

OPEN MEETING Bullet Points
St Columba's Church
Thursday 30th January 2020

Twenty Crosspool residents and eight members of the Forum Management Committee attended, with four guest speakers.

Ian Hague (chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting in St Columba's Church, and reported the sad death of Barrie Clay, Manchester Rd resident and one of the original committee members - indeed the person jointly responsible for setting up the Crosspool Forum in 2003 and instrumental in the Christmas tree displays, S10 corridor (precinct) traffic management scheme, Hagg Copse lease acquisition, Summer Fayre and Clarion.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Clarion (winter issue) out as usual; and the 2020 Crosspool Calendar.
2. In December the Children's Christmas party took place, 29 Christmas trees erected in precinct brackets - and 300 discarded trees brought to precinct re-cycling event for chipping
3. Easy Exercise and Tai Chi still going strong - please come & join in everyone welcome
4. Forum Orchard (at the back of Coldwell Lane) has had a good tidy up, new tree stakes & pruning done.
5. More flags & flagpoles have been ordered - look out for Varanasi Inn's special design!
6. The negotiations for the CCTV have at last been completed & installation date awaited. (Keep an eye on Crosspool News for an update).
7. The conflict memorial has been installed at Tapton Hill Congregational Church - dedication date to be decided. It is hoped this will become a focal point for everyone in the area. (Keep an eye on Crosspool News for an update).
8. Summer events being planned - Festival Week & Fayre. Any unwanted Gifts Bric-a-Brac or Books gratefully received. Email: crosspoolforum@gmail.com (Can be collected)
9. The St Columba's defibrillator pads need renewing - these are to be purchased.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

John Drinkwater. said the cost of the memorial had been funded entirely by local efforts - no extra needed from Forum funds. The largest expenditure this year will be the CCTV system, and both the tree-shredding event and calendar sales brought in a useful sum.

Please send in any feedback about this - plus new photos for the 2021 calendar to crosspoolforum@gmail.com

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL

Linda Gooden (Head) said she was "really really pleased" to have been invited to attend, as she feels 'King Edward VII' is a "most remarkable school" of which she felt very privileged to be head. She spoke of the diversity in the school, the distance some pupils have to travel to attend, and disadvantages some face. She said there were "amazing results" last year in the external exams, 73% of the Year 11s getting A*C grades, & their A level results were "spectacular". Nine 6th formers have been offered 'Oxbridge' places - though one year 15 had!! A full timetable of extra-curricular activities is still in place, together with mental health projects, the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, and the students have been given a voice in climate change awareness. In 2019 they marked the 50 years since girls had been allowed to join the school.

Cath Jackson (Assistant Head) then spoke of the connection the school has to the local community and how the students have become more respectful towards the area. They are now involved in litter-picking and precinct tub planting. A working relationship continues with Tapton School and the police. Pupils also take part in a maths challenge, the STEM club & work with Sheffield University in projects to do with medicine & climate change. They answered questions about the 6th form intake - they are the largest provider in the area - with A levels & B-techs on offer, about still-idling parents' cars, & how foreign trips are budgeted for (- these are self-funded although the school can help-). King Edwards VII very rarely has to permanently exclude a pupil for bad behaviour, and finds "with

sensitivity and care" and occasional use of an "isolation room" where they can sit quietly and complete their work for the day, is enough.

"IT'S OUR CITY REFERENDUM"

Shirley Foster wanted to bring residents' attention to a forthcoming May event, when everyone in Sheffield has the chance to vote to change the "Strong Leader" council governance system, for one based on committees. Over twenty one thousand people have felt so far that their elected councillor has little chance of having a say on matters of local concern.

Councillor Tim Huggan said he had worked on councils where this latter system is in place, and although it is "not a panacea" it is the culture of the whole council that needs to change.

POLICE REPORT

Steve Reynolds read out PCSO Thompson's report dated yesterday: Burglaries still a hot topic - 14 residential break-ins, 5 attempts, and 1 shed. There have been 9 arrests to date - if you need help to put security measures in place please visit the SYP website.

Crosspool is now part of the "Sheffield NW policing team" with 1 inspector, 1 sergeant and several PCS, all based at Snig Hill.

COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

1. Re idling buses (as well as parent cars) Cllr. Huggan is working with the University of Sheffield on city-wide pollution. He mentioned that the First Bus Company has severe financial pressures at the moment and is up for sale. (He did not know the conclusions to the Mayor Dan Jarvis meeting mentioned at the last Open Meeting)

2. New police re-organization - see above - he hopes this will be allowed to bed itself in with no more changes, but the exact boundary between Crookes and Crosspool (& whether we will be with Lodge Moor and Ranmoor & separate from Crookes, Hillsborough, Stannington & Deepcar is not clear).

EVENTS etc.

1. the Well dressing on Friday 26th June will start Summer 2020 Festival Week, with the street market on the Sunday 29th and assorted events throughout the week culminating with the Summer Fayre on Saturday 4th July and the Party in the park on the Sunday.

2. Car Boot sales 6th June & 5th Sep..

3. Winter floral displays will be changed for summer ones (King Edwards VII pupils)..

AOB

1. The Plough; there have been 200 objections to the development plans - an incredible number. The site has been "trashed" by the new owner - our MP Olivia Blake has written to the Council about this.

2. It is hoped local MP Olivia Blake will attend an Open Meeting in the near future.

3. Litter pick first Saturday in Month

Next Open Meeting will be Thursday, 30th April, 2020.