

The Community Action: Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) committee met at the Head Shed at 7pm and via Zoom.

1. Welcome / Present /Apologies:

Pippa welcomed everyone to the meeting and was pleased to see an almost complete attendance.

Present: Pippa Richardson; Lesley Sibbald; Peter Richardson; Angela Ferris; Peter Harrison. Mary Pile; Elizabeth and Richard Bean; Dan Pike, Nick Adsett; Mike Booth; Alison Candlin and Joan Boorer

Apologies: Maureen Hibbott & Ann Harrison

2. Minutes and Actions from the meeting held on 2 March 2022:

All actions complete or covered under agenda items below.

3. Updates on current CAWS Activities

3.1. Phone Box Library Top Lane – The box had been cleared, repaired and restocked on Sunday 3rd April by Ange, Mike, Lesley & family. New temporary signs had been put up while the permanent one is made. Maureen will now take over routine monitoring. **Action: Maureen**

3.1.1. Mike reported that the box will need some repainting – in the summer. **Action: Mike**

3.1.2. Spindles were not happy with the idea of having a smaller number of books outside the store, as it was also their home. This idea could not therefore be taking forward.

3.2. Information Box Corsham Rd – Future options to be reassessed after the Jubilee Fair.

3.3. Litter Pick – Complete.

3.4. Internet Connectivity Improvement Campaign - Dan provided an update on the fact that Gigaclear had just lost the contract so there would be a hiatus for 4 months until a new contract was issued. He will continue to investigate options and liaise with the relevant authorities / representatives.

4. Finance:

4.1 Joan reported that there had been no change in the overall accounts and that payment / invoices relating to the fair were beginning to emerge. Pippa and Lesley confirmed that they now had the details to sign up to the CAWS bank account but had not yet done so. **Action: Pippa and Lesley**

4.2 Pippa raised the fact that 2 invoices had been received for payment; one for the dog show rosettes, one for the raffle tickets and asked Joan to make sure that they were processed and paid. **Action: Joan**

5. Updates on other Community Activities:

5.1. Speedwatch: Elizabeth has been trying to liaise with the police to arrange for a new coordinator. Pippa suggested that the Facebook page be used to find a volunteer. Elizabeth to provide a list of current trained 'speedwatchers'. **Action: Pippa to advertise for a coordinator, Elizabeth to provide a list of currently trained volunteers**

5.2. MWPC News: Nothing to report.

5.3. Community Emergency Group: Peter H advised that a full watercourse check had been undertaken on 28th March. Issues were identified and remedial action taken where possible. Peter R reported that, at the Annual Parish Meeting, the Shaw & Whitley CEG was reported as an exemplar.

5.4. Whitley Stores: Alison reported that the shop continues to develop, with more volunteers offering help, and expects to finish its first financial year with a small financial surplus. This will be used for small grants to village projects. Easter opening hours have been published and several competitions are being run. The shop had also received a grant from MWPC which would be used for new display stands etc. The provisional date for the AGM is Tuesday 5th July 2022.

6. Queen's Jubilee celebrations June 2022:

6.1. General: Peter provided a summary of progress, see attached slide package. He noted that all elements were progressing but there was still a lot of bookings to be confirmed. The editor of Connect had agreed that the poster would appear on the cover of the next edition (due shortly). It was agreed that a leaflet drop

would be organised after Easter. The TENS licence had now been granted and MWPC had awarded a grant of £500 in support of the fair. **Action – Subcommittee.**

- 6.1.1. Following discussion regarding electricity supply for stalls, it was agreed that Eddie Day would be asked to undertake a review of the Village Hall supply. **Action – Mike**
- 6.1.2. The ‘design a crown’ competition would be organised, run by, and displayed in, the school. The final judging would take place at the Fair. Coppins of Corsham had agreed to sponsor the competition and to reproduce the winning crown in silver. **Action – Nick**
- 6.1.3. Joan confirmed that the village hall insurance provides the necessary cover.
- 6.1.4. Lesley agreed to contact PAFOS regarding additional volunteers. **Action – Lesley**

In conclusion Peter reported that a huge amount had been achieved since the last meeting and that he was now much more confident of success. The remaining big issue is the number of volunteers who will be forthcoming on the day. **Action – All.**

7. **Other community Events:**

- 7.1. **Plant a tree initiative:** Peter had met with MWPC and council officials. The proposal is for 4 mature trees to be planted in the autumn, locations to be determined by a walk around the village shortly. Further sapling planting would be undertaken but before this could be agreed it would be necessary to determine ownership of potential sites such as Whitley Common. **Action – Peter R**
- 7.2. **Neighbourhood Plan:** Wiltshire Council were currently undertaking a review of the plan, over a 2-year period. This included the identification of areas that residents would like to be retained as ‘open spaces’. Peter urged everyone to access and annotate the interactive map which can be found at <https://www.melkshamneighbourhoodplan.org/local-green-spaces> **Action – All Committee Members**
- 7.3. **Melksham Bypass:** The committee recognised that there is renewed pressure, including from Michelle Donelan MP, to amend (or cancel) the route of the bypass. It was agreed that Peter R would write to Wilts Council and our MP on behalf of CAWS to the effect that we are still of the view that the proposed option is the best. All members of the committee were encouraged to do likewise. **Action – Peter R / All**
- 7.4. **Top Lane Hedge Cutting:** The committee expressed concern regarding the removal of hedges along Top Lane. This issue has been reported to Wiltshire Council for review.

8. **AOB:**

- 8.1. **Britain in Bloom.** It was agreed that we would not enter this competition this year.
- 8.2. **Poo Bags:** After discussion it was agreed that a trial would be undertaken to place poo bags around the villages in the hope of reducing this problem. Peter to arrange and inform MWPC. **Action – Peter R**
[Post meeting note. Peter has discussed the issue with Teresa Strange at MWPC who stated that the council had some concerns because in other areas there has been a glut of full bags being discarded in places other than bins, including the branches of trees! Teresa will discuss with Broughton Gifford and Steeple Ashton where a scheme is in operation and will feed back to CAWS]
- 8.3. **Whitehall Patio Set storage:** Temporary storage to be found following confirmation of size of boxes. **Action – Ange**
- 8.4. **Provision of a stage for Fair:** Following discussion on whether a ‘stage’ could be provided, it was agreed that securing a flat-bed trailer may be the best solution. **Action - Nick**

9. **Date of Next Meetings:**

- 9.1. Jubilee Subcommittee: Tuesday 3rd May 2022 - 1900 at The Headshed
- 9.2. Full committee: Tuesday 17th May 2022 - 1900 at The Headshed

10. **Closure:** Pippa thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 2015hrs.

Lesley Sibbald

6 April 2022