

Penkhull Residents Association (PRA) – Notes of Meeting Held on Monday 16th Jan 2023.

Committee present: In person: C Pantin, J Wakefield, M Willis, M Allen, S Hill, C Preece (CPr) , T Hitchen, G Rylands, S Rylands, J Chinn.

Zoom: K Wakefield, M Francis, K Jones **ApoLs:** E Greer.

In attendance (Zoom): C Eccles, Community Development Officer

Observers: S Rushton, C Rushton (for discussion on conservation area review).

Declaration of interests: none declared.

Minutes of last meeting held on Monday 21/11 /2022: previously approved by e-mail.

DR= Councillor Dean Richardson **VL =** PCSO V Lacey.

Conservation areas (CAs) review

CP welcomed S Rushton and C Rushton to the meeting and gave some background about the review of CAs , discussion with T Coates and J Goodwin (on behalf of the council) at the Oct PRA meeting and the PRA response and suggestions . S Rushton said they were concerned that their properties had been added to the Penkhull Village CA without written consultation and about any restrictions that may be placed on making changes. developments to property. CP reported he had spoken to the owners of Dove cottage who had not received any notification. **Action: DR and council officer Scott Morgan are organising a meeting with the Rushtons.**

Update: CP has written to DR requesting meeting is open to all residents in area recently included in the CA and any owners with properties are informed in writing

Open Spaces

Alleyway , Princes Rd /Westland St/ Frederick Ave/Stone St: currently there is no identified lead to take the full project forward . Litter picking equipment is still available at the hall for residents who wish to use it in their area. SH agreed to continue a litter pick at the alleyway every fortnight : **Action : SH.**

Weed Killing; A Colclough will work with SH on this and make links with climate change group. She will also involve MF. **Action: SH.**

Repair and maintenance of churchyard walls and paths (front of church): Council had a Schedule of Works (SOW) drawn up in in 2017 and DR has previously confirmed that the works are going on the council work plan .**Action: DR to contact relevant council officers to confirm that the full SOW will be completed . DR to do walkabout with CP, take photos of problem areas and send to council.**

Land between Sillitoe Place and Gresty St Allotments: is to be auctioned on 23rd Jan '23 at a guide price of 18k .DR , SH and CP with advice from K Hawkins (Council lead for Assets of Community Value) agreed that PRA would not bid-see report previously circulated .**Action : Review again at next meeting .**

Lower Croft: now designated a conservation area with Upper Croft as part of the council's review.

Upper Croft: JC has completed his enquiry to the Land Registry into the rights of way and covenants associated with this land. He has produced a detailed set of reports etc outlining his findings, previously circulated. It was agreed to postpone putting up a new sign until some gaps in information are identified eg 1957 deeds . **Action: JC to contact Richard Talbot to see if he has further information.**

Bench placement: K Hawkins, council officer to do walk around with CP and another PRA rep to identify suitable spot : **CE to ask K Hawkins to contact CP.**

Climate change group (request from AGM) : SH will link up with A Colclough and also involve MF . **Update: SH has arranged meeting for Mon 23rd Jan .**

Polytunnel – request for help from The Willows: KJ gave some background to this and agreed to find out more about the type of help required. SH agreed to put details when available on the allotment social media platforms. **Action KJ and SH.**

Community

Defibrillators: need to identify someone to lead and take responsibility for the project. Terrace Inn landlord has expressed a real interest. Discussion has previously taken place about match funding up to the cost of one defibrillator including offering the £500 held on PRA account towards the pub's fundraising. **Action: TH and CP to talk to Terrace landlord about leading the project. Consider article in next Recorder**

Building and Planning

Planning application for telecommunications mast and cabinets – land at St Thomas Place : application rejected .It was agreed that the PRA should be proactive in helping find a solution in view of poor mobile reception in Penkhull . **Update: CP has sent letter to A Barlow,DR and circulated to PRA committee.**

St Peter's school site development: Road markings, yellow lines and signage will need renewal. **Action: CPr to write to DR**

(when appropriate), enclosing report previously done by CPr and MW.

CPr reported that the development is progressing well. DR has sourced a commemorative stone, wording and date of ceremony to be agreed.

The Mount, Willows and PEC (Penkhull Education Centre): The building needs to be made safe before surveyors can enter. MW reported that work started last week.

Penkhull Farm Development: DR and CP will be attending Planning Committee when date is set. Dangerous Structures Officer has been to review the building following reports of falling bricks. **Action: CP to try making contact with owners again.**

Royal Infirmary/COPD – Project STAR (Strategic Transformation for the NHS and Regeneration for the City of Stoke): MA reported that the construction of the car park on Grindley Hill Court is on target, and he is attending another STAR meeting on Tues 17th Jan. Contractors have finished pile driving and a new high pressure road sweeper will be used to keep the road clear.

Planning application 67864:PIP (land between 55-67 Boon Ave):

(discussion from a previous meeting) - will be debated at the planning committee. DR and CP will attend but no date for the meeting as yet. Developers have been asked to come up with mitigating measures for reduction in green space. **Action: DR and CP.**

Lucideon building: main building has been grade 2 listed.

Stoke cemetery central building. council working party has been set up to review this historic building's maintenance and future use and it is understood from DR that some work has been done to the inside.

The White Lion development: is almost complete. SH highlighted concern that there had been rumours a house was going to be built on Stone St, however there is no planning application or agreement for this.

Highways, car parking and transport. (also see roads report update from DR circulated on 14th Jan) .

Incident at junction of Queens Rd / Newcastle Lane on Sun 16th Jan: car driving at speed up Queens Rd crashed into the green telecommunications box on Newcastle Lane and the driver ran off. No-one was hurt but damage has led to broad band, TV and land line outage (mainly Virgin users) **Update: DR emailed that plans are under discussion to add SLOW road markings to be added at the junction as a priority.**

A report will be produced once the Police accident report is available. The report will include the accident history for the location. A speed check will take place along the road. Following this, a report will be produced with suggested additional measures for introduction.

Traffic/speeding issues in Penkhull : Discussion took place about current traffic / speeding issues in Penkhull and it was agreed that a review and discussion needs to take place about what can be done to reduce risks. Resurrection of Speed watch was also highlighted but a lead person has not come forward despite articles in Recorder and on social media. The need to review the use and location of CCTV was also raised. It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with Police, Highways, DR and PRA to identify a way forward. **Actions: CE to forward details of Safer Roads**

Partnership. CE to request a representative from Highways attending a PRA committee meeting to discuss what traffic calming measures are possible
Traffic review on Trent Valley Rd: Update: traffic survey report complete and circulated to PRA committee on 18th Jan. Read report for full details.

Traffic collisions, junction of Penkhull New Rd and Penkhull Terrace: have occurred twice in 2 weeks .MF asked about traffic calming measures. CP and TH ran through previous discussions with the council. **Action: for discussion with DR and pick up at the meeting with Highways etc reps.**

Princes Rd drains: (discussion from previous meeting) some have been unblocked but BS said work on pavement drains has not been done. **Action: BS to review situation after next heavy rain and report back. Update: DR reported work done. MA inspected and found no problems after recent heavy rain.**

Drain on/near Queens Rd: (discussion from previous meeting) CPr highlighted an issue with one of the drains in that the lid comes off when it rains heavily . **Action: CPr to organise site visit with PRA reps to point out location.**

Review of pathways on The Croft (road): DR reports this is on programme but may take many months

Parking issues around THA (Thistley Hough Academy): an unannounced enforcement week took place involving police , school and council . The council team has reported as follows:

“ The officers visited Thistley Hough as scheduled and recorded no vehicles parked in contravention of the restrictions. Both foot patrols and patrols with the camera car were made and nothing was found. We will schedule more visits in the new year in case this was an anomaly, but from what we’ve seen there doesn’t seem to be a problem.”

Parking on yellow lines on Queens Rd near path leading to

Doncaster Lane: (discussion from previous meeting) CPr said this is an issue during The Willows drop off and pick up times which causes long traffic hold ups . **Action : CPr /MW to ask highways dept to repaint yellow lines.**

Doncaster Lane – repair of wall outside Penkhull Service Station:

(discussion from previous meeting) Repair will be undertaken by the council but work hasn’t started yet. MW says more of the wall has come down **Action: CP to inform DR.**

Potholes, Boon Ave: JC has submitted reports and photos which have been acknowledged and the work scheduled for repair. **Action:continue to report potholes via the council app.**

Grit box at top of Doncaster Lane: MF said this needs replacing.**Update from SH – grit box has been replaced and is full .**

Brambles coming through railings of PEC: CPr raised concern about safety of children walking past the overgrowth. CE said Community Payback scheme may be

able to help but the helpers would need toilet and food break facilities. **Update: CE has forwarded Community Payback contact details . SH has noted brambles cut back to ground level.**

Communications.

Noticeboard replacement: Recorder editor has requested quotes from 4 suppliers so far, without response. **Update: Email sent to CP, MA and MW Action: defer to next meeting .**

PRA FB page: Update from JW: followers up from 1,837 in Nov '22 to currently 1,876.

Recorder: editor is starting work on the Spring edition ready for delivery mid-late March. Ideas for content were discussed and included Lucideon, Lower Croft , coronation , garden in Spring , speedwatch , hustings , Wassail , request for volunteers , panto , ? defib project : **Action : JW to ask editor to send out request for copy and date required.**

Comments and ideas from residents (discussion at previous meeting) : consider using FB page to ask for comments/suggestions. SH suggested asking for focused comments /ideas on specific issues rather than general views. CP pointed out the mechanisms already in place to involve and engage residents **Action: For further discussion at the next meeting.**

Finance: MA reported a current balance of £ 7,201 in account which should increase by £400 when money for Recorder advertising comes in .

Next AGM ? April or Nov ' 23 : agreed to place in Nov , date TBA .

Hustings for the local election: to take place on Fri 21st April , plan and details to be worked up.

AOB (any other business) :

PRA document management system with access for committee members : has been raised by JC .Advice from an IT person is required . CE said VAST (Voluntary Action Stoke on Trent) may be able to help . **Action CE to send contact details.**

Meeting closed at 2115 hrs. Date and time of next meeting: Weds 15th Feb 2023 at 7 30 pm.

JW 22/01/23