

WINDMILL HILL COMMUNITY FORUM LTD

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The Playcentre
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FORUM MINUTES

Minutes of the Forum General Committee Meeting held at the
Playcentre Norton Hill on Monday 13th November 2010

Those Present:

Chairman	Mike Burrows	Secretary	
Trustee	Mike Shepherd	Telematics	Nick Walton
Trustee		Volunteer	Rodney Rowe
WH Residents		Priory View	
Sen.Citizens		Bingo Club	Maureen Hazelwood
St Berts Church	Rev John Beaney	HBC CDO	Kerry Johnson
LHT	Kathryn Muscroft	Norton Knitters	
Brookvale CC		WHCP School	
Positive Futures		Fishing Club	
PCSO	Mike Atkin	PCSO	Stewart Green

1. Meeting Opened

The meeting opened at 11.02am

2. Apologies

Tracey Crutchley, Beth Edwards, David Brandwood, Paul Webster, Joan Johnston, Jean Saunders

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Nick Walton proposed and John Beaney seconded that the minutes of the last meeting were a true reflection of the Forum General Committee Meeting held on Monday 9th November 2009.

4. Matters Arising

Nothing arising.

5. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

6. Reports

Office – Mike introduced Rodney Rowe a new volunteer.

Transport – The mini-bus has passed its MOT and with £1,500 in the kitty the bus is viable for another year.

Treasurer – The Forum and CIC accounts are in for Auditing and will be presented to the AGM.

Telematics - See attached report. A lengthy discussion took place about the long term future of Halton.Net. Kerry is to raise the matter with the authorities and get back to us.

Residents Association – Monthly meetings were going ahead.

LHT – Are going through a reorganisation with Allan Maxwell now the new Housing Services Manager and Neil McDonald taking over the Runcorn District. Vicky Prince will still be at Windmill Hill and Collette Lee at Castlefields.

Kathryn told us that there was a new approach to housing lists and now everybody will fill in a universal housing reference form which will be a generic bid for housing. This is to be a country wide initiative whereby people submit one form only to a local authority as opposed to filling in individual forms for different housing associations and/or the council housing authorities.

Halton People into Jobs are holding an information event at the Windmill Hill Health Centre on topics such as employment - health – credit unions – jobs, on Wednesday 29th September 2010 from 1-4.30pm.

The Stonelea dip has been finally filled in and there will be a resident's consultation about ways to improve the Gateway and the footpaths leading to the busway.

Community Officer – Kerry informed us there will be an enforcement day about Valley Park in Murdishaw to highlight the problems of fly tipping – fire – anti-social behaviour and the penalties and fines which can be imposed on offender. This could be rolled out to Castlefields and Windmill Hill.

HBC – Mike Shepherd reported that unfortunately swinging cuts could be expected over the coming months. There had been a Mid Term cut of £8.6 million and our deprived area status had been withdrawn affecting the community grants and schools. Next year £15 million was expected to be cut from the council budget. This is a double whammy because of our lost status and the regular cuts, funding would be severely curtailed. With cuts to Neighbourhood and Outreach funding, this meant that local community groups would have to be lean and mean, and try to get external funding from the Government or from charitable funds or foundations.

St Berts Church – With tongue in cheek John informed the meetings that Christenings are up and that the school may have a problem in the future. With congregation numbers up as well, and with 60-70 people who attended the services at the school, the church is looking to hold a monthly second service in different locations throughout the parish. John intends to hold a special service on the 6th September 2010 which is the national 'Back to Church' day.

WH Bingo Club – Maureen reported that the club was strong and healthy, but attendance had been affected by the summer holiday season.

Police Community Support Officer – It was a tonic to see two representatives attending the Forum meeting.

They reported that Windmill Hill was now a relatively quiet area and that there had been no recent incidents which had caused concern.

7. Any Other Business

With all capital funding on hold the proposed extension to the Playcentre building was unlikely to go ahead.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 11.40am.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 11am on Monday 9th November 2010 following the AGM which takes place at 10am.