**Whalley Range Community Forum**

**Minutes of meeting** Date: 9th November 2023 Zoom

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| **Attendees:** |  |
| Bill Williams - WRCF & Victoria Road Residents Association, trustee | Jane Ward – Whalley Range Climate Action Group |
| Helen Tate - Residents British Muslim Heritage Centre Development Liaison Group | Ann Knowles - Rainbows, Guides, Guide Leader & WRCF, trustee |
| Martin Rathfelder – Kingsbrook Residents Association & WRCF, trustee | Paul Benson-Hannam – Friends of Alexandra Park and WRCF Planning Officer, trustee |
| Freddi Greenmantle – Age Friendly Whalley Range/Chorlton | Chris Ricard – WRCF Development Worker |
|  | Kate Richardson - WRCF Admin Support |
| **Apologies:**  |  |
| Carol Packham – WRYOA, Time to Change & Celebrate, trustee | Malgorzata Kmita – St Edmunds Church |
| Allan Mandindi – Manchester City Council | Cllr Muqaddasah Bano – Manchester City Council |
| Cllr Angeliki Stogia – Manchester City Council | Cllr Aftab Razaq – Manchester City Council |

1. **Welcome/Introductions/Apologies**
2. **Minutes of last meeting**

Agreed as a correct record.

**Matters arising:**

1. Leg Up club has started
2. Co-op funding unsuccessful – next time we will be asked to be affiliated with Whalley Range Co-op rather than Chorlton.
3. Age Friendly benches have been installed in Alexandra Park
4. Climate Action partner project in Zambia – Chimbombo. Fundraising has been successful bore hole has been constructed along with reforestation and market garden.
5. Jan Mugg (gardener at Carlton Club) is now the liaison person for Whalley Rangers and Carlton Club.
6. Members are welcome to send updates, events, information about projects for the WRCF website and social media
7. **Updates**
8. **Impact of cost of living crisis**

WRCF funding from supporting communities includes supporting people through cost of living crisis. This winter WRCF will provide people with warm packs and giving people advice and information. Relaunched warm hub including putting entry on new website called Warm Welcome Spaces. WRCF will receive £2,000 funding from NHS MLCO for warm packs. Allan Mandindi will be having meeting with Chris and Helen Johnson (Neighbourhood manager Chorlton/Chorlton Park & Whalley Range) to discuss extra funding for warm hubs. WRCF concerned about how people with cope this year because of high bills.

WRCF have attended an anti-poverty strategy meeting at JNR8. Decided that Whalley Range will form an anti-poverty what’s app group to share information and ideas.

32 different households have been issued with foodbank vouchers in the last six months.

1. **BMHC Projects/BMHC Residents Liaison Group**

Not much to report, the next meeting is due on 15th November 2023. Cllr Stogia has asked for a timescale from the developer. Relationships and communication are improving.

WRCF will keep inviting BMHC to WRCF meetings.

1. **WRCF including workers reports**

Kate and Chris tabled reports (attached with these minutes)

**Age Friendly** Whalley Range/Chorlton met recently. Care & Repair will be attending next meeting. Sophie from Older People’s Mental Health Network will also be attending. Trafalgar Court have appointed a new manager – Jo McCreary.

**Festive Feast** will be at JNR8 on 19th December awaiting confirmation from Cracking Good Food.

1. **Celebrate**

Proposed date is 8th June 2024. This is World Oceans Day so the theme will be oceans, Awards for All application has been submitted. Email has been circulated asking for volunteers. Celebrate will be recruiting a part time co-ordinator starting in January, if anyone is interested let Carol know.

1. **Friends of Alexandra Park**

Christmas Crackers event Sunday 10 December at Chorlton Lodge 11.45 – 4pm. Expected 80 children will attend.

AGM 28th November will be electing a new chair, vice-chair and secretary as well as places on the committee. The meeting expressed their thanks to Paul for all his hard work over the years.

2024 Calendars now available for sale at Chorlton Lodge. This may be the last year calendars are produced for a while.

1. **Whalley Range Clean Air Hub/Climate Action Group**

**Climate Action Group** working with St Margaret’s Primary School Green Team with messages to send to COP28, there will be a children’s meeting with local MP about this as well.

Working with Manchester Climate Alliance on Ward Climate Action Plans to make them more robust.

Fundraising with Chimbombo partner project has raised more than £10,000.

Jane is gathering information about community gardens and orchards in Whalley Range – putting list together for website.

**Let’s Talk Clean Air** – hub going well 18 different organisations involved, sharing information about funding etc via what’s app. Next meeting is in December so share ideas and give mutual support – open group.

They will be meeting with Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham about air pollution, St Margaret’s has become an asthma friendly school because rates of asthma as so high.

1. **Walk/Ride Whalley Range**

School streets – Manley Park has started up again on voluntary basis.

1. **Carlton Club**

Did not attend.

1. **Whalley Rangers**

Did not attend

1. **Nello James Centre**

No new information

1. **Reports.**
2. **Police** – no report received
3. **Councillors** – did not attend as attending a planning meeting

**Surgeries:**

**Cllr Aftab Razaq**

3rd month of the month (except Christmas & Bank Holidays)

Between 5.30 – 6.30pm

The Range Medical Centre

121 Withington Road M16 8EE

**Cllr Muqaddasah Bano**

1st Friday of the month (except Christmas & Bank Holidays)

between 4 – 5pm

2nd Saturday of the month

Between 2 – 4pm

Manley Park Play Centre

York Avenue M16 0AS

**Cllr Angeliki Stogia**

1st Sunday of the month

12 noon

Chorlton Lodge

Alexandra Park

1 Smalldale Avenue M16 7JH

1. **Planning** – no new reports
2. **Ward Co-ordinator** – no new reports
3. **Information Share**

**Kingsbrook Residents** Association raised £100 at their tombola and the Cricket Club fireworks display. Hoping to have more stalls next year.

**Ashville Surgery** are having a winter event 7th December. Food and refreshments, games, CAB adviser attending. Flyer will be distributed.

**Leg Up Club Autumn Warmer** Wednesday 15th November 11.45am – 1.30pm, pharmacy and nurses attending, soup and refreshments. Flyer will be distributed.

**St Margaret’s Church** are having a Winter Fayre on 25th November. Food, stalls, tombola.

**Whalley Range for Peace and Justice** holding their 21st The Pen is Mightier than the Sword for Amnesty International. St Margaret’s Church Saturday 2nd December 2pm – 5pm/ Card writing with, stalls, food and music.

1. **Any Other Business**

Nothing raised

1. **Date of next meeting**

January 11th 2024. Agreed to meet in person. Venue to be announced.