**Whalley Range Community Forum**

**Minutes of meeting** Date: 18th May 2023 Zoom

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| **Attendees:** |  |
| Carol Packham – WR Youth Opps & Time to Change & Celebrate, trustee | Chris Ricard – WRCF worker |
| Martin Rathfelder – Kingsbrook Residents, trustee | Bill Williams – WRCF Chair, Victoria Road Residents Association, trustee |
| Ann Knowles WRCF - Rainbows, Guides, Guide Leader, trustee | Kate Richardson - WRCF admin support |
| Mary Watson - WRCF, Age Friendly Whalley Range/Chorlton/Fallowfield, trustee | Jim Donohue – Residents British Muslim Heritage Centre Development Liaison Group |
| **Apologies:** |  |
| Freddi Greenmantle - Age Friendly Whalley Range/Chorlton/Fallowfield | Paul Benson Hannam – Friends of Alexandra Park and WRCF Planning Officer, trustee |

**Minutes of last meeting (January).** Last minutes agreed.

1. Welcome/Introductions/Apologies
2. Matters arising: the paper map has been circulated; the work on the brochure continues.

New funding received £119,600 from Supporting Communities Fund for 2 years covers most of our activities.

Great Places won the tender for the LGBTQ Extra Care housing scheme. Adam Preston of the LGBT Foundation now organises the Community Steering Group.

1. Updates: -
   1. Celebrate festival: Did not get all the funding the applied for. Will be in and around JNR8 on 10th June. Planning to close the street. Needs volunteers for the gates etc. **Agreed to invite credit union**.
   2. Impact of the cost of living crisis: Support group at JNR8 every Friday 10am. Now called Community Hub. About 15 regulars. We referred 70 people to food banks in March 2023 up from 7 in December 2023. CAB support for welfare rights problems. This takes a lot of time and effort.
   3. BMHC projects/BMHC Residents Liaison Group: Have been meeting with the BMHC trustees. No more details of the redesign proposals have yet appeared. Agenda and minutes now to be public. Hope to engage councillors more. Will need to engage more people. People arriving by car is the biggest issue at the moment. Several of the BMHC staff have left. **Agreed that liaison groups can publish mutually agreed minutes and agendas on WRCF website.**
   4. Whalley Range Community Forum/Age Friendly WR & Chorlton: We are holding funds for the older people’s gardening project and local women's group. Some new social prescribing activities with MLCO neighbourhood health team/NHS, which is funded, including a leg club.
   5. Friends of Alexandra Park: Not present. New tender for the café has gone to The Pavilion Café, open Tuesday to Sunday.
   6. Whalley Range Climate Action group: Not present, but very active, especially on air quality with Let's Talk Clean Air workshops and public meetings.
   7. Whalley Rangers: not present. **Agreed to ask for written report by next meeting.**
   8. Carlton Club: not present. **Agreed to ask for written report by next meeting.**
   9. Walk/Ride Whalley Range: School Streets is doing well with 3 local schools taking part in a School Streets initiative with roads closed to traffic during drop off and pick up times. **Agreed to ask for written report by next meeting.**
   10. Nello James Centre: Planning application is in.
   11. Kingsbrook Residents: Funday on 25th June
2. Reports.
   1. Police: not present. **Agreed to ask for written report by next meeting.**
   2. Councillors: not present. **Agreed to ask for written report by next meeting.**
   3. **Planning.**

Planning application in Carlton Road for a house extension, and one on Whalley Road. **Agreed to put link to planning portal on social media.**

1. Information share: Pride on the Range – art exhibition starts tonight. Parade and events at the Carlton Club & Nip and Tipple 27th May.

Health champions from Ashville surgery has expanded its activities into a walking group and arts club, and are running a music event in the summer.

Some of Chorlton Festival is at the Carlton Club.

1. There is a space on the committee for another person. **Agreed to seek wider representation for the outstanding place.** **Agreed for the committee to approach potential candidates for vacancy on committee.**
2. Date of next meeting: 13 July 2023