

JMC Meeting Held Thursday 16th July 2019

Members Present

Jane Davies (Chair), Paul Townley (Treasurer), Councillors Anita Leech, Sharon Jones & Ian Lewis (Community Independent), Tina Amis, Sheila Henry (WBC), Danny McGarry, Karl Rooney, Moira McAdam & Lesley May Secretary;

Apologies

Councillor Karl Greany, Jenni Jones, Sharon McGuinness and Dave Meredith

Three policewomen were present Emma Hodgson, Claire Bland and Lauren Potter

Approval of Last Minutes

Anita Leech had sent the corrections of mistakes made on the last minutes to Lesley and she had changed the minutes accordingly and resent to committee members. These minutes were approved.

Matters Arising

None

Correspondence

Paul had received the permit for the minibus from Dept. of Transport

Treasurer's Report

The balances at this morning were

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|-------------------|-------------|
| ▪ Current Account | £ 25,360.04 |
| ▪ Savings Account | £ 34,938.99 |
| ▪ Minibus Account | £ 1,636.23 |

There are no bills outstanding and we are up to date with invoices. There has been little financial activity since the last meeting

The accounts for 2018/9 are currently with the auditor and are being prepared for the AGM. Paul said that he hoped to have a draft end of year accounts by first week in August.

The new minibus is proving its value by allowing us to provide an essential service to the residents of Leasowe and surrounding areas

There is still funding in the accounts for Silver Surfers computer training, we must try and resolve this issue. To date we have not commenced this project

Paul has renewed the 3rd Party Liability Insurance with Zurich, this will run for 12 months from 1st July 2019

Invited Guests / Reports / Presentations

Feed Wirral & Baby Basics

Moira McAdam introduced herself. She had been working with Food Poverty and Fair Share in Birkenhead (Feed Wirral campaign) and she was now trying to set up hubs and extend existing hubs within Wirral, using Birkenhead as the template.

It was a struggle to find a place in Wallasey Village, there were suitable places which could hold the hub on a temporary basis for the day; this was not suitable. Moira was given a few suggestions. Emma suggested the Spire in Poulton but while Peter Cooper and his wife, who ran the café, were 'up for it' there had been resistance from some of the people involved. The Hub will also be able to give Debt, Welfare and Job Advice.

Bluebells Tea Rooms, in the Grange Wallasey have a Hub and are easily accessible for the disabled but currently there are doubts about its sustainability. There would be £2,500 investment in the chosen hubs which means that the hubs need to be sustainable.

Sheila Henry asked that Tommy Jones be approached and kept in touch as he was a key community worker. Magenta had run a café from a van using Social Supermarket food.

The cost of an 80 kilo pallet is currently £128, there are different pallets e.g. a cleaning pallet that has nappies, and the chocolate pallet is very successful. A pallet from His Church with ambient food (cans, packets etc.) costs £185.

Moira congratulated Tina on her Social Supermarket, it was well laid out and stocked.

Baby Basics had been set up in Wirral by Moira, her own scheme. A Moses basket full of all of the (brand new) things needed for a new baby, even down to a chocolate bar for the mother was available for new mothers. It is an arm of Feed Wirral which is run from the old Leasowe Van Hire premises in St Anne Street in Birkenhead. She will be launching a Smile campaign once the school holidays have finished

Local Police Officers

Emma, Lauren and Claire introduced themselves; they have all been employed by Merseyside Police for a while and were keen to start engaging themselves with local groups. The police officers worked a three-week rota. They would be at the Family Fun day run by Jenni and LDT on 14th August.

The Police were involved on Social Media (101 access is still available but is a long process) and could be contacted on their page. Laura was in the Moreton Library on a Wednesday between 14.00 to 1500 hours if people wanted to raise any concerns. It was hoped that surgeries will be introduced

Health & Safety issues

Tina had met with Sheila to provide her with areas of concern that the Council had not followed up. Paul said he had contacted Your Housing (who were responsible for the building) with regard to the cowlings.

Bins were being trashed every night. The idea of fitting them with a special lock was not feasible so Tina said she would move the bins inside of a night.

Reports:

Senior Play leader

Danny said that there had been a lot of damage and vandalism, which had been caused by drugs. The Council had replaced the CCTV and the footage had helped Danny identify the vandals. They have been banned from the site but there were still times when they came in. Danny said he could not remember when there had been this amount of damage and it was happening when the Addy was open as well as when it was closed. The Anti-Social Behaviour team were being involved. The vandals were in their early teens and the smell of their drugs was coming into the Centre and upsetting members of the Autumn Club.

Emma (police) asked that this be logged online. She had met with Danny and the Anti-Social Behaviour team. This problem had closed the Youth Club 18 months ago. Parents need to get involved.

There was a Go Fund which had raised £913. This will be used to help security of the Addy.

The Council's work on the Addy was still ongoing with a few things to be done. The floors will be completed next week.

During the school holidays Danny will be running the Breakfast Club for the children and their parents who are in need of food during this period

Autumn Club

Reported that the Autumn Club continues to progress since the termination of funding by Wirral Borough Council in August 2018. The team, led by Tina, continue to raise funds for the Club and to date we are maintaining the service to our clients. Paul said his thanks go to them all and the band of volunteers in maintaining and running the cafe and the Autumn Club in what has been a difficult period.

Tina had met with Sheila to discuss the areas the council has not followed up. Paul has had a word with Your Housing about the damage on the cowlings on the outside of the building. The bins were being trashed in the evening and as special locks on the bins are suitable Tina said she would move them inside the building every night

The CCTV on the building has been smashed and needs repairing as nothing can be seen outside.

Leasowe Development Trust

Jenni was currently on Annual Leave.

Prima - Leasowe Community Homes

Karl Rooney said the Prima were running a Bright Ideas Fund with £500 as a prize. This scheme was for Prima tenants only. They were committed to Building Better Futures

Middle aged couple were being contacted re. A Window of Opportunity, saving them money

There is help with White Goods through Tina, Karl, Jenni and Danny

Prima were helping with themed activities at the Addy. There was a Taking a Bite out of Hunger for Adults, which helps break down food myths.

Jenni has sent a letter to schools re. the funding of Football Clubs.

At the Family Day on 14th August Prima will be helping people find employment and skills and meet with various employers. There will be Group Well competition

Anita mentioned that Prima would be having a bulb planting. Wirral Council had put up Hanging Baskets on lamp posts and outside the shop – thanks were given to Sheila. Jane mentioned that at this time of year plants needed a lot of watering and hoped this would be done. Prima were an environment group and dedicate money each year towards helping. One way is that seeds will be given to schools to help create hanging baskets and boxes. Karl agreed that the watering of plants is very important and that will be addressed in the following year. It was mentioned that boxes outside the flats helped brighten the estate.

A grass cutting schedule will be online. Karl said that Prima would be communicating better and a neighbourhood action plan would be created.

Anita had resigned her role at Prima as it would create a conflict of interest with her role at Council Karl said that Prima were still looking at Fernlea but nothing was approved yet

Wirral Borough Council

Your Housing wants to surrender their lease of the building. Steve McMorran was looking into it. The current tenants of the Wirral Radio part of the building were said to be leaving at the weekend. Ben Parker had a detailed list of what was owed by them – Sheila was trying to get back the £400 per month that they had been given and have this paid to the JMC. Jane asked that their electricity bill be paid before they left as it was part of the amount that the Centre would have to pay

Councillor's report

Councillor Sharon Jones

Constituency Committees have been disbanded and that money would now be allocated per member, taking into account where you live and the deprivation in that area. An amount of £11.5k will now be split (equally) between the three councillors to be allocated to worthwhile investments. This amount has to be spent in the financial year and cannot be carried over; it is a one-off payment

Councillor Anita Leech

There is a problem of grass and weeds around the estate, which she has taken up with Prima. In the future they will list a gardening schedule on the website.

Re. Fernlea Anita said that it is still owned by the Council. Prima are looking to find an offer to make to the Council as certain building problems are still being found e.g. cables and culverts. The plans for bungalows and houses have been drawn up.

Negotiations for money from the Wirral Radio building will include Ben Parker as he has full information about the utilities.

Any Other Business

Jane, the Chair, asked that, as she had ongoing health problems, Ian Lewis stand in as Deputy Chair, the committee agreed.

The money still left in the Rose Garden Fund needs to be used for play areas and Anita suggested that £3,000 be given to the Addy and the balance left for a future Youth Club, this was agreed.

The Hut has been given to Prima and Karl said that it was being sorted for bike use.

Moira mentioned that there was a replica of a prison cell that can be used to show young people exactly what a prison stay would be like, to deter them. Danny said this had been used in the past.

Anita suggested that one meeting be held with areas that are suffering with Anti-Social Behaviour i.e. Beechwood and Rock Ferry as well as Leasowe. There are little funds available and everyone is of the same mind. She also suggested that a cookery class on the estate would be useful to show what and how to cook meals etc.

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- **Date of next meeting:** 19th September 2019