

CAWRA Meeting Minutes - 22.11.2018

Apologies were received from Andy Temple.

The Chairman stated that, after a committee meeting, it had been decided to adopt a **new format** for the General CAWRA Meetings as can be seen below. Furthermore, during the 7.30 to 8pm period before each meeting it is possible for residents to attend and meet with relevant members of the committee to discuss any general issues that they would like to put before the committee for discussion / action.

The Chairman also commented that **Mrs Felicity Gabriel** had resigned her role as Treasurer due to personal pressures and gave a vote of thanks to her, supported by all at the meeting for her invaluable work and efforts for CAWRA.

The **Minutes** of the last meeting on 25th October, 2018 were accepted and adopted as a true record of that meeting.

Reports by:-

Chris Wallis (Membership Secretary):

- * We currently reach over 200 people through our Facebook and Email lists. About 180 just through the Facebook group, nearly 20 via email only and a further 20 people via both Facebook and Email.
- * We are currently pulling together a CAWRA leaflet/newsletter to be delivered to all homes in the CAWRA area. The aim here is to promote CAWRA, what we do and what we have already achieved. We hope this may encourage more people to become involved with us and also reach out to those who do not use Facebook - we're trying to spread our reach as far as we can using a variety of methods.
- * A skeleton draft has been produced for initial review by the committee.
- * We hope to do a leaflet drop over New Year/early January and need help delivering to the nearly 1,600 houses in the CAWRA patch. If anyone would like to help, please do let Chris know.

Andy Temple (Secretary) in his absence:

- * The website has had various updates to fall in line with the likely stipulations for the community garden license if it is granted (content removed that we now know will not be acceptable under the license).
- * The addition of reports on the gardening projects that have been undertaken and thanks to people /groups that have donated items for the gardening group. Also, I have updated the website with new photos of the new signs on the Bergamot Children's Play Area."

Chris Wallis (Treasurer):

- * Following on from Felicity's resignation as treasurer, I have agreed to take on this role.
- * Felicity and I met last night (Wednesday) for a handover, and a full report will be brought to the January meeting once I have had chance to get fully up-to-date with the figures.
- * CAWRA currently has a balance of £1,769.09 at the Bank.

Rebecca Tate (Project Coordinator):

- * Working with the Gardening Coordinator (Martin) towards the forthcoming Community Garden Project, I appeal for assistance from anyone who knows any helpful contacts to realise the project. I have already made contact with a landscape gardener who is prepared to price the job for us but more input is required and welcomed.

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* It could be good to involve children on the estate (CAWRA Kids). Encouraging youngsters to take pride in our area could be good for them and us.

* I am on the 'carol singing case'. We need to get people together beforehand for a bit of a practice so volunteers are welcome. We can organise a CAWRA collection bucket for this.

Martin Fancourt (Gardening Group Coordinator):

* A fantastic start to the newly formed CAWRA Gardening Group with donations of daffodil and crocus bulbs from the Thetford Rotary Club and Thetford Town Council.

* An additional contribution of plants and bulbs was made by Martin from Aqua Plumbing & Maintenance and also Andy Temple for St. Nicholas Hospice, Councillor John Newton and Louise Devlin.

* These generous donations will ensure the children's play area in Bergamot Close will hopefully become a lovely floral display, come the spring time.

* Many thanks go out to the wonderful Janice Butler for doing the majority of the planting, along with Felicity, Louise, Andrew and myself for taking up the slack.

* Additional planting has taken place in communal areas around our estate, keep your eyes out in the Spring!!

* Any other donations of plants or bulbs are always welcome, as we may have the BIG project next year.

* If you have any ideas of where to 'spruce up' for next year, then please feel free to contact CAWRA via Facebook or the contact section on the website.

* Many thanks again you lovely people

Rex Ingle (Litter Pick Team Coordinator):

* Successful litter picks on 17th and 18th of November (pictures on the website) and thanks go to all the volunteers.

* Next litter picks are scheduled for Friday 7th of December (targeting Green Lane) and Friday 18th and Saturday 19th of January (2019). Meet 10.30am at the Cloverfield Church and Community Centre.

* If any CAWRA residents have areas to be considered for the team to litter pick please contact me. New members for the team are always welcome.

* A few small issues with Breckland DC over the final collection have been resolved. The equipment donated to the team by Breckland DC has made a huge difference and thanks were given.

**** The Chairman thanked the other Committee Members for their reports
and congratulated them on their seamless adoption of the new meeting format.****

Councillor John Newton (Castle Ward East):

* On the mini roundabout at the junction of Mallow Road and Norwich Road I have been given permission by Norfolk CC to plant mini daffodil bulbs. These I have purchased and will plant a.s.a.p. (the Chairman thanked John for his donation).

* CPN's (Community Protection Notices) are being discussed within Breckland DC. This allows for more effective policing for such issues as street drinking, fly tipping etc.

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* Councillor Roy Brame and myself are on a Breckland DC's fly-tipping sub-group and will report information back to CAWRA later.

* Various events (details given and available via the CAWRA and St Andrew's Facebook pages) supported by Thetford Town Council from the end of November through December.

* I am still pushing Breckland DC for information regarding the erection of fence posts on Campion Road and the repair of the gate on Peters Drive.

Councillor Jane James (Castle Ward East):

* Reported that full Thetford TC meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 27th of November and that a full meeting of the Greater Thetford Development Partnership board will also take place next month.

Councillor Stuart Wright (Castle Ward East):

* Reported that, under the Parish Partnership scheme, safety improvements were being made to the Norwich Road crossing near the BP garage.

* The current problem with the River Thet had been identified and a resolution also identified in conjunction with the Environment Agency. Thetford Town Council are currently waiting for the plans and costs to be presented to them. It is hoped that the works to restore the original river flow could be carried out by the spring of 2019.

Councillor Roy Brame (Castle Ward East and Town Mayor):

* I have received complaints that mobility scooter users cannot successfully negotiate the safety barriers that lead onto the Tesco car park from Norwich road. I will contact the Manager of the Tesco store to see if that company can assist in resolving this issue or whether it will need contact with Breckland DC.

* The Mayor's Carol Service will be held on the 14th of December and the Cloverfield Carol Service on the 19th of December. Norwich Road Association have a Christmas Tree light ceremony. *(CAWRA same next year?)*

Rob Butler (CAWRA Chairman):

* Gave further details of the requirements from Breckland DC regarding the licence for the Community Garden area.

* Discussed further information regarding the proposed Newsletter, the CAWRA Kids project, the Carol singing project etc. The new high quality 'Dog Poop' signs are available for purchase at £2 each, contact CAWRA.

* Advised that the Chairman of STAG (Safer Thetford Action Group), Graham Parker, had resigned and a new Chairman was being sought.

* On behalf of CAWRA, congratulated the Town and the very many volunteers who had worked so hard to commemorate the 100years World War 1 Remembrance. What they and the Town had achieved was quite remarkable and a wonderful effort in support of those who had suffered for us all.

* It had been noted that, since the introduction of the road works at the Tesco/Norwich Road junction, Charlock Road and Rosecroft Way had become a speeding 'rat-run'. This will only become worse with the new houses being built unless immediate action to resolve this important issue is taken by the Councils and the Police.

There were no other issues raised and no further business.

The Chairman thanked the attendees, wished everyone a Happy Christmas and stated that the next meeting would be held on January 24th, 2019. 7.30 for an 8pm start. Meeting closed at 9.05pm (a record)!