

MINUTES OF THE TETTENHALL COMMUNITY FORUM
Parish Rooms, Tettenhall
8th May 2025
at 6.30 pm

APOLOGIES

Steve & Fran Jackson.

There were 13 residents in attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

ROCK JUNCTION

Robin Hacking (RH) confirmed that there was still no further information from the council regarding the Trust's objections to the council's TTRO dated December 2023. Their position is that they are still awaiting the report from their consultants. They have declined to say when they are expecting this report although an indication has been given following a request from one of our Ward councillors that it might be in the June timescale.

The same situation arises with the petition presented to the council in April 2024. Against the wishes of the petitioners the council has elected to combine their response to our petition (which now has 1,531 supporters) with the response from their consultants on the Rock Junction TTRO.

910 AD BATTLES

Becky Cresswell's (RC) update for the meeting is a later agenda item.

PLANNING

Following information given to the Forum by Sylvia Parkin in a previous meeting regarding Avenue House it now transpires there have been a number of instances regarding Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas where work has started before proper planning permission and/or Listed Building consent has been given. The council is only responding to these problems when objections are raised by residents, running the risk that it is too late to stop inappropriate work. Avenue House is a good example of this. The Trust is to seek a meeting with the Planning Department to raise their concerns with a view to agreeing a more proactive response and process from the council to prevent further examples of this problem. Neal Kelshaw (NK) to seek a meeting with the Planning Department to progress this issue.

STEERING GROUP UPDATE

The Trust is seeking to co-operate with Regis Ward councillors (Wightwick Ward councillors are already co-operating and advising) to resolve the problem created by the fact that Ian Culley (IC) of Wolverhampton City Council says that he is unable to approve our application for registration because of what he considers to be a competing application sponsored by the Ward councillors. He has asked us to meet

with Ward councillors to agree a single approach and has told us that the same request has been made of the Ward councillors. However RH has been told by all the Ward councillors that they are not in receipt of an email asking them to co-operate, although it is believed that IC may have made some verbal requests. RH was asked to attend a meeting with the councillors but was unable to persuade them to support our application which will enable a new Neighbourhood Plan to be worked on. The Ward councillors were formally invited to a meeting at the Cricket Club at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 13th May, 2 of the 3 Wightwick councillors attended as normal but disappointingly none of the Regis Ward councillors turned up.

NK and Matt Caffrey (MC) are now seeking a meeting with IC to clarify this issue and we understand a number of Forum members have also contacted their councillors to ask them to support our application. We understand that as yet none of these members have received a positive response.

The Extraordinary General Meeting of the Trust to elect officers scheduled for 29th May will not now go ahead since the Steering Group wished to have achieved ratification from the council before this meeting. This has implications for future meetings of the Forum. Please see details regarding future meeting dates for the Forum at the end of these minutes.

UPDATE BY BECKY CRESSWELL AND RACHEL ARNOLD ON THE 910AD BATTLES

RC updated us on her work to create an Art Trail to celebrate the 910AD Battles and also the wider objective to achieve a Community Hub, including museum and other facilities for use by the community. We are still looking for a suitable venue for this concept. The Severn Trent site has significant financial complications but RC is keeping a watching brief on this. We have also been approached by Tettenhall College who would like more community involvement on their site and this will also be progressed. A document applying for significant funding for this wider project has been submitted to the Arts Council although it will be several weeks before we receive any response to this.

Rachel Arnold (RA) brought along a number of examples of the beautiful artwork which is coming out of her art workshops at the City Art Gallery and her other initiatives and we will be taking part via RC and RA in the event at Wightwick Manor to be held on the 9th and 10th of August (Battle of Tettenhall and Wednesfield Re-enactment).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Colin Whittingham (CW) raised the issue of potholes and resurfacing and to what extent the council had secured funds for Tettenhall. Post meeting Wolverhampton City Council have released a list of repairs and road surfacing work and announced that they have received an extra £2,000,000 for pothole repairs and highway improvements. Members can see the roads and areas earmarked for improvements on the council's website.

NK said that he was planning to have a garden party on 26th July and members would be welcome to attend.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Our next scheduled meeting is on 5th June 2025 and **NOT** 29th May as would have ordinarily been the case since the 29th May had been reserved for the EGM of the Trust.

After our meeting on 5th June at the Parish Rooms meetings will revert to our normal 3 weekly schedule, ie 26th July.

The meeting on 5th June is of particular importance since we need to discuss how we are intending to move forward on the Neighbourhood Plan and possibly incorporating additional residents whose names have been previously put forward by Ward councillors. A strong attendance is important.

Outline agenda for next meeting:

- APOLOGIES
- MATTERS ARISING
- STEERING GROUP UPDATE
- ANY OTHER BUSINESS