

WINDMILL HILL COMMUNITY FORUM LTD

TEL: 01928 790228

FAX: 01928 718199

E-MAIL: forum@whcf.org.uk

Web: www.whcf.org.uk



The Playcentre
Norton Hill
Windmill Hill
Runcorn
Cheshire
WA7 6QE

FORUM MINUTES

Minutes of the Forum General Committee Meeting held at the
Playcentre Norton Hill on Monday 14th November 2011

Those Present:

Chairman	Mike Burrows	Secretary	
Trustee	Mike Shepherd	Trustee	David Brandwood
Telematics	Nick Walton	Volunteer	Rodney Rowe
St Berts Church	Rev John Beaney	HBC CDO	Kerry Johnson
Bingo Club	Maureen Hazlewood	LHT	Kathryn Muscroft
WH Residents	Jean Saunders	Sen.Citizens	
PCSO	Paul Webster		

1. Meeting Opened

The meeting opened at 10.55am

2. Apologies

Beth Edwards, Joan Johnston, Tracey Crutchley,

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Nick Walton proposed and Mike Shepherd seconded that the minutes of the last Forum General Committee Meeting held on Monday 11th July 2011 were a true reflection of the matters discussed.

4. Matters Arising

Councillor Mike Shepherd told the meeting that the proposal by Arriva to stop Sunday bus services to Windmill Hill and Castlefields, was under review. A discussion took place about use of the bus-way Mike suggested that taxis should be allowed to use it and Paul said that cars using it would receive a fixed penalty and pedestrians would usually receive a warning, but could also be penalised.

5. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

6. Reports

Office – Normal business has been resumed but enquiries and use has dropped. The meeting suggested that flyers and posters could be distributed via the school, the medical centre, the shop and Kathryn said she could put it in the next LHT newsletter.

Transport – We have been notified that the mini-bus was extremely unlikely to pass its next MOT. We have a new customer and usage still makes the bus viable. Halton Community Transport may have a bus that could replace it.

Treasurer – The accounts were presented during the AGM held prior to this meeting.

Grant Funding - The Area Panel has part funded the Telematics upgrade with a grant of £1,500. Mike Burrows has also had a meeting with Wil Woan from the Big Lottery about an application to the fund for a 3 year grant of £40k per year.

Telematics – Courses in progress are – Family History Special Projects – Christmas Mail Merge – Email & the Internet. Certificates for the “Getting Started on the Computer” were presented by Sophia Manners-Price and Joe Ainsworth from Rocksavage Power Company. The upgrade of the Telematics Centre and Office to Windows 7 and Office 1010 has been a success.

Telematics CIC – Age UK Mid Mersey has recently placed more business our way and other clients are still asking for our services.

Residents Association – Are busy raising donations for the school.

HBC – Councillor Mike Shepherd informed the meeting that the new benefit changes will lead to a short fall for some on benefits. Presentations will take place over the next few weeks. The Government has a £30million pot for deprived communities but Halton are spending this in Appleton and Riverside and not Windmill Hill. Mike has written to the Government department to find out the spend criteria in order to find out if the council’s action can be justified.

Community Officer – Kerry told the meeting that the Halloween party at Phoenix Park had been a great success. Youth provision were trying to arrange more activities in light of this success. Kerry also mentioned that she was trying to set up a “Friends of WH Primary School” but there had been no take up to the scheme. Kerry said that “Friends of” attracted funding and would also be of benefit the Forum.

St Berts Church – John reported that the church’s 30th birthday Fun Day and Bar-B-Q with afternoon tea was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. John reminded us that we would soon be entering the ‘silly season’ of Christmas and carol service at Norton Priory and the Community Garden was planned.

LHT – The skip scheme was still being reviewed but funding had dropped to £20,000 from £29,000 and the recent survey was being finalised. The next scheme would take place on 29 November.

The next LHT walk about would be around Woodridge and Westwood and would look at Stone Lea and look to position signs and a sculpture at the Windmill Hill side of Phoenix Park.

The Welfare Reforms were going to be a big challenge and lead to changes in LHT policies because housing benefits and tenants occupation would have to be reviewed.

Police Community Support Officer – Paul reported an incident which occurred after the Halloween Night at Phoenix Park where a security guard was attacked and injured. Three illegal bonfires were dealt with on the estate on bonfire night. Shoplifting at the Co-op was prevalent and buying drinks for under aged people was a problem, also there had been a spate of missiles being thrown at properties on the estate.

7. Any Other Business

There being no other business the meeting closed at 11.53am.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at St Bert's Church on Monday 9th January 2012 at 11am.