

Umbrella Group Meetings

Thursday 5th November Wirral Group

Attendance

Alan Dollery – Prenton TRA
J Hayward – Prenton TRA
Mike Harper – WPH Resident Involvement Board Champion
June Foster – Mount Estate
Jean Robinson – Overchurch Residents Ass
Damian McGregor – Woodchurch Trust
James Wood – Woodchurch Trust
Lorraine Anderson – WPH
Jane Thompson – WPH
Graeme Roberts - WPH

Introduction and Background

Lorraine welcomed those present to the meeting and started to explain the background to why we were holding these meetings, as a result of the meeting with all groups in May at the Wirral Multi Cultural Centre in Birkenhead. As a result of that meeting it was agreed and voted on, by those present to stop funding the Federation, and the outcome was that as WPH groups, there was a need to set up The Umbrella Group format. Lorraine gave an update to those in attendance on the current status of the Federation and how the building would be used moving forward.

Lorraine explained why the individual groups have been placed into the Wirral group due to the geographical nature, and the same applies to Birkenhead, Rock Ferry/Tranmere and the Moreton group. Lorraine asked if those present were happy to stay as part of the Wirral Group, even though they were geographically spread. The group agreed to stay and function as they were.

Alan stated that we should look at changing the name of the fed house to a new name such as 'WUG' Bentinck House.

Frequency and Location

Those in attendance agreed that they as The Wirral element of The Umbrella Group would meet three times a year in addition to the Wirral (WUG) Umbrella Group, which would bring all groups together twice a year to catch up, network, share best practices and discuss relevant issues affecting the groups. It has been proposed that we could invite other agencies such as PCT, ASB, Streetscene, Police etc. One of the WUG events would also take the form of a Tenants Conference and would have members of WPH Executive Management Team and Board Directors in attendance. The

location of future meetings was agreed to be shared between Prenton TRA (SHOP) and Overchurch RA (SHOP) venues.

Governance

Lorraine had asked if the groups wanted WPH officers in attendance. If so, how many meetings would you want our presence and whether it was required for a Chair and minute taking. Lorraine added that she didn't feel that the meetings didn't require a Chair, Secretary or vice chair. It was agreed that they would be happy to Chair their own meetings and this would become the responsibility of the hosting venue.

Those in attendance agreed to the code of conduct, but altered the terms of reference to reflect an 'aim' – to do the best we can for all in WPH Communities. This would be posted out along with a copy of the Code of Conduct and proposed planned future dates of meetings.

Standard Agenda Items

Obviously as the meetings formulate and grow, this is something that can evolve with the requirements of the groups, but it was suggested items could be Repairs/Maintenance, ASB issues and to include agency involvement. It was suggested by Pat Gannon that it would be a good idea to bring a list of all agencies to the meeting.

Comments and Questions

Alan Dollery stated it was an excellent idea to have a Tenants Conference as the groups have been working well.

Jean had suggested it would be a better use of time if the agencies concerned that we were looking at getting involved to come along to some of these meetings, that this was done on the large altogether WPH Umbrella as it would more likely receive a better buy in from the agencies, rather than having to attend numerous sessions. Especially if there were major issues affecting a lot of the groups. Jean also expressed of her concern that we don't "overkill" with regards to agencies.

Dougie suggested that each group monitors its own agenda, as there won't be a need for agencies to attend all meetings, only if required.

Jean also expressed her concern that if when we held the large group "WUG" we would carefully need deal with feedback from agencies and who/how would that be dealt with.

Jean stated that she was attending a Council meeting which would be covering the network that the Council is favouring as the Community Vehicle.

Dougie suggested that someone from the group represent WPH. Lorraine asked if Jean would be willing to feed back on our behalf, and how WPH "WUG" would fit in within the new structure.

Alan expressed his disappointment with regards to communication about the restructure within WPH and that this is something that should be better. Lorraine responded that the new restructure has and still is only happening and that letters will be going out, within the next few days, explaining and detailing this new structure.

This concluded the meeting.

Attached

- Code Of Conduct
- Proposed dates for group meetings.