

MINUTES

Whetstone Good Neighbours Scheme

7pm 22 January 2018

In Attendance

Barry Fisher (Chair), Rachel Hall, Monica-Jean Hoare, Jenny Hilton, Louise Hathaway

Apologies for Absence: Neale Bassford,

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting 27 November 2017 have been read and were declared to be a true and accurate record, and signed off by the chair. These will now be uploaded to the website.

Pecuniary interests

The Meeting was reminded of their obligation to declare any pecuniary interests in the affairs of the scheme – None was declared.

Action taken since the last meeting

Barry Fisher attended various meetings to promote WGNS, creating new contacts within other schemes to work together to create a more streamline operation.

The number of jobs registered have now hit 400 since the scheme started.

Volunteers Update

Barry will be contacting the current volunteers, to update their car details, also to see that they are happy with their current roles within the scheme, and adjust, either to help out more or to reduce their workload.

A recruitment campaign is still in progress and new leaflets are being distributed throughout homes in Whetstone with the help of our volunteers.

DBS checks/safeguarding

Renewed DBS checks for initial volunteers are due at the start of the next financial year. Rachel has identified a new option that will mean that volunteers can authorise disclosure of changes automatically following re-applications.

This will save the scheme a major expenditure on rechecks and will be a required approach for all volunteers in the future. Rachel will manage this as part of the process."

Website

No significant changes since the last meeting. Louise will be given training and access to help manage and maintain the website with up to date information, planned meeting for this will take place in February 2018.

Promotional activities/Lottery

We have now registered with Blaby Lottery and the launch for this takes place on Saturday 27 January 2018 where Lorna will be attending the Co-Op on Dog & Gun Lane in Whetstone.

Launches also will be held at Huncote Leisure Centre and Fosse Park.

Jenny Hilton has agreed to manage a WGNS Syndicate for supporters wishing to be part of the Blaby Lottery who have either not got bank accounts or are uncomfortable about giving their bank details out on line or over the phone.

The first draw will take place on the 24th February 2018, and on a weekly basis.

Finance Status

Jean reports that the current bank account status, puts the scheme in a healthy position, and acknowledged that donations from users have tripled in the past year. A discussion took place on allocation of current funds and projection of cash flow into next financial year confirming that the scheme is well on target for its financial aims through to the end of July 2019.

Within the coming months we should start to see an income from the Blaby Lottery to help with future costs.

Inductions/New Forms

Currently we are putting together an induction program in place for the scheme for new and current volunteers/co-ordinators.

The current forms are being revamped to improve the service and be more cost effective, currently being reviewed and adjusted by Barry Fisher.

ASDA Fundraising

Green Tokens

The green token scheme is a customer driven where ASDA's customers put their token into a collector for the appropriate good cause. WGNS now has one at ASDA Fosse Park for the green tokens, and is reported to be doing well.

New fundraisers

Chris Carroll has put forward some new ideas

- i) To run a Tombola run in Blaby Precinct to raise awareness for the scheme for advertising purposes.
- ii) Is to put on a 1940's afternoon tea to help raise funds. It has been agreed that this is a good idea as fundraising by Chris Carroll has always been successful.

Any Other Business

The committee would like to send our heartfelt condolences to the family of Terri Wilson who was one of our users sadly passed away.

We would also like to welcome back Rob Lincoln to the village after his period of respite care and look forward to supporting him again

Meeting Closed

Next Meeting/2018 Meeting Dates

Monday 19th March 2018 at Whetstone Parish Council

Monday 14th May 2018

Monday 9th July 2018

Monday 20th August 2018

Monday 17 September 2018 – Annual General Meeting

Monday 15th October 2018

Monday 26th November 2018