

WHALEY  
**4wards**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**MINUTES OF FOURTH MEETING**

**1. Welcome: the following were present:**

Cllr Jon Goldfinch	Chair/WBTC
Cllr Martin Thomas	Secretary/ WBTC / Amenity Soc
Ezra Garside	Local resident / business
Amy Hubble	High Peak Architects
Anne Leyland	WB Community Trust
Cllr Suzanne Lomas	FV COGS / WBTC
Mary Nother	Horwich End W.I.
Stephanie Raybould	Clerk WBTC
Barry Rudd	W3
Cllr Barrie Taylor	DCC / WBTC
Cllr Anne Winter	WBTC / Amenity Soc

**2. Apologies for absence: these were received from:**

Paul Evans	Park Liaison Officer
Mike Morris	HPBC Regeneration Officer
Sandy Schofield	FV COGS

**3. Minutes of 3rd meeting held 26th July were approved, with correction to the spelling of Amy Hubble's name**

**4. Actions Round Up**

- a. **Action c/fwd** on Cllr Goldfinch: Seek quotes to fix pot-holes on New Road
- b. A forum thread has been opened to list community resources, and this is ongoing
- c. Cllr Thomas to contact local firms & establish the level of interest in sponsoring the floral displays
- d. Action c/fwd: WBTC to be asked to approve the idea of sponsorship of tubs & baskets, and community involvement in selecting from available designs so long as the supply, design & maintenance is professionally managed through a contract

chosen by competitive tender, and that any cost savings are used to supplement the regeneration budget granted to Whaley4Wards.

- e. Action to be c/fwd: Cllr Thomas to circulate draft constitution
- f. Ezra Garside has made a redesign of the banner for whaleybridge.com. He will arrange for a second to be made for use at W3. He will add “Delivering Community Projects”, and he will circulate the logo and qualifying statement. The meeting recorded its thanks to Ezra for his work on this.

**5. Correspondence:** A paper by Amy Hubble has been submitted as was discussed (see 8 below).

**6. Litter Picks:** these were highly successful in both Whaley Bridge and Furness Vale, with a good turn out of adults and children and participants reported a good feel to the events. The allotments were also cleared of accumulated debris.

Cllr Taylor & Barry Rudd reported that a considerable amount of rubbish had been cleared from the property of the White Hart and White Horse pubs (photos before and after taken at the latter). On this occasion it was decided against alerting the landlords to this.

With regard to uncleared dead poisoned weeds along the ginnel in Furness Vale, concern was expressed about possible inappropriate use of sprays –

**Action:** Cllr Lomas will make enquiries of Les Latham (HPBC) to establish which body has done the spraying and see if the dead material can be removed.

It was agreed to request the TSW/2<sup>nd</sup> Bridge project group to have the galvanised railings by the canal basin attended to.

The recycling point by Goyt Medical Practice was reported as very messy.

## **7. Ideas please for Painting & Decorating**

Ideas so far suggested for projects to be undertaken jointly with Stockport College are:

- i). Painting & Decorating the Cricket Pavilion,
- ii). Some work is required on the Mechanics Institute, and
- iii) Street Furniture.

**Action:** Further suggestions with a picture please, to Cllr Goldfinch

## 8. Next Steps

i). Amy Hubble made a presentation on sources of grants, and the Awards For All programme was highlighted – typically £8k per community group

ii). Amy also put forward some ideas to boost tourism in Whaley Bridge and the following ideas were discussed:

- a. A worm-charming event  
(<http://www.wormcharming.com/index.html>)
- b. Autumn walk or bat walk jointly with the Wildlife Trust
- c. A lantern walk in Memorial Park
- d. A sculpture trail using stumps and trunks of felled trees (Cllr Thomas has since written to the Park Ranger). Grants may be available from the Arts Council for these. Some thought needs to be given to finding a sculptor.
- e. Barry Rudd made the suggestion that the park could really do with a kiosk from which refreshments could be sold. Members commented favourably on this and suggested it could be hired out to voluntary groups to raise funds. **Action:** Meanwhile, Cllr Goldfinch to establish if an ice cream van can visit on Sundays, by speaking to Christine.
- f. The feasibility of creating a walk around Toddbrook Reservoir was revisited. **Action:** Stephanie Raybould to identify from past studies which piece of land became the block to this. It was also pointed out that the far side of the valley was very steep at the far end of the reservoir.
- g. The poor state of the former steps at the end of the existing footpath was mentioned as a possible restoration project. These mark the county boundary. **Action:** It was agreed to add these to the project list.
- h. The idea of a best kept garden competition was discussed, with a celebrity judge. **Action:** Mary Nother and Cllr Thomas will follow this up with the Show Committee and Gardens & Allotment Society. *Cllr Lomas and Ezra Garside will investigate getting sponsorship.* Cllr Winter will speak to the Well-Dressing Committee also about this idea, as a way of boosting support to the event.

- i. The idea of cycling based events was also discussed, and the Bike Shop & Peak Tracks will be consulted.
- j. Directions to the tourist information point are required from the railway station, bus stops, car park and canal.
- k. The use of the Bings Road red telephone box as a tourist information display was warmly supported. It was agreed to purchase this box, at a cost of £1, but with liability for upkeep. A possible site outside the fruit and vegetable shop was mooted. Suggestions for other sites were also sort. It was agreed to apply to Whaley Bridge Association for funds for this project under their Whaley Way programme (Cllr Thomas has since written to Sam Gray).

**9. Next Meeting:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011, 7pm Mechanics Institute

**10. AOB:** The meeting supported the restoration of the plaque recording the scholars from Furness Vale Methodist Church who volunteered in WW1. This already has £250 funding from WBTC. It will be sited within St Johns church premises. Cllr Lomas to find out local views on this, and a post will be made on the Local History forum.