

**MINUTES OF THE TETTENHALL COMMUNITY FORUM**  
**Parish Rooms, Tettenhall**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025**  
**at 6.30 pm**

**APOLOGIES**

Neal Kelshaw, Sally Hathaway, Nicola and Malcolm Rudge, Fran and Steve Jackson.

There were 8 residents in attendance including 2 new members and 1 Ward Councillor.

In view of there being 2 new members and 2 members who have missed the previous meeting which covered the structure of the Trust and its various entities and what its purpose and intentions were Robin Hacking (RH) was asked to cover this ground again to aid clarity and understanding.

RH briefly explained the history relating to the production of the current Neighbourhood Plan and the necessity of forming a new organisation to provide an updated Neighbourhood Plan prior to 2026 and therefore to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan would still hold sway in the context of the new Wolverhampton City Council's Local Plan and the planning policies potentially arising from the West Midlands Regional Authority. He also explained that in December 2023 as a consequence of the City Council's TTRO for the Rock Junction widespread resistance and concern had been registered via local residents culminating in a largescale public protest on Tettenhall Green against the TTRO and from this public outcry the need to establish a formal structure to represent the views and concerns of the Tettenhall Wards was created. This organisation to deal not only with the Rock Junction proposals but also to consider a wide range of matters which would ensure the protection of the culture and atmosphere of the 12 villages which make up the Tettenhall Wards. Particularly important matters being planning issues, the protection of green spaces, provisions for children at play and embracing technological advances, all being aspects which need to take a prominent position in the next Tettenhall Neighbourhood Plan.

RH used the diagram attached of the previous minutes to explain the structures which were being put in place to ensure this could happen. All residents of the 2 Tettenhall Wards were entitled to membership of the Tettenhall District Community Trust (a Trust had been chosen because of Council officials' reluctance to allow us to use the word "council"). As part of the Trust the Tettenhall Community Forum, which has met fortnightly since January 2024, was established as a public square where any resident could raise issues of concern and take part in discussions about proposals and consultations affecting the district.

The Trust has also formed a Community Interest Company with a status similar to a charity which will enable the Trust to hold funds, seek donations and apply for grants in order to support the Trust's activities in protecting and enhancing the atmosphere and heritage of the district. It was this lack of ability to hold funds which caused the

demise of the previous Community Council when the WCC withdrew funding support during a period of austerity.

The application for the registration of the Trust with WCC was submitted 8 weeks ago and we are awaiting their approval. In the meantime the first AGM of the Trust and its various bodies will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at South Staffs Golf Club where members will be given the opportunity to approve the purpose and strategies of the Trust and understand the various roles together with their responsibilities for the effective management of the Trust going forward. This will include Trustees, Directors to form the board of the Community Interest Company and other key roles such as the membership and chairmanship of the Trust's Steering Group and the chairmanship of the Tettenhall Community Forum. These positions will be voted on at a subsequent EGM to be arranged shortly after the AGM.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **ROCK JUNCTION**

There had been no further communications from WCC regarding their consultation on the TTRO proposals and no response on the residents' petition since Neal Kelshaw (NK) and RH had received a holding letter from John Charles of WCC in late December.

### **APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION**

It is now 8 weeks since the application for recognition by the Council was submitted together with various amendments suggested by Ian Culley of WCC. NK is still seeking a meeting with Ian Culley asap to progress the application.

### **MEETING WITH WMP&CC**

Nothing further to report.

### **PLANNING**

No specific planning issues raised.

## **STEERING GROUP UPDATE**

The main focus of recent Steering Group meetings and TCF meetings has been preparation for the AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> January.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The status of a small piece of land adjacent to Tettenhall College whose provenance and ownership is unclear was raised by one resident. The fact that this land was derelict and attracting antisocial behaviour was a continuing problem for the resident. Wendy Thompson (WT) acknowledged that this had been long standing issue and attempts had been and were being made to address this issue, however it remains an ongoing problem which requires some further attention in order to clear up this matter.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.15.

The next meeting will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at the Parish Rooms, Tettenhall at 18.30.



Outline agenda for next meeting:

- APOLOGIES
- MATTERS ARISING
- AGM UPDATE
- LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY MEETING UPDATE
- STEERING GROUP UPDATE
- ANY OTHER BUSINESS