



## **Walton-on-the-Hill Village Forum**

**Tuesday 10 May 2022 @ 8pm**

**Breech Lane Community Centre**

### **Annual General Meeting**

#### **1. Welcome & Apologies**

- George Curry (committee member) opened the meeting, welcoming everyone back to the first AGM and Forum meeting since February 2020.
- Apologies were noted, including those from Grant Webster (Chair) and Andy Parkinson (committee member).

#### **2. Chair's Annual Report 2022**

- George delivered the Chair's annual report 2022 (attached), highlighting achievements over the past 2 years despite difficult circumstances.
- Special thanks were given to Jane Gandey, who after many dedicated years on the Forum Committee has stepped down.
- There were no questions.

#### **3. Election of Officers**

- George introduced the forum committee:
  - Grant Webster (Chair), Marilyn Ridgewell (Treasurer), George Curry, Emmeline Moore, Andy Parkinson, Caroline Kaegler Devine, and Nuala Sheerin
- Philip Truett proposed all should be elected for 2022-23. Andrew Brown seconded with a unanimous vote in favour by attendees.

#### 4. Financial Report

- The Treasurer delivered her financial report.
- The accounts are currently being independently audited. Total funding equates to just over £18k for the Howard's Close pavilion rebuilding and just over £11k in the unallocated cash fund.
- During the last two years, contributions were made to Walton Village Primary School, Christchurch/Open Group, Walton Warriors, Breech Lane Community Hall, and for the maintenance of Mere Pond including cleaning.
- Walton Village Forum's income comes predominantly from Pfizer, who were thanked for their continued financial support, and allocations for future funding are currently under consideration. All suggestions would be very welcome from the community, for example a charity or good cause that warrants some funding.

**ACTION:** Anyone with suggestions for projects or charities which benefit the Walton community should contact the committee to discuss further at [info@waltonvillageforum.org](mailto:info@waltonvillageforum.org) or via the contact form on the website: [Contact - Walton-on-the Hill \(waltonvillageforum.org\)](https://www.waltonvillageforum.org/contact)

- There is currently £18,395.18 in the bank account allocated to funding the rebuild of the Howard's Close Pavilion. Additional funding in the last two years has come from Walton Heath Golf Club and from funds raised at the Folksy Theatre production last summer. An application has been made to Surrey County Council for funding and the intention is to apply to other charitable organisations and look for philanthropic donations, once costings and plans have been further developed.

#### 5. AOB

- Nothing raised and the AGM meeting was bought to a close



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### **Walton Village Forum Ordinary Meeting**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes**

- Meeting minutes from 25 February 2020 were agreed and are available for all to read on the website: [Microsoft Word - AGM & Ordinary Meeting 2020 Minutes \(Website Copy\).docx \(waltonvillageforum.org\)](#)

**ACTION:** Should anyone wish to amend the previous meeting minutes, please contact the committee.

#### **2. Matters Arising & AOB**

##### **a) Village Survey Results**

- Nuala fed back results of the survey undertaken at the end of 2021 and suggested next steps, including reaching all demographics in the village. Priorities for the future should be anchored around maintaining a village community as well as specific priorities around the environment and pond. Means of communication were discussed. It was agreed to continue a regular cadence of surveying, perhaps annually before the AGM.

**ACTION:** Anyone who did not receive the survey or other emails from the WVF committee, is asked to please provide their email address via the website or by emailing [info@waltonvillageforum.org](mailto:info@waltonvillageforum.org)

##### **b) Pfizer Funds Distribution 2022**

- It was agreed to move over this item as it repeated the earlier financial report agenda item.

c) **Platinum Jubilee**

- An event will be taking place at the field behind the Fox and Hounds pub on Sunday 5 June, 12.30-5pm with games and entertainment. Bring your own picnic or order one from the pub. The Fox and Hounds are the sole organisers of this event but will use the forum mailing list to circulate information.

d) **Folksy Theatre – 2021 and 2022**

- George gave an update on behalf of Emmeline. The Little Red Riding Hood production last year raised over £1500 despite Covid restrictions and will be repeated this year in September with Alice in Wonderland. Ticket pricing and other information will be publicised in due course. Thanks were given to Michael Everett for their support both for last year's performance and continuing again.

e) **Walton Village Pavilion at Howard's Close**

- George thanked Ed Moore for his continuing help and support with the refurbishment of the pavilion.
- George fed back Ed's update including overall timescale and delays due to the footpath reallocation. Permission to move the footpath was granted by the Council in December 2021. Village representatives met the Council Property Asset team in February 2022, with a follow up meeting scheduled for 23 May 2022 to agree next steps. Alongside this, there have been ongoing discussions with the Council Asset team regarding the playground and the possibility of its refurbishment including new items for older children. Now the footpath reallocation has been agreed, redevelopment of the playground can be taken forward with the pavilion redevelopment.

**ACTION:** Following questions about the costs for the rebuild, it was agreed a further update will be given at the next meeting with quotes from builders obtained in the interim period.



f) **Walton in Bloom**

- Jean Bye, Chair of Walton in Bloom gave an update about plans for the year. This includes hanging baskets, and new baskets on the car park lighting. It is hoped Reigate and Banstead council will provide large tubs again. Volunteers look after flowers and planting by the white gates entering the village from Tadworth and at Gun Corner. This year, Gun Corner will be planted with Platinum Jubilee colours.
- Walton in Bloom also look after the defibrillator and phone box and are thankful to the Forum for supporting the repainting of it. It was noted vandals recently smashed three panes of glass in the phone box and replacement funds as well as other security measures are being put in place.
- Jean thanked all the volunteers who help her with all the planting as well as the maintenance of the noticeboards.

g) **Mere Pond**

- David Larner gave an update on the pond and introduced his accompanying report (attached).

h) **Local Business Initiative (LBI)**

- George introduced the LBI, the purpose of which is to gather information about local businesses with a view to meeting and seeing how they can be supported and support each other with annual events.

**ACTION:** A fuller update will be provided in October and comments or suggestions were asked for by email.

i) **VETS (Volunteer Emergency Telephone System)**

- VETS works alongside the defibrillator as an additional service allowing people to call on extra support if they are a lone first responder. There are 2 ways this can be run but unfortunately the ambulance service does not support a managed service. VETS training services are run by Sam Hinton and Jane Gandey.

**ACTION:** Anyone interested in joining the VETS (there are currently 5 people interested, but need about 10 to run it) should get in touch with training offered to those interested.

**j) AOB**

- Regular clean ups of the village were discussed and amalgamation with the wider litter picking group. It was felt this was wider than litter as included other debris and a broader clean up to include washing signs and bins as well as removing weeds. Aim is to have an event later in the year relating to the platinum jubilee and ideally link to the schools.
- Mead Court Estate – Barbara Duncan, Director of Mead Court Estate updated the forum regarding maintenance of the cobbles leading into the Estate and car park which are under the conservation order. An appeal to the Councillors was made for their help.
- Parking was raised and the impact of people parking on pavements as well as disruption caused by the garage behind the pharmacy. Thanks was given to the Patels at the pharmacy for their help and support to the village during the pandemic and ongoing. Reigate and Banstead don't currently have devolved permission to issue penalties, but councillors are planning to write to the Secretary of State and the forum have offered to feed into this letter.

**ACTION:** Forum Committee Chair to follow up with Rachel and feed back to the Forum either at a later meeting or via email.

- Building activity and planning applications relating to the garage were raised and the TWRA have agreed to look into this further.
- Clearance of footpaths and the schedule for this was enquired about.

**ACTION:** The link for self-reporting footpath clearance can be found here: [Contact us or report a problem on a Right of Way - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/contact-us-or-report-a-problem-on-a-right-of-way)

A further action was for the committee to approach volunteer groups from Pfizer now the office has reopened.

### **3. Questions for Councillors & TWRA**

- Geoff Temple gave an update as incoming chair of the TWRA. TWRA AGM will take place at Chinthurst on Tuesday 24 May, 7pm. Geoff asked for support for the Banstead Commons Conservators and volunteers in the TWRA including a secretary. Children's picnic event for the Platinum Jubilee on Friday 3 June at 2.30pm in the Jubilee Woodland.
- Rebecca gave an update regarding resurfacing of Breech Lane and average speed cameras on the Dorking Road.
- A question about the footpath on Dorking Road and maintaining it was raised and Rebecca agreed to look into this.
- Councillor Rod arrived late due to a meeting of R&B Executive discussing priorities for the coming year.
- Walton planning applications will now be led by Richard Harris, TWRA. An application has been made to extend the AONB to include Tadworth and Walton (Walton and Banstead Heath and to the north of Walton to the centennial wood).

### **4. Date of next meeting**

- May Pageant on Saturday 21 May
- Tuesday 11 October at 8pm in Breech Hall

The meeting was drawn to a close