



Minutes of Meeting held on Saturday 6 November 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 – Jenny Barnes (Labour Councillor), Matthew Jenkins (Green Councillor), Karen Lewing (Green Councillor), Bob Whitelaw (Chair), Jan Jackson (Worcester Bowls Club) Clare Harker (Treasurer), Sarah Trigger, John Kemp, Alison Kemp, Sharon Griffiths (Secretary), Matthew Walker, Stephanie Walker, Samuel Walker, Sandra Grayson, Mary Jenkins

1. Apologies Community Police, Ella Hyland, Tomasz Jarecki (Eastern European Community Centre), Darren Smith (Worcester Baptist Church), Ian Mackey (CCAG) Melanie Roxby-Mackey (CCAG)

2.Thanks to Clare Harker for taking over as Treasurer from today

3. Pocket Park feedback and CCTV

Plans to keep CCTV. There are about 6 CCTVs that are moved around the whole of Worcester. Bob has written to Ann Nicholls to put forward case to keep the CCTV and we have been told we can keep it for a while and Ann will liaise with Bob.

Anti-social behaviour. Residents said continued improvement. However, some concerns about height of bushes (mainly dogwood) that are enabling drug dealing to occur in a more hidden space.

It was noted that activity occurred around 4pm onwards.

Actions.

- A) Cut down bushes or replace with prickly ground coverage e.g. gooseberries
- B) Signage. Inform that PP is a non-alcohol zone
- C) Reclaim park. Suggestions: Mobile coffee shop or LikeU café Eastern European Centre to provide refreshments, Winter Picnics

4.Future Events

Carols in the Park. Saturday 18 December 4pm. Revd. Darren Smith (WBC) will coordinate. Plans for mulled wine, mince pies, musicians. All Arbo diverse talent to be show-cased. Tomasz to be contacted to see if has any contacts in the Arbo to perform Eastern European Christmas songs. So singers and musicians and performers we would love to hear from you. Please email Darren Smith: revdarrenwbc@gmail.com if you would like to be involved. Many thanks to Darren and his team for organizing this. ARA to help where possible.

Love the Arboretum (LTA). Following fabulous success of previous years this event is going ahead for 12-14 February 2022 around Valentine's Day. Main event is Saturday 12th. Residents light up windows. Also the Pocket Park and part of tow path to have light installations. Funding from 7 Arts and involvement of Uni of Worcester Light graphic students.

If you would like to be involved there will be planning meetings and other information will be circulated nearer the time.

Spring Festival. 2 April. A chance to get together around the Park. Ideas and details to be confirmed. All ideas welcome of course.

Car Club. Meeting 10 November at Worcester Baptist Church Hall. Enterprise to come and provide information and do a Q and A about car sharing. Tea and biscuits provided.

Swimming Pool Site Update. Housing to be carried out by Sanctuary Housing. To consist of affordable housing. Final Council planning meeting end of November. Residents can still post comments. Will have own waste disposal as lorries unable to go down Chestnut Street. Party wall agreed.

Parking. 26 parking spaces. Anyone with current documented permission to park on the site will still have permission while they live in their house. When house is sold permission to park is not granted to new owners.

9. Litter and dumping.

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

Weeds. Concern about unkempt front gardens and pavements. Untidiness can lead to further anti-social behaviour and lack of pride in area. Council will spray but not safe for bees. Residents willing to take responsibility for weeds.

Fly-tipping. If report to council, then a fine can be issued to person/s responsible

Litter-picks. Canal group have litter picks. ARA residents can join in, borrow equipment etc. from Matt and clean up some streets in Arboretum. Idea mooted to have Adopt a Street scheme to arrange own street clean and get to know neighbours. Could post before and after photos on Facebook/WhatsApp page.

10 Tree planting. The Worcester Canal Group are continuing their planting of fruit trees and bushes along the canal. To include Black Pear, Edible quince, gooseberries

11. RGS Tennis Club Planning in Tennis Walk. This is at pre-planning stage. Funded by Tennis England and RGS. To have a roof and rooftop café. Concerns about height of building and the overlooking of existing houses in Tennis Walk. 4 courts and potential 16 extra cars. No parking provided. Trees to be cut down. Concerns that not particularly inclusive and thought other school sites more accessible for public use.

AOB

Lowesmoor Development. A significant, huge development that is going to have an impact. Need to take an interest in planning. Revised plans have reduced the height of the development but still a major imposing development. No parking for residents. Very impressive public spaces being proposed. Can find planning application and comment online.

Service of Remembrance for lost ones at Baptist Church at 3pm on Saturday 18. information was provided.

Worcester Bowls Club. Janet promoted quiz event for Sat 18. Fish and chip supper and cheap beer. Will be open in April. Everyone welcome and please spread the word.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday 8 January 2022 at 10am at Corner Café, European Community Centre, Westbury Street

| Action Point | Allocated to |
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| Write to LTA committee to offer help. Claire Durrant, Darren Smith, Mary Jenkins | Bob |
| Deal with bushes on Pocket Park and re-planting | Gardening Club |
| Litter pick and weeding | Join Matt and Canal Club Saturday 27 November Lansdowne Park 10.30 |
| Carols in the park | Darren Smith WBC. |
| Spring Festival | Details tbc. Contact Tomasz about refreshments. Bob |