



Minutes of Meeting held on Saturday 18 September 2021 at Pocket Park 10am

ARA works with: CCAG, Worcester Baptist Church, European Community Centre, Worcester Bowls Club, 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

Present – Matthew Jenkins, Bob Whitelaw (Chair), PC Amanda Gregg, Sharon Griffiths (secretary), Matthew Walker, Stephanie Walker, Samuel Walker, Daniel Somerville, Jan Jackson (Worcester Bowls Club), Ella Davenne, John Davenne, Sandra Grayson

1. Welcome

2. Apologies

Jenny Barnes (Labour Councillor, Clare Harker (treasurer) Ian Mackey (CCAG), Stuart Minchin (Worcester Community Engagement Services)), Mary Jenkins, Tomasc Jarecki (European Community Centre), Ros Peace, Nicky Bonfield

3. Minutes of last meeting. 17 July 2021 minutes seconded as correct.

4. Pocket Park feedback and CCTV

Actions The CCTV has been installed by the police but unfortunately only lasts for maximum of 6 weeks. Many thanks to PC Amanda Gregg for making this possible. Police are regularly patrolling the area.

Consequences. Residents are delighted and relieved. People feel free to walk through park safely and are grateful that there isn't any noise or anti-social behaviour. Park has been "transformed".

PC Amanda Gregg informed us that there haven't been any offences
Drug dealing has moved to Lansdowne Park/ Gregory's Bank

Plans to keep CCTV. There are about 6 CCTVs that are moved around the whole of Worcester. Each costs about £45000. Concerns that if CCTV goes then problems will re-occur. Bob to write to Ann Nicholls to put forward case to keep the CCTV. Amanda to send email address.

There are good fakes: perhaps could be funded from ARA and Council Divisional funds.

5. Report by PC Amanda Gregg. Drug dealing by Marina, that is monitored by Cathedral Team, Increase in reporting but believe crime rate is the same. Only 2 Pocket Park incidents.

Amanda moving to Dines Green

6. Drones. Drones are still in operation on race-horsing days. Not legally allowed on Lansdowne Park. A meeting at the police station has been planned to involve drone

pilots, aviation specialists and police to look at criteria for flying. The drone operators are from Newcastle and live stream the racing. They are very aware of the aviation laws which are different from civil laws. They have not got back to the police about meeting up.

Although the drones are filming the racing and not looking in residents' gardens it was still felt that the drones are invasive and noisy and are not wanted. To change laws needs government intervention so best to write to local MP Robin Walker.

7. Swimming Pool Site Update. Housing to be carried out by Sanctuary Housing. To consist of affordable housing. The housing proposals are coming to the planning stage. Thought to be completed in 2023. There will be public consultations.

Council planning meeting on 25 November.

Traffic. Concern about traffic on Chestnut Street as this will be the main access into the development. Can't have entrance on Samsone Walk due to safety concerns about it being on a corner. Putting lights there would be expensive. A roundabout was suggested.

Parking. Houses on Lower Chestnut Street that lost garden when swimming pool built have had right to parking places documented. These houses have always had a parking space at the swimming pool.

8 Worcester Bowls Club. The club is a community asset. It has now opened after Covid but needs new members. It has an open bar, no match fees and an outside and inside bowling area. Money from the council helps to maintain the green. Closes 2 October and opens in April. Hope to have a future ARA bowling event.

9. Litter and dumping. Items such as sofas and trolleys are being dumped.

Bins. Jenny Barnes has been leading on this issue. Plans to have bigger bins with lids in various place.

Suggested better bin signage so show bins are for all litter including dog poo and general litter.

Seagulls. Lids on bins to deter seagulls. As a result of using hawks there have been fewer seagulls.

AOB

Alleyways. Alleyway by Woodland Cottages and Lower Chestnut is overgrown. It was felt that there could be a balance so that some vegetation is left to encourage wildlife and yet enough room is provided for access.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 6 November 2021 at 10am Pocket Park if weather is agreeable. At Corner Café, European Community Centre if weather not so kind.

Action Point	Allocated to
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Keeping community cameras in park	Bob. To write to Ann Nicholls
Drones	Police. Still trying to get meeting with pilots and aviation experts. Bob etc. to write to Robin Walker