

## KSARA Committee Meeting: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Attendees:** DL (Chair), SH (minutes), MC, CW, HH

**Apologies:** TM, CB, TB

### 1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2023 were accepted.

### 2. Matters arising

- Strategic Review of Funding: Actions to be taken forward to next meeting.
- Residents' Welcome Card: Actions complete and final version signed off.

Action: DL to deliver a copy to new residents

- Coronation Pub Quiz: Agreed that it had been a very enjoyable evening. The quiz was well-received, and the "Name the Teddy" cards were a good approach to fundraising (see Item 6). The challenge for the future will be getting broader engagement by residents.
- Street Party (29 July): Agreed to explore key issues around holding the party in the green space off Water Tower Street.

Actions: DL to identify a CWAC contact to advise whether permission needed

MC to obtain indicative cost for hire of a generator.

SH to put the Street Party as the Strategic Discussion Item on the June Agenda

Outcomes of actions to be shared by WhatsApp ASAP so a decision can be made before the next meeting. The area at the back of King Charles Court to be the back-up plan.

- Residents' Parking Permits: SH had raised the issue on FB but had no responses.

Action: DL to enquire via CRAG whether other Residents' Associations were experiencing similar problems since the move to online bookings.

### 3. Antisocial Behaviour

There have been fewer instances of ASB that have merited reporting to the police. Powys Court is being managed better by Chester University. However, the Committee noted with sadness the recent death of a man in the canal, highlighting the concerns raised with the University about students crossing the locks.

### 4. Planning and Licensing

There is an application on the CWAC Planning Portal for development of Centurion House by Blueoak Estates, a company with a reputation for high quality residential accommodation. The proposal is to convert half the existing floor space into thirteen 2-bedroom apartments. The ground floor and the western half of the 1st and 2nd floor would be retained as commercial space. Residential access would be via the Firemans Square entrance and commercial via the Northgate Street entrance. The application is to determine whether "Prior Approval" is required in line with the approval process for a "Permitted Development". It was agreed that it was important that residents in King Charles Court, Water Tower Street, Canning Street and the north side of King Street were aware of the application and knew how to comment on it.

Actions: SH to draft note to be distributed to in hard copy to affected residents

SH to put agreed text on Facebook

CB to email agreed text to all residents

No licensing issues to report.

## **5. Highways**

SH has submitted data to CWAC re near-misses at the Canal Street / George Street / Northgate Street junction. Eleven incidents have been reported by residents via e-mail and Facebook in the past 4 months.

## **6. Finances**

The quiz raised £142 (£91 in donations plus £76 from the Teddy cards, of which £25 was given as a prize).

## **7. Communications**

Nothing to report.

## **8. Any other business**

- Firemans Square: A resident has raised concerns about the poor state of repair of the steps and the amount of litter. The stairs are unadopted so there is no obvious line of responsibility. It was suggested that Committee members could devote a few hours to a litter pick and painting the step edges.

Action: SH to put on Agenda for next meeting

- King Charles Coronation - Biodiversity Competition: Applications are invited from community groups for projects promoting biodiversity in Chester. Closing date 1 July. It was suggested that the discussions about a Pocket Park off Water Tower Street could be re-visited.

Action: SH to put on Agenda for next meeting

## **9. Date of next meeting**

Provisionally Tuesday 6 June 7.30. Pied Bull.