



Minutes of Meeting held on January 8 2022 at 10am, Corner Café (Westbury Street, 1st right after Pocket Park and behind Practical Car and Van Rental)

ARA works with: Chestnut Community and Action Group (CCAG), Worcester Baptist Church, European Community Centre, Worcester Bowls Club, Worcester Canal Group.

Pocket Park Gardening Club: every Saturday 9 am in Summer.

Canal Group Litter Pick: last Saturday of every month at 10.30 Lansdowne Park. Bring gloves.

Present Jenny Barnes (Labour Councillor), Matthew Jenkins (Green Councillor), Bob Whitelaw (Chair), Clare Harker (Treasurer), Ella Hyland, Ros Peace, Sharon Griffiths (Secretary)

1. Apologies Mary Jenkins, John Kemp, Alison Kemp, Darren Smith (Worcester Baptist Church)

2. Treasurer's Report

Pocket Park	1286.68
General Fund	604.51
Light the Arboretum	174.60

3.Events

Carols in the Park. Saturday 18 December 2021. A very successful event over 40 people attended and great feedback. Thank you to Darren and Worcester Baptist Church for arranging.

Love the Arboretum (LTA).

This marvellous event where Arboretum windows are decorated and lit is going ahead for 12-14 February 2022 around Valentine's Day. ARA to help where possible e.g. leafletting and promoting. Help on the day.

Arbo Bike Ride 6 February. To encourage a community spirit and bike riding, an evening event will take place where bikes, wheelchairs, pushchairs etc. will be lit up by their owners. Christmas tree lights etc. with a battery could be used. Walkers are also invited along with their lights. The ride starts at Worcester Baptist Church Hall and follows a pre-determined route. Time and route tbc. There will be marshalls etc. to keep everyone safe. This event is in conjunction with Cycle Worcester Spring Festival. Details at next meeting. All ideas welcome. Date of event to not clash with Ramadan in April.

4. Pocket Park

No gardening club till March. ARA to work on border. Fill with shrubs etc. that can look after themselves. Use Pocket Park funds.

5. Swimming Pool Site

Social housing by Sanctuary Housing Association to be built on site. Conservation Panel have raised issues about the height of the proposed building at the front by Sansome Walk. Not come to full planning yet.

6. RGS Tennis Club Planning in Tennis Walk

This is at pre-planning stage. Funded by Tennis England and RGS. 4 courts and potential 16 extra cars visiting for matches etc. No parking provided. To have a rooftop café. Concerns about height of building, air pollution, drainage, parking and proposal to cut down trees.

AOB

Tree planting

The Worcester Canal Group are continuing their planting of fruit trees and bushes along the canal. 12 trees to be planted and some gooseberry bushes. Date tbc and is weather-dependent. Volunteers will be welcome to help plant, water and tend etc.

Thank you

A huge thank you to Janet Jackson from Worcester Bowls Club who has been supporting ARA over many years coming out from afar on many evenings to attend meetings and promote the Bowls Club. You will be missed.

To Tomasz for providing café for our meeting.

To Leszek for opening up the café for us and providing drinks.

Provide future dates for ARA meetings so Tomasz and Leszek can have some advanced warning.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday 19 February 2022 at 10am at Corner Café, European Community Centre, Westbury Street

Action Point	Allocated to
Details about Arbo Bike Ride	Matthew and Karen
Spring Festival	Details tbc.
Plan future meeting dates	Sharon