

CAWRA Meeting Minutes 28-3-2019

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Maggie Baldwin

Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and passed.

Membership Secretary's Report

Membership numbers on Facebook remain stable, currently standing at 207

Email address list has 27 regular contacts

We continue to receive queries and contacts via Facebook and Email - it's good to see that the newsletter drop in January has helped raise our profile. It's also good to have seen a number of new attendees at these meetings this year.

Secretary's Report

The website is due for a revamp and hopefully will be updated in the next month.

On the last litter pick a fly tip of car batteries and car parts was noticed adjacent to a property in Ethelreda Drive this was noted and reported to the council on Saturday 16th March and confirmation from the council was received on Tuesday 19th March to say it had been cleared, perhaps we can monitor the location on future litter picks to see if there is any re-offending as the tip was obviously from the adjacent property.

On Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th I met with landscaping companies to obtain a quote for the removal of sand, adding new top soil, levelling & reseeded the whole of the proposed community garden area. I have one quote to hand so far.

Treasurer's Report

Current bank balance is £1,900, although we do have a few sundry expenses to pay out shortly - website etc.

The bulk of our funds are reserved for the community garden project - more of which to follow in later reports.

Work on costings for the garden project are underway by various members of the committee. Also a reminder was given to purchase your lottery tickets to support CAWRA

Project Co-ordinator's Report

There will be an Easter Egg hunt on St. Andrew's area on 21st April, this year's big lunch event will be on 1st June. CAWRA are having a gazebo at this year's Fuzion event on 10th August

CAWRA kids logos are going to be scanned and the various entries combined to produce a master logo
Sponsors are being sought for the Community garden project and the Rainbows have also expressed interest in helping with the community garden.

Gardening Group Co-ordinator's Report

The next project for the gardening group is to cut back and clear soil & plant encroachment on certain paths within the estate this is expected to be done on a date in mid April actual date TBA

Litter Pick Group Co-ordinator's Report

The last litter pick took place on Friday 8th & Saturday 9th March with areas covered Green lane in total, part of Hurth Way, Norwich Road complete, Admiral's Wood and peripheral grass areas with approx 1/3 items collected being recyclable with a general reduction in litter and fly tipping which is hopefully at least in part due to our regular litter picks.

The next litter pick is to be held on Friday 12th & Saturday 13th April meeting at 10:30AM at Cloverfield Community Church car park.

Councillors Reports

Councillor Jane James

Dad's Army murals on the Carnegie Rooms have been completed and a very well worth a visit.
The stopped clock on the pedestrian area on Kings Street is due to be repaired/upgraded shortly.
Thetford is participating in Anglia in Bloom this year.
Proposals for a sculpture trail as envisaged by the late John Newton are progressing.
Investigation is underway for a trim trail in Castle Park more details to follow.
The traffic report for road capacity around the town has been completed and the results plan are awaited.
The Big Fat Quiz has 2 events at the Carnegie Rooms on 25th April & 6th June
7th May is Thetford Town Mayor making ceremony.
The litter pick on 23rd March was completed.

Councillor Stuart Wright

Traffic report has no proposals as yet but it likely that the report will show that the road infrastructure is nearing full capacity.
Dad's Army Museum is now open on Saturday's 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM and is well worth a visit.
The Burrell Museum is opening on Easter Sunday and the large wooden doors are shortly to be refurbished.
Statue of Justice is to be replaced on the Guildhall in June.
Roy Brame has obtained litter picking equipment

Mayor Roy Brame

Roy has used part of his Mayoral budget to purchase litter pick & gardening tools for use by residents associations. Norwich Road residents association have public liability insurance and Roy suggested that it might be possible to obtain public liability insurance for both residents association on one policy.

Community Garden Project Update

Breckland District Council have produced a draft license for approval which has been reviewed by the CAWRA committee and a letter of comments has been sent to BDC's solicitor with CAWRA's comments and possible changes.
Quotes are being raised for required works & public liability insurance if required.
BDC have offered to install posts around the garden area to prevent vehicle access and this will take place on 8th April and we thank Fiona Culshaw and her Breckland team for helping us to achieve this.

Chairman's Report

We should now gear all our efforts towards finding project partners, sponsors and helpers. A letter and setting up of meeting appointments for proposed **Community Garden** project support partners will be presented to them to obtain their support e.g, Thetford Garden Centre / ground works companies etc. The plot is measured at 2,000M². The Project Manager and Garden Group Coordinator will update us with any partners, sponsors and helpers 'successes' at the next general meeting in April (25th).

Promises previously made to CAWRA were kept and last month we finally witnessed some **Police action** on Hurth Way and Cloverfield relating to vehicle speeding and ASB / vehicle ASB (bicycle lighting etc). If they are in attendance at this meeting, the Police can bring us up to date with their activities and outcomes in our area over the last month. It has been clearly pointed out to them that the majority of speeding / ASB offences occur during the work time rush hours. Visibility of speed watch is always an excellent deterrent.

Breckland Police post more regularly on Twitter than on other social media platforms. Residents may find this interesting and wish to follow them on Twitter.

As the Police have limited resources it has been suggested that 'non-detailed' examples of offenders caught in the Town centre should be 'publicised' via social media under **CPN** (Crime Protection Notice). As the vice-chair of the STAG (Safer Thetford Action Group) and a member of it's vehicle ASB sub-group, a survey has already been conducted into this which will be presented at the forthcoming STAG open and closed meetings.

Road signs and markings in the CAWRA area are to receive attention i.e, cleaning and re-siting. After a telephone discussion with David Jacklin of Norfolk County Council Highways Department and submitting picture evidence to him, we had a 'walk-about' meeting across the main roads of the CAWRA area. David agreed with my concerns, consequently signage at the Rosecroft Way entrance from Hurth Way is to be re-positioned and "20mph" roundels will be painted on the road there. Foliage covering the left-hand side sign will be cut back to allow a full view of the sign. "20mph" roundels will also be painted at various other sections on the main roads throughout the estate. An additional "20mph" sign will be added at the Tesco entrance to Charlock Road. Furthermore the white lines throughout the area will be re-painted. It is hoped that this work can be completed within the next three months. Councillor Roy Brame has generously offered to pay (from his mayoral budget) for any road signage we may be allowed to utilise. This is still under discussion with David.

TTC have now purchased a **SAM 2** speeding sign. Thetford Town Council has kindly ordered an extra set of SAM 2 brackets for CAWRA to utilise. David Jacklin from NCC highways will visit the CAWRA area once again the next time he's in Thetford to suggest a site and fixing point.

It was agreed at the January meeting that the new weather-resistant CAWRA '**dog poop**' notices are now available for members at £2 cost. We have been approached by other RA's regarding selling the notices to them to use. This has been agreed and at a donation of £2.50 each for them into the CAWRA funds. TTC are kindly funding new metal 'No dogs / No ball games' signs for the Bergamot Close Children's play area after the existing signs were vandalised earlier this month.

Spreadsheet of '**Cars for Sale**' continues. There have been no further reports of car sales on the green during this last few months so hopefully the message has gone out that this is not welcome on the community areas. Please be vigilant and report the registration number, phone number, location, make, model and colour of the vehicle. Please also report any vehicles that are obstructing footpaths near your home. Pictures are most useful.

Please report the exact location any **shrubs / foliage** etc that are overhanging public pavements or otherwise causing obstruction and need cutting back.

After recent social media comments, I notified **Breckland DC**, via the section on their website, of a full litter bin on Campion Road. Please note that anyone can and should always report problems with litter bins via the same method.

Once again, residents are urged to **contact the Police** immediately if anything illegal or to the detriment of the CAWRA area occurs. If safe to do so, please try to obtain picture or video evidence and log time and date etc. You can call 01953 424455 which is direct line to Wymondham Police Headquarters.

Purple crocus and yellow daffodil flowers are making their appearances around the area after all the planting that happened late last year by our wonderful Gardening Group. If residents know of any other swathes of land in our area that would like to be planted ready for next year then please notify Martin as TTC have offered the free use of the bulb-planting machine and also some bulbs. TTC will enter the 'Anglia in Bloom' competition so are keen to beautify all areas, particularly ours.

Question:- May 2019 sees the **elections** take place for Town and District Councillors. CAWRA is a non-political association but it might be worth noting that perhaps those councillors who have been most active in their support of CAWRA deserve your vote?

A reminder that **future CAWRA meetings** will open at 7.30pm for refreshments and **discussions with committee members, agencies, councillors** etc. Tea, coffee, ('bottomless') and biscuits etc will be served (50p pp - proceeds to CAWRA funds). The General Meeting will start at 8pm.

The next General Meeting will be held on April 25th.

Any Other Business

Cars are being badly parked on the estate causing obstruction and some being parked on green areas it was asked if it would be possible to create more parking areas within the estate.

Whilst tree surgery was being carried out on Crecy Mews a fence was removed which has not yet been replaced.

It was asked if the Tesco Bags for Help application was going ahead and it is understood that this will happen at a time in the future

With the upcoming local elections might it be possible to introduce the standing candidates at the next CAWRA meeting.