

Love's Farm Community Association

17 April 2019

Minutes

Present:

Marcus Pickering (Chair)
Phyllis Hooper
Jessica Sanchez
Diane Briggs
Steve Briggs
Ben Pitt
Emma Lovegrove

Helene Tame
Julie Wisson
Cameron Paul
Jenny Lincoln
Ann Bunting - Hunts Volunteer Centre
Melanie Storey - Hunts Volunteer Centre

Apologies: Elle Gray, Dan Gray, David Wells, Charlotte Gregson, Charlotte Henderson

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Community Shop

Ann Bunting and Melanie Storey attended to provide information on the proposed community shop planned for Wintringham Park. Hunts Volunteer Centre has been operating for 10 years aiming to match volunteers with projects. There were previously 4 independent volunteer bureaux. The centre runs a community car scheme and has been responsible for 85,695 miles/2534 journeys/284 new users in the last year in the St Neots area. They also run the Natter project in Eaton Socon.

They were originally funded by the District and County council but more recently have needed to devise their own initiatives to raise additional funds. There is a charity shop in Huntingdon and it was proposed to emulate this in Wintringham Park. The shops run a 50/50 scheme whereby higher quality goods are offered for sale with 50% of the proceeds repaid to the owners, if the goods are sold within one month. After that period, the owners may collect the goods or the shop may dispose of them.

They also run a surplus share scheme whereby people donate surplus washed fruit and vegetables. They also collect surplus food from Tescos and Greggs. The aim is to reduce waste and people are invited to collect produce and pay what they can to cover costs such as staff and biodegradable bags.

Another possible initiative is a community fridge and/or freezer (as in York) and the possibility of a homewares or upcycling component. There was some discussion about the

negativity about charity shops and it was thought a new name would be beneficial. Accessibility and parking were also identified as being important.

There has already been some discussion with Rebecca Britten from Urban and Civic as it was felt that it was the right time to shape future developments. U&C will be appointing their own community development staff.

Ann welcomed any further thoughts on this proposal and wants to develop a network of relationships to promote these proposals. Hunts Volunteer Centre literature was distributed for future reference.

Building great relationships in our community.

3 Committee Governance

Community Plan

The document has been circulated and some minor amendments were suggested.

- Remove 2018 date
- Amend “impact of change reviewed” phrase
- Add in reference to Love’s Farms Blooms and LFCA commitment to LFH

Updates

PCSO

An update from Dan Grant PCSO had been circulated. In addition it was noted that there had been a significant fire in Aunties Wood. The Fire Service had made a suggestion that a fire pit should be put in place, which was not generally considered to be a helpful move.

Town Council

Ben Pitt informed the meeting that more focus on strategic planning and any needs should be promoted now. The council had declared an intention to be carbon neutral by 2030. Cala Homes had acted upon advice re visitor parking and lighting

County Council

Julie Wisson reported that the CC were intending to move from Shire Hall and a civic hub was to be opened at Alconbury Weald. Council functions were to be operated away from a centralised building with staff using laptops and conference calls. Children and Young People’s Services are also holding their meetings out of Cambridge

4. Community Infrastructure

Lighting

Marcus had surveyed street lights and found 39 not working, 23 of which have now been fixed. However there are 10 more now which are not working. There has been some progress with regard to the lighting on the bridge – David Wells involved in this – funding still under discussion.

Speeding

The County Council Highways would consider a 20mph speed limit throughout the estate. There will be a need for a percentage of the funding to be provided elsewhere and deadlines for funding applications will also need to be taken into account.

5. Incredible Edible

Jessica reported there had been some progress since the last meeting and consideration was being given to initially using the beds at the side of LFH. Benefits would be that it was a secure area and after discussion it was agreed that it could be accessed on a Saturday morning. Additional access for watering would be required. It might be possible to install some water butts

Jessica envisaged a starting budget of £140 would be enough for some plants and advertising/signs.

Jessica has circulated further detail after the meeting

6. Great Get Together June 21-23

There was some general discussion on what this would include

Friday night - quiz

Saturday - Park Run, BBQ, SMART day

Sunday - Yard Sale/ Meet your Neighbour activities

Phyllis had some contacts who could provide some international food tastings. It was thought this could be expanded a little. There would be a requirement for lists of ingredients. For further discussion at the next LFH trustee meeting.

7. Working groups

Events

Chocolate bingo was very successful – took £173.

Joke competition raised money for Comic Relief (£50+)

Guest host for next Quiz.

Street reps

No update.

Neighbourhood Watch

2 new volunteers but meeting still to be arranged.

Developing and managing shared resources and spaces

8. Working Groups

SMART- next day May11th.

Loves Farm Blooms - £43 cost of shrubs for Marissa's corner agreed to come out of LFB funds.

Finance – no update.

9. Community Action

i) Parking - waiting for costings from contractors.

ii) Further discussion re chicanes – may request further safety audit.

iii) Marcus has emailed Rebecca Britten re the unexpectedly long period of temporary traffic lights on the Stone Hill roundabout.

10. Love's Farm House

Some of the astroturf has been removed from the football club's car park next to the garden. Children's balloon show has taken place and went well. The blinds refit is nearly complete. A facilities manager has been appointed to oversee repairs and maintenance. There is now a new cooker in place.

11. AOB

New website has gone live – still some improvement to be made. IT volunteer has been recruited to help