



## A.G.M and PUBLIC MEETING

### MEETING MINUTES

6:30pm Tuesday 21st March 2017 at Smestow Community School

	ACTION
<p><b>FCCA:</b>            Chairman Andrew Atkinson            Committee member Brenda Bates            Committee member Heather Rous            Committee member: Judith Tanswell            Minutes secretary Barbara Cole</p> <p><b>Members of the Public:</b>            John Rowley WREN            Angela Amer            John Tanswell</p>	
<p><b>1. <u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Andrew Atkinson welcomed everyone to the FCCA AGM which would be followed by the FCCA public meeting. Apologies were received from Justine Crane</p>	
<p><b>2. <u>Chairman's Report</u></b></p> <p>Andrew presented a synopsis of the year:            Angela Amer gave her congratulations to the Committee.            John Rowley commented that it was a most impressive list of achievements.            Heather Rous proposed that the contents were taken as read and accepted by the Committee.            Brenda Bates added that in addition to Andrew's report, there was a lot of ongoing work, examples being: the WEC and Castlecroft Playground.            It was agreed that perhaps there was a paragraph missing from the report highlighting FCCA's activity as a conduit, for example, the days spent with the planning group discussing St Thomas's Church Building</p>	
<p><b>3. <u>Presentation of Accounts</u></b></p> <p>Heather Rous presented the annual accounts, summarising the status as being healthy with FCCA being more than £6,000 in credit. There was still £2,130 to come from Creative Black Country Arts and £8,550 to come from Smart Device Yoga.</p>	

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<p>Heather offered to go through the accounts in detail but this was not felt to be necessary.</p> <p>Most of the expenditure had been on tutors for Smart Device Yoga. Another qualified person is needed as volunteers cannot be expected to commit to the time.</p> <p>Creative Black Country Arts had paid subsidies towards plays and the barn dance. FCCA are hoping to put on plays in the Rose Garden at Bantock Park in the coming year. Brenda said that there needs to be really good publicity for the events. Bantock House will help take this on and Mark Blackstock has assured support.</p> <p>Brenda said that everyone should appreciate the work that Heather has done this year. Both Heather and Brenda thanked Angela for her help in creating the spreadsheet for the accounts.</p> <p>Andrew said that this had been the third of three years that FCCA had received funding from Creative Black Country Arts and that there is nothing set in stone as to what funding may be available in the future. Also FCCA may not have the help of the Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council in the coming year.</p> <p>Heather observed that if the committee was bigger FCCA could be more ambitious. Andrew replied that they had proved last year that FCCA could do things but they had also realised how difficult it could be. Heather said that an outcome was that FCCA now had some good contacts. John said that FCCA had done a remarkable job and the contacts were a spin off. FCCA had successfully brought people into Bantock Park. However, Mark Blackstock was needed to back up the Committee. John said that FCCA had achieved more than just artistic things, these were in addition to the bread and butter issues. John thanked the Committee for their work.</p> <p>John spoke of the Smestow School Swimming Club. The School had waived the last ten weeks of payment amounting to £170. John had kept the money hoping that the club would restart, however, this had not happened. The School would not take the money back. John had therefore given the money to the MS Therapy Centre at Newbridge using FCCA as a channel but making it clear that the money had come from Smestow School. He had received a thank you letter.</p> <p>John thanked Heather for her work on the accounts.</p> <p>The accounts were accepted as an accurate record.</p>	
<p><b>4. <u>Election of Officers for 2017/8</u></b></p> <p>At this point in the meeting the Chairman and Officers of the Committee stood down in order for a new Chairman and Officers to be elected.</p> <p>The nominations were as follows:</p> <p>Chairman. Heather Rous proposed Andrew Atkinson. This was seconded by Judith Tanswell. Andrew accepted the position.</p> <p>Treasurer. Andrew Atkinson asked Heather Rous if she would stay on. Heather accepted This was seconded by Brenda Bates.</p> <p>Secretary. The position of secretary was created. Andrew asked Brenda Bates if she would accept it as long as there was no extra workload. Brenda accepted. This was seconded by Angela Amer.</p> <p>Officers of the Committee:</p> <p>Brenda proposed Angela. This was seconded by Andrew. Brenda proposed Judith. This was seconded by Heather</p> <p>Andrew asked John to become a member but John declined. Andrew said that the door would remain open for John to become a member. Heather said that John already does a</p>	

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<p>lot of work in the Community. Brenda said that this is well appreciated and that John walks alongside FCCA. John thanked the Committee.</p> <p>Andrew said that Justine Crane would be proposed but due to illness it was not known when she would be available. Judith seconded the proposal.</p> <p>At this point the Committee was deemed to be complete.</p>	
<p><b>5. <u>Minutes of Meeting 6th December 2016</u></b></p> <p>John was the only member of the public present at the previous meeting. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting with the exception of the date of the next meeting which had changed to the current date. The minutes were duly signed off by Andrew and accepted.</p>	
<p><b>6. <u>Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p><b>6.1 <u>Distribution of Minutes</u></b></p> <p>The agreed procedure was for Barbara to write the minutes and send them to Andrew. Any amendments would be notified to Barbara, who would update the minutes and send the updated version to Andrew. Andrew would then arrange for the minutes to be updated to the FCCA website and email copies to those who had been present at the meeting and who had given their email address. Andrew would also send copies to the three ward councillors.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting had been updated to the website but had not been distributed. It was agreed that in future Brenda would send out the minutes.</p> <p><b>6.2 <u>St Thomas Church Building</u></b></p> <p>Heather gave an update on the St Thomas Church Building. She said that the outlook was now positive. The building can be derestricted if Lidl and the Windmill Community Church put in separate planning applications. Lidl will submit a planning application for the car park. Windmill Community Church will submit planning applications for an extension and disabled parking. The deadline for the application for the Veolia Environment Trust grant has now been extended until June. Heather said that the local councillors had been very supportive, in particular Arun Photay. Heather expected Windmill Community Church to purchase the building for £70,000 and then go to public appeal. This along with the Veolia grant should raise approximately £100,000 to restore the former church in a sympathetic manner.</p> <p>Heather said that the Steering Group are keen to involve the community and that they still have the original list of 160 people who came to the open day and offered to help. Brenda said that the former church is an iconic building and it was very good to have positive news after two and a half years of effort.</p> <p><b>6.3 <u>Castlecroft Playground Update</u></b></p> <p>Brenda gave an update on Castlecroft Playground. Phil Jones has advised that the Section 106 money is available and that the contractor has been selected. Work should commence in the next few weeks. Credit was given to Debbie Meyrick and John Rowley. Brenda said that she would try to contact Debbie. John said that this was a good example of someone who is not on the FCCA Committee driving something through. He added that the existence of FCCA was close to his heart. Heather said that there are plans to hold a celebratory opening of the playground.</p>	<b>BB</b>

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<p><b>6.4 <u>Week Day Closure of Bantock House</u></b></p> <p>Brenda reported that the cloud over Bantock House had lifted. It will be closed during the week but open at weekends. It will also be let out more, for example there is now an antiques centre on the site.</p> <p><b>6.5 <u>No 90 Castlecroft Road</u></b></p> <p>Brenda said that there is nothing currently happening at 90 Castlecroft Road and that she was frustrated about writing to Wolverhampton City Council trying to find out what was happening. Heather added that the cladding was an eyesore. John asked if the extension had taken up more room. Brenda said that it was bigger and taller. All agreed that what had been built had resulted in a loss of public space.</p> <p><b>6.6 <u>Castlecroft Bridge – Bridge Sign</u></b></p> <p>The weak bridge warning sign was removed from Castlecroft Bridge and was found in the Local Nature Reserve. The sign has been replaced and is in a more sensible place.</p> <p><b>6.7 <u>Motorbikes</u></b></p> <p>The issue of motorbikes being ridden in the Local Nature Reserve during summer months is a PACT issue and is currently under control.</p> <p><b>6.8 <u>PACT Meetings and Police Response</u></b></p> <p>PACT meetings are currently held at Kings School. Andrew said that he had spoken to Jim Smith about moving them around the area. Jim had responded that the locations could be alternated as long as it did not impact upon attendance. This would need to be proved.</p> <p>Andrew told the meeting about an incident where someone had tried to access his property in broad daylight. He had phoned the police on 101 and had been told to send them an email. He had received no response. He contacted the police again and the officer he spoke to remembered seeing the email. He said that it had been delegated. However it was still not addressed. John recommended that Andrew should tell the police that he was the chairman of FCCA and given that the police are trying to improve connection with the community he would have expected a response.</p> <p><b>6.9 <u>Under the Bridge Project (Castlecroft Bridge)</u></b></p> <p>John reported that the “under the bridge” project is progressing. Some of the objectives of the project are to stop people feeling intimidated; sight-lines have already been created so that people can see and be seen. A mural will be put under the bridge. Third year Castlecroft Primary School children will be involved in the mural. John has met the artists. The potential images will be put on display in the Firs and the school. The proposed opening date by Mayor Barry Finlay is 16<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>Funding for the motor cycle barrier has been obtained but it is yet to be paid into the WREN account. The objective is to deter from anti-social behaviour.</p> <p><b>6.10 <u>Car Parking</u></b></p> <p>Brenda said that she had been promised that a letter could be sent out to persistent verge parkers but nothing has happened and the situation has got worse. It is not illegal and it depends upon how the verge is accessed (i.e. by bumping up the kerb or via a</p>	

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<p>dropped kerb). Brenda said that nothing is really happening. John advised her not to give up.</p> <p>John also recommended that FCCA should take up the issue of parking in front of the shops in Castlecroft Road. FACTAR had dealt with the issue previously but people need reminders.</p> <p>John said that parking is a council issue and contacting the local councillors can make a difference.</p> <p><b>6.11 <u>Smestow School – Bookings for Meetings</u></b></p> <p>Andrew had followed up the process for booking of rooms for public meetings within the community school. He commented that the new deputy head seemed to be very approachable.</p> <p><b>6.12 <u>Wildside Centre and Watercare</u></b></p> <p>John had previously asked if activities at the Wildside Activity Centre could be advertised in the Park magazine as the Centre has lost funding. Andrew had said that he would write a piece about Wildside in the Park and give details on how to get there. This action was carried forward. However, Andrew appealed for contributions and agreed to obtain deadline dates for articles to be published in the magazine (thought to be around 20<sup>th</sup> of each month). John agreed to send Andrew a contribution electronically.</p> <p>Judith asked if some copies of the magazine could be put in the library.</p> <p><b>6.13 <u>Air Pollution</u></b></p> <p>John had raised the issue of air pollution from vehicle fumes around schools at the previous meeting. As a result, Brenda had written to Wolverhampton City Council. They had sent her a sixty page document on the subject. The document identified places where air pollution is measured. All measurements were below the recommended levels. Brenda had forwarded the document to John. Heather said that she had spoken to her grandson's school about measuring air quality and this will be considered as an exercise in Activity Week at the end of the summer term. It will be difficult to measure but is a good activity. Heather said that she would let John know how the activity goes.</p> <p>John told the meeting that he had written to the Express and Star about the loss of green spaces and air pollution.</p> <p><b>6.14 <u>TDCC Parish Council Application</u></b></p> <p>The Tettenhall and District Community Council have applied to Wolverhampton City Council in order to become a Parish Council. The City Council have agreed to a review of how TDCC uses its' powers. All residents in the eleven districts of Tettenhall have received booklets from the City Council explaining the implications. The idea of Tettenhall becoming a parish council was mentioned in the small print of the Local Neighbourhood Plan. There have been no recent TDCC meetings, however there have been consultation meetings.</p> <p>John pointed out that as the entire area in the Local Neighbourhood Plan would be included in the Parish Council, residents in Finchfield and Castlecroft could find themselves paying £60 per annum to the new council in addition to the Council Tax being paid to Wolverhampton City Council. It is therefore important to fill in the consultation form to say No if individuals do not want the Parish Council.</p> <p>Judith said that as it concerned Tettenhall and District rather than just Tettenhall, the debate should also be brought to the local area.</p> <p>John asked if FCCA has an opinion about the Parish Council and what it really means.</p>	<p>AA</p> <p>JR</p>

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<p>He said that he is very concerned. He asked Andrew, as Chairman to get in touch with Cyril Randles to find out exactly what is being voted for.</p> <p>It was agreed that someone needed to come to FCCA and explain what was happening and that FCCA should write to the local councillors asking how it would be assessed  Consultation finishes on April 17<sup>th</sup>. After this there will be a referendum.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the Tettenhall Parish Council application should be the subject of a separate meeting with a single item agenda.</p> <p>Brenda recommended that those present should read the booklet sent out by the City Council and make a list of pros and cons</p> <p>There was no other business. Andrew closed the meeting</p>	<p><b>AA</b></p> <p><b>FCCA</b></p> <p><b>FCCA</b></p>
<p><b>Provisional Date and Time of Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 6:30 pm Smestow Community School</p> <p>Date to be confirmed by Andrew</p>	<p><b>AA</b></p>