to The Met for the loan of the PA equipment (Note: FH declared an interest in The Met and did not vote)
- Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) application
 - FH advised our application for a grant to promote our 'Shared Heritage' had been successful. Fran took everyone through a high level presentation with details of the £11.9K grant, which includes partnership funding from Rochdale Council (£9.4K HLF plus £2.5K RC) and the HLF 'approved purpose'.

All agreed this is a fantastic opportunity and a number of people indicated they would like to be involved.

ACTION: FH to establish an HLF group to discuss this point further

- Traffic calming, fly tipping and illegal off road use
 - Traffic calming measures have been suggested as a better prospect than quiet lanes status. The forum has £744 of restricted funds that can be used for signage to promote road safety. HM suggested a number of different signs. AR proposed we try to set up a meeting with the council to discuss how to best spend the money for maximum effect

ACTION: AR to set up meeting

- Fly tipping – advice is to report to Environmental management
- Illegal off road use - advice is to report to 101. Phil Massey (PM) said the Police informed the Spotland & Falinge Area Forum they thought the problem had improved because reporting had reduced. A number of people raised concern with the 101 process being inadequate, there was also concern about challenging off road users who could be aggressive. AR advised that since publishing the RMNF illegal off road reporting initiative in August, there had been no emails to report any issues. All agreed to reinvigorate this initiative.

ACTION: AR to re-notify the bikes@rmnf.org.uk initiative on social media

- AOB
 - AR advised our forum was supporting Norden, Slattocks and Bamford who are considering the neighbourhood forum process for their areas
 - David Ireland (DI) raised the issue of Catley Lane Head drains and his property being exposed to flooding because kerb levels had not been increased when the road was re-laid - CB advised she would review
 - WH advised that the stone wall adjacent to Rooley Moor Road and the fishing pond was collapsing. Win wanted to know who would be responsible for repairing gate wall. CB advised she would review and advise

- Spotland & Falinge in Bloom – CB & PM explained the process and suggested Catley Lane Head should consider entering next year's competition. All agreed this is a great opportunity and a number of people indicated they would like to be involved

ACTION: AR to establish an 'In Bloom' group to discuss this point further

- Christmas tree for Catley Lane Head- A number of people thought the possibility of get together for carols, mince pies and mulled wine was a great idea. WM will make enquiries about a tree for the village as will FH when she next meets wit the council

ACTION: AR to ask if anyone would like to be involved

11. Next Meeting

- TBC – AR advised the next meeting would probably be in the New Year. Updates will be posted on the RMNF web and social media sites and (or) sent by email