**MINUTES OF THE TETTENHALL COMMUNITY FORUM**

**Parish Rooms, Tettenhall at 6.30 pm**

**6th June 2024**

The meeting was opened at 6.30 pm.

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| **APOLOGIES**  There were apologies from Neal Kelshaw (NK) and Nicola and Malcolm Rudge and there were 7 local residents in attendance. |
| **TIMESCALE FOR PUBLIC VOTING**  There was only a brief discussion for the timescale because the application to the council has not yet been submitted. |
| **ROCK JUNCTION**  In spite of the fact that our petition has been accepted WCC failed to respond to us by the date given by Democratic Services (DS). NK and Robin Hacking (RH) had both written letters asking for an update and NK has now received a further communication from DS apologising for the delay. They were, however, unable to give a firm date by which the council would respond. RH reported that Udey Singh (US) had confirmed that there had been some changes at the council since the elections. Councillor Collingswood is no longer in the same position (he is now Deputy Mayor). There appears to be two outstanding issues. Firstly the response to our petition. Secondly some indication from the council as to what, if any, are their plans now for the Rock Junction. It is of increasing concern that the council is unresponsive to the Forum on these important matters and we need to consider how to escalate our concerns. |
| **TETTENHALL & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRUST**  Unfortunately, it has not yet been possible to progress the application to the council for approval of the Tettenhall and District Community Trust. However, the leaflet drop is proceeding and a significant part of the area has been covered. There have already been some responses and some residents becoming members of the Trust. We will review this at the next meeting. |
| **AETHELFLEAD**  Fran Jackson (FJ) updated the meeting on the walk which had been a very successful and enjoyable experience. David Guest (DG) had expected 10 – 15 participants and around 50 participated. The walk was at a slower pace than expected and only reached Cupcake Lane at 5.00 pm where mead and small beer was enjoyed. Actors in costume interacted with the walkers which enhanced their enjoyment and the walkers called in at the Art Gallery en route. The project appears to be gaining momentum and DG is now planning to update his chronicle and the council have agreed to print more copies of the orginal brochure.  RH has contacted a potential leader of the special interest group and has received an enthusiastic response. He will invite the applicant to the next meeting so that a plan can be formulated as to how to take this forward. |
| **TREE POLICY**  Arising out of the number of instances of tree cropping and felling identified in the list of planning applications a wider discussion took place on this topic. Whereas council policy covers public spaces and diseased trees it was felt that there is a broader picture here than simply the apporval (or not) of a request for felling or pruning.  A larger number of trees in the district are now massive and in many cases becoming inappropriate to their environment close to domestic property. It was felt that a more strategic approach to tree felling in domestic gardens was required to enable a positive planting program to replace those trees which had outgrown their environment. There is an opportunity to engage with English Woodland for advice and as a potential source of material.  Paul Wilson (PW) has agreed to chair a longer discussion on this topic but this will have to be left to a later meeting to accommodate his diary.  There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.  **Next meeting 20th June 2024 in the Parish Rooms, Tettenhall at 6.30 pm.**  Proposed agenda: |
| APOLOGIES |
| MATTERS ARISING   * Rock Junction Update * Registration of TDCC with WCC * Trees |
| AETHELFLEAD STEERING GROUP |
| PLANNING |
| ANY OTHER BUSINESS |