

# Second Meeting of the Kirkstall Neighbourhood Forum at Milford Sports Club on Tuesday 5 April 2016 at 7:30pm

## Draft Minutes

**Present: (29)** Helen Ashman, Andrew Bradley, Tom Brannigan, Fiona Butler, Helen Capocci, Wendi Carson, James Corah, Paul Foster, Stephen Gradys, Steve Harris, Paul Holdsworth, Barbara Houghton, John Illingworth, Judith Judd, Sylvia Landells, John Liversedge, Mandy Long, Amy McAbendroth, Sam Meadley, Andrea Purdy, Adele Rae, Andy Rontree, Katherine Smith, Fiona Venner, Wallace Wheatley, Michael Wonnacott, Sheila Wood, Lucinda Yeadon, Freya Young

- (1) **Election of a Chair for this evening.** Formal business started at 7:40pm. John Liversedge was proposed and seconded as Chair, and there being no other nominations he was elected unopposed.
- (2) **Apologies:** (5) Graham Bellamy, Sue Brear, Sam Clarke, Daniel Lipzith, Elizabeth Minkin
- (3) **Endorsing new members:** The meeting approved 10 new members Samuel Bickerdike, Andrew Bradley, Jane Carr, Tom Carr, Paul Holdsworth, Martin Lewis, Andy Rontree, Vincent Simpson, Michael Wonnacott and Sheila Wood.
- (4) **Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting on 5 January 2016** were agreed as a correct record.
- (5) **Matters arising from the minutes:** none
- (6) **Summary report on the Board Meetings held to date:** the Secretary circulated a brief summary of the four board meetings held in 2016. Ken Stratford attended only one Board meeting on 27 January before his untimely death on 8 February. Ken would be greatly missed in Kirkstall. The Board had therefore co-opted Keith Collridge who chairs the Gilberts & Sandford Road TARA to fill the vacant place, but with the agreement of this meeting Keith could become an elected member of the Board. This was agreed.
- (7) **Matters arising from the summary report.**
  - a. **Finance:** The Treasurer (James Corah) reported on progress opening a Nat West bank account, and on the temporary arrangements that were in place with KVCA until this account became functional.
  - b. **Website:** The Secretary reported that the website was operating well, although it was not yet HTML5 compliant. The questionnaire (see below) worked particularly smoothly when completed on screen and submitted directly from the website. No personal data was stored on the website, so the data breaches which have plagued other charitable organisations were most unlikely.
  - c. **Recruitment:** The overall strategy proposed by the board was accepted.
  - d. **Working parties:** The Chair and Secretary explained that sometimes it might be easy to get consensus. Working parties of like-minded members could progress their favourite topics more quickly if we could put enthusiasts in contact with each other. Local footpaths were used as an example. Members were encouraged to complete the questionnaires (see below) so that popular working parties could be established.
  - e. **Boundary dispute:** The issue with Headingley Neighbourhood Forum remained unresolved, and had the potential to waste considerable time and resources. An

amicable solution was preferred, which might involve a formal written agreement between the two parties. Wendi Carson reported that Richard Tyler had declined QTARA's invitation to a meeting. The Chair said that he would contact Richard Tyler and report back to the next forum meeting. The Secretary explained that Kirkstall councillors could join any forum that overlapped with Kirkstall ward, so they would join the Headingley Forum to put the Kirkstall viewpoint. The same option was open to anybody living inside the disputed area.

- f. **Additional issues:** Sylvia Landells explained that she was interested in co-housing development, as championed locally by the Lilac Housing Cooperative. Her group were particularly interested in the potential of Abbey Mills as a shared housing cooperative, and it was agreed to add this to the list of potential projects.

- (8) **Election of two Board members:** The Secretary explained that Paul Long was unable to attend any Board meetings, so he was disqualified for non-attendance. Stuart Long had resigned after the last Board Meeting, so the Board now contained 8 men and 4 women out of a possible 14 members. There were two vacancies to fill and we should consider gender balance. Nominations had been received for Michael Park and Fiona Butler, and further nominations were invited from the floor. Andrew Bradley, Steve Gradys and Andrea Purdy were also nominated. The candidates spoke briefly about their interests and experience, after which there was a proposal from the floor that the two female candidates should be elected as full Board Members (thereby improving our gender balance) but that the Board should co-opt the three male candidates, as permitted under the constitution. This was agreed by the meeting.
- (9) **Questionnaire:** The Secretary explained that this PDF form is intended to identify like-minded people who might want to join a working group. The electronic version was emailed out to all members. A printed paper version is also available. It isn't necessary to fill in every box, only those that interest you. ***It works best when downloaded directly from the website and completed immediately on screen.*** Click the 'submit' button to send it to the Forum. Alternatively, save it as a PDF file and send it back as an email attachment to [info@kirkstallforum.org](mailto:info@kirkstallforum.org)
- (10) **Discussion papers:** Copies of the Scoping Study for the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme plus a Discussion Paper on the Boxing Day Floods and on Development Issues in central Kirkstall were circulated to members. It was agreed to seek early and close engagement with the new Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- (11) **Dates, times and venues for future meetings.** It was agreed that the next full Forum meeting will ideally take place on 7 or 14 June in Paxton Hall. The Secretary was asked to get as close as possible to this target. In addition, members mentioned the Burley Top AGM at 7pm on Thursday 21 April in the New Burley Club. Burley Village CA is meeting on Tuesday 12 April in Haddon Road Community Centre, and the Environment Agency is organising a meeting at 1 Whitehall Road at 10am on Friday 8 April to discuss the state of the river after the flooding. Members wanted litter picking and environmental clean-ups to be added to the lists of future activities, to be advertised via the Forum website.

John Illingworth  
Secretary  
8 April 2016