



Westhoughton Community Network

Meeting: Wednesday, 17th February 2020 | 7:00pm
at Winifred Kettle Day Centre

Minutes

1. Present

Groups in attendance (15)

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| 1. Bethel Crowd (BCD) | 10. Senior Solutions (SenSol) |
| 2. Bolton Lads and Girls Club (BLGC) | 11. Travellin' Strings (TST) |
| 3. Daisy Hill in Bloom (DHiB) | 12. Westhoughton Age Support Project (WASP) |
| 4. Friends of Eatock Lodge (FoEL) | 13. Westhoughton Local History Group (WLHG) |
| 5. Friends of Westhoughton Station (FoWS) | 14. Westhoughton Methodist ADS (WMADS) |
| 6. George Formby Society (GFS) | 15. Women of Westhoughton (WOW) |
| 7. HEART (HRT) | ~ Bolton CVS (BCVS) |
| 8. Howfen Radio (HR) | ~ Co-op Members (Co-op) |
| 9. Rotary Club of Westhoughton (RCW) | ~ Fresh As A Daisy (Daisy) |

Individuals in attendance (26)

Janice Bayliss (WOW)	Colin Gradwell (WMADS)	Fred Martindale (GFS)
Trevor Benn (FoEL)	Garry Hampson (GFS)	Rebecca Moulton (SenSol)
Ann Benn (FoEL)	Steve Harrington (RCW)	Elsa Parker (Coop)
Val Chadwick (WLHG)	Darren Knight (BCVS)	David Reeve (DHiB)
David Chadwick (HRT)	Brian Leyden (FWS)	Cindy Ritchie (TWG)
Wilf Dillon (WASP)	Julie Loughran (SenSol)	Veronica Swinburne (DHiB)
Tim Eden (TST)	Colin Lucas (Coop)	Jason Taylor (BCD) CHAIR
Janice Estcourt (GFS)	Dawn Lythgoe (Daisy)	Chris Buckley (WCN) SECRETARY
Stephen Freeborn (FWS)	Carly Mack (BLGC)	

Apologies (15)

Ann Butler (Westhoughton High School); Johnny Crook (Westhoughton Poetry Group / Town Crier);
Doug Cunliffe (Hindley's And Clough Farm Residents Association/WAVE); Kirsty Gadsby (Health
Improvement Practitioner Service); Sandra Greenall (Westhoughton Community Royalty);
David Hartley (Westhoughton Methodist Church); Bob Latham, Glenys Latham (St. James Church);
Kath Lloyd (Winifred Kettle Centre); Susan Missin (Harold Daniels Legacy Fund);
Bob Naylor, Ian Templeman (Daisy Hill FC); Jack Speight (Friends of Daisy Hill Station);
Caroline Stewart (Bolton Cares); Mark Taylor (Hope Church).



2. Welcome/Apologies/Review of Minutes

The meeting was chaired by Jason Taylor (Bethel Crowd), who welcomed everyone to the Winifred Kettle, thanking Bolton Cares for use of the venue, and Julie and Becci of Senior Solutions for organising refreshments – and Elsa for the cakes.

During the apologies it was noted that Harold Daniels' daughter Susan Missin's job change might make attending meetings more difficult; there was news that "dad's church" Dean Methodist had closed (his efforts and putting on events kept it going a long time). Two amendments to last minutes noted ([updated online](#)). On matters arising, it was confirmed that Bolton Lads and Girls Club Saturday evening sessions are now up and running, the 'Youth Awards' to happen soon...

Jason then asked those present to briefly introduce themselves.

3. Town Centre Capital Improvements Masterplan

Jason referenced today's Public Consultation drop-in session at the Library for the potential investment in the town centre (¼ share of £16m, plus a separate £2.5m for Town Hall refurbishment). He briefly went through the six proposal areas as per the feedback questionnaire:

- KDP1: Street remodelling along Market Street
- KDP2: Upgrading key pedestrian links
- KDP3: Redevelopment of the Town Hall
- KDP4: Promotion of new homes on council and privately owned land
- KDP5: Improving access to the Library and Carnegie Hall
- KDP6: Developing a car parking strategy

There was some discussion of the proposals. One question on fixing Market Street's uneven road surface - it was believed this would fall under the Council budget. It was thought perhaps any remedial work might be delayed for when Market Street, whilst still 2-way, is - as suggested - narrowed in places for more pedestrian/outside seating areas (some skepticism given the short British summer and unpredictable weather).

It was felt that if the idea is to draw people into the town centre the vision presented is lacking, given that all vacant sites: Gaiety, Mill Street and adjacent Sainsbury's have residential allocations – once built on there is nowhere to put anything else. Residential developments bring with neighbour concerns (noise, light, nuisance...), and could be counter-productive in a small town setting; there is already a lot of residential property in the vicinity of the town centre.

Whilst clearly extra investment would have to be accessed, a town this size (approaching 30,000 with ongoing, planned and possible developments), needs more amenities... the jewel of a modern flexible 200+ capacity entertainment/civic venue that could be used for concerts, theatre, exhibitions, etc. could certainly draw people into the town centre and boost the local economy.

In spite of it being an issue raised during consultations, there are no plans for additional parking, suggesting that rationing might be the solution to short-term (shoppers) v. long-term (workers) parking.



The Town Hall redevelopment proposals see it being used to encourage business start-ups (more pressure on parking?). A café is suggested, though there are plenty of them on Market Street currently. The Town Council Chamber is there, though is in a dilapidated state. Crime concerns are a hot issue, one suggestion: incorporating a police post in the refurbished building? The Carnegie Hall being made more accessible for community/other use is a positive, though it is relatively small (100 capacity maximum, fewer with tables) – even the Westhoughton Local History Group struggled to fit their members in at a recent meeting/presentation. Whether it gets any of the Town Hall investment is not clear. It needs to be managed from Westhoughton (not Bolton as currently) – Library, key code entry or perhaps with an arrangement with local pub supplying staff and product when needed, and having the keys to open up/lock up?

It was felt that there are many positives in the plans with some contention and reservations; this is an important opportunity for residents to influence change and have a say on the future shape of the town centre by filling in the printed questionnaires or doing it online.

There is second drop-in is on Saturday, 15th February. The deadline for public feedback is Sunday, 23rd February. The Masterplan to be finalised by March 31st, and put to Bolton Council for approval, with any work commencing in the short-term. For more information go to investinbolton.com/westhoughton.

4. Co-op in the Community

Elsa Parker (Member Pioneer) gave updates on the many areas of Co-op's work with the community. There is a new charity partnership with MIND (Mental Health) and various fundraising initiatives such as in-store like raffles; their target is to raise £6m nationally during 2020. Elsa is focusing on supporting the 'Local Causes', all three Westhoughton-based: W.A.S.P., Bolton Lads and Girls Club and HeirForce Cheer (cheerleading group) – getting a Co-op Member cards and spending a few quid in store can make a big difference! 'Fairtrade Fortnight' coming up from Monday, 24th February – activities include primary school visits (a talk on bananas and trade); on Friday 6th March Westhoughton Co-op will be having a Fairtrade product-tasting event. On Sunday 23rd February St. James Church will be holding a Fairtrade Coffee Morning (10am) with cakes and biscuits from the Co-op.

Coming up is the Keep Britain Tidy's 'Great British Spring Clean' - 20th March to 13th April – the Co-op supports community groups with this, and is looking forward to organising events with Daisy Hill in Bloom, Friends of Eatock Lodge... possibly Westhoughton High School, which has started doing organised litter-picks and is working towards 'Eco-School' status. Whilst there are many community-spirited groups out there making the place tidier, it is a bugbear that littering happens! One suggestion, a campaign to raise awareness with a message: Stop Littering Westhoughton! / Put It In The Bin! / Take It Home! Darren Knight said Bolton CVS could help fund a campaign through local groups. One observation: the less litter there is the less littering goes on. Some in the room suggested places to litter-pick (e.g., the footpath from Wesley Street to Wingates). It was thought a good idea for WCN to ask for areas in need of attention for litter-picking groups to tackle.



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Elsa is still working on the 'Endangered Spaces' project and has been liaising with George Twist (Gee Tees) and Rev. Carol Pharaoh on fundraising initiatives to help save Westhoughton landmark St. Bartholomew's tower (which is all that remains from original church destroyed by fire in November 1990. New church consecrated in October 1995). Another project involves St. James Church (Daisy Hill) and finding and producing a booklet of Pretoria Pit Disaster (1910) graves - 9 there according to a plaque, 7 found; with similar exercises done at St. John's Wingates by Tim Eden (50 graves)... some thought it would be good to link up to produce a guide, and to access Westhoughton Local History Group's considerable work on the disaster. Andrea Finney's book '344' was also recommended.

Elsa can be contacted on 07971 251405 | elsa.parker@coopmembers.co.uk.

5. Bolton CVS

Darren Knight, Chief Exec Bolton CVS, reminded us that they are there to provide services and support to voluntary and community groups across Bolton, as well as being a source of grant funding. Currently looking at Early Years Provision working with Bolton Together and Bolton Lads and Girls Club: what is available for 0-5 year olds? Have info on private, independent sector, toddler groups, faith-based... but interested in what is going on 'below the radar' to get a full picture within borough.

Physical activity initiative 'That Counts' being promoted – anything you do, however little makes a difference, and doing a bit more is good for health. There will be money available to support this to focus on the little activities and exertions people do and through voluntary groups. Also on health and care, Social Prescribing (via GPs) is being pushed to boost health and wellbeing, i.e., social activities and volunteering instead of tablets. Darren hopes that money will be made available via the Council to support this – again involving and supporting voluntary groups who are providing the 'health-improving' resource. At last meeting we had Kirsty Gadsby talking about the pilot scheme in Westhoughton... groups saying she and the scheme have had a positive impact. The 'TGI Fridays' (Trustees, Governance and Information) newsletter is bringing together information on training, support and initiatives – do subscribe via boltoncvcs.org.uk.

Darren then touched on grants and funding: via GMCVO – '[walking grants](#)' from £50 to £1,500 to encourage organised walking; the '[Smokefree Fund](#)' – grants to support smoke free spaces and quitting. The new Bolton CVS-managed '[Bolton's Fund](#)' grants programme brings together money from Council, NHS, and Bolton At Home. Grants vary - £1,500, up to £100,000 depending upon project; it is based on the six [Bolton Vision 2030](#) priorities (Start Well - Live Well - Age Well - Prosperous - Clean And Green - Strong And Distinctive), the current round focusing on Strong and Cohesive Communities looking at schemes bringing communities together and encouraging joint bids, i.e., projects to improve connectivity and build trust and understanding between people of different backgrounds. By 13/3/20.

Finally, Darren urged people in the sector to use them – they are there to help or find help.

6. Fresh As a Daisy

Dawn Lythgoe, Health Programme Manager from the Health Team at Bolton Town Hall, is a Trustee volunteering for the charity in her spare time. Started three years ago, in light of awareness that some women and girls across the country couldn't afford sanitary products, research was undertaken across Bolton – then 20,000 were found to be not accessing the products. Thus a small team of five Trustees from Bolton's Third Sector, with passion to do something about this issue, set up Fresh As A Daisy. Going around community organisations talking about the issue it was found sometimes family situations meant choices between food on the table and female hygiene. Bolton's support and generosity was amazing, and straight away donations were being made and continue... Volunteers were then able to distribute in the first instance sanitary products for menstruation, and then, seeing and meeting the need, hygiene products (shampoo, toothpaste...) through services (care, probation, women's refuges, asylum seekers...), community groups and schools. They are open to contact from any group who can help with distribution with their community.

To donate people can buy products, put them in a bag marking it 'Daisy' and pop it one of the dozen Urban Outreach Grub Tubs around Westhoughton, who sort items and put it in the Fresh As a Daisy storeroom. Groups have the option of requesting a donation box with a list of needed items, to be collected when full.

The organisation does work raising awareness of the issue as well as educating (girls and boys) to address any stigma. Thanks to lobbying, supplying of sanitary products to schools has now come under the remit of government – schools can apply and receive funding; though hygiene products are still supplied by the Daisy team. They need volunteers to help with the six-weekly sorting sessions (1½ hours) – there is a good camaraderie, mixing men and women. Some events and AGM coming up in March... Details via their [Facebook page](#).

There was a short break for refreshments and networking.

7. Information Share

W.A.S.P. (Westhoughton Age Support Project) – Wilf Dillon introduced himself as Treasurer and Events Organiser, reminding us of the purpose of this OAP group: “to get old people out of their houses to make new friends and meet with old friends... at their weekly social events.” There are currently 50 members, unfortunately, they have lost 5 people over recent months, so they could do with more being involved.

Wilf has just organised and made arrangements for this year's trips and events, catering for up to 65 people, which involves booking hotels and venues, booking the entertainment, and coach and mini-bus hire... plus menus and seating. Wilf listed this year's events, which include trips to seaside hotels for meals and entertainment, theatre, concerts, and the W.A.S.P. Christmas Party, this year starring the Travellin' Strings. Details on WCN website. It is a group that tackles isolation, looks after its members, and makes sure they have a good time amongst friends. There was much admiration in the room for what W.A.S.P. does and the difference it makes. Wilf was recently recognised for his longstanding exemplary work with the community with a Civic Medal from Westhoughton Town Council.



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Friends of Westhoughton Station – Stephen Freeborn. It is now eight years since the group started with the aim of trying to improve the environment round what was a neglected station. They have done a lot of work and the station is a very much nicer place. 2019 was a difficult year, the group had its licence to work at station revoked because they'd "done too much" and "made it too attractive for young children to climb up the banks"... There was a danger that the group would fold. The community rallied for which they were grateful, and in particular, the support of then Councillor David Chadwick, who spoke with TfGM on their behalf, and helped them get their licence to work on site returned within weeks. The volunteers would have to review and revamp what they'd done at the station to make it more safe and less tempting. They will face a review in due course. With much planted, they are looking forward to spring and the emergence of new colour. The group appreciating donations of plants from the community; special mention to Sean Hardman (Hardman and Cain Fencing) who has been a great help – time and supplies. The work sessions on a Sunday morning from 10am are both sociable and fulfilling.

With no Sunday trains at the station for much of the year (just back), they had to rethink their collections for supplies, and put donation boxes in local shops and the group has done well from a generous public. St. George's primary school visited doing planting and leaving painted pebbles. Unfortunately, there have been some issues with vandalism and graffiti... though thankfully dealt with quickly.

Northern have been stripped of their franchise, though there have been assurances that things will continue as normal (the service improving and being more reliable).

There was reference to Steve Freeborn's book 'Keep Taking The Tablets', stories from his days as a pharmacist, which has informed some of his public speaking – a good, fun read, and available from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.co.uk) or Waterstones or through Steve directly (£5).

George Formby Society – Garry Hampson gave the update. Based at the Mercury (last Wednesday of the month from 7:30pm), they are grateful for the continued hospitality and support from the new owners. They have been undertaking a recruitment drive (library posters) as new, younger players would be most welcome to learn ukulele and enjoy the show. The group draws people from far and wide; it would be good to see more Westhoughton players. They do occasional gigs as an ensemble at fundraising events such as Astley Pit, and can if asked perform at events or community meetings. If people want to hear some George Formby they'd be welcome to pop along – it's free and a good night's entertainment.

Westhoughton Local History Group – Val Chadwick and Cindy Ritchie. Popular group continues to be very active and busy. Outgrowing the library they have moved into the Carnegie Hall for their bi-monthly Thursday meetings (first and third week - 10am-12pm), and even that is overflowing – a recent talk on the White Lion pub had over 100 present. They have a programme of interesting and entertaining speakers giving historical talks on a variety of topics: one on 5th March is David Lord talking the group on a 'Bolton Journey' (trams). They organise monthly trips by coach to places of interest taking some 50 members. The group also produces booklets, leaflets and videos providing valuable references to Westhoughton life over the years. There is some uncertainty as refurbishment work Carnegie Hall/Library may affect meetings?



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Friends of Eatock Lodge – Ann Benn, thanking Westhoughton Town Council, said the group recently received an Environmental Award for their community work at the lodge. A member of Bolton Green Umbrella they applied for and received some funding for activities/equipment. Being winter there is little happening at present; Westhoughton Lions have been using the lodge for training at weekends. The group will be reconvening soon to discuss plans for 2020; the upcoming 'VE Day 75' celebrations (weekend of 8-10th May) a consideration.

Bolton Lads and Girls Club - Carly Mack, Head of Operations, recapped on the 'Empower' project from last time, "empowering young women and girls to uplift each other..." 52 girls have just finished the programme including giving 20 hours of social action giving back to the community or educating other girls, and have completed their 'Youth Achievement' award accreditation. This rolling 12-week programme is aimed at the 10-18 age group – all girls welcome to take part.

'Inclusion' is going well, supporting the more vulnerable, isolated or those struggling socially, bringing them out of their shell, meeting and making new friends. A group runs within the Junior Sessions (8-12 years) on Tuesdays and Thursdays (6-9pm).

The Outreach programme of engagement with youths continues (out three evenings – Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays): workers saw a problem on Saturdays in just having to move youths on from one place to another rather than having somewhere to go, so the Westhoughton centre now opens Saturday evenings (6-9pm) giving older youths somewhere to go. The winter weather seems to have reduced numbers hanging around; seen as safe, Westhoughton had become a draw for 'migrating' youths, this too seems less. Bolton Council Youth Services have an outreach presence and on Fridays. Much feedback has been negative about youths, and BLGC want to put a positive spin on this and highlight and celebrate the great things our young people do, so they are doing a 'Youth Awards' event, have decided categories and will be looking for nominations via social media and community groups. Details soon.

WOW (Women of Westhoughton) – Janice Bayliss said it has been a good year for the group. The new spring programme is on the WCN website – meetings and activities on a Thursday evening 7:30pm at the Hope Centre unless stated. Some members have been lost and others have joined, but generally the group is doing well. They have seen 'Social Prescribing' referrals; sometimes ladies lose husbands and need to reconnect with the wider world – the group is good for that. At the last AGM, Bolton Newstalk was chosen as the year's charity for fundraising (e.g., a pre-owned sale, second-hand books, Janice's jam) - £500 likely by March. A new local charity of some significance to members will then be chosen. Janice read out a report on all the varied and interesting events, activities and trip of the past year (see WCN page). It is a friendly, very active group - new members are welcome (age range 50-80). They need more speakers for their meetings calendar (echoed by other groups).

They had some good news recently, securing £500 of funding via Bolton CVS from the GP Federation 'Keeping Well in Winter' fund allowing them to put on sessions such as regular Postural & Stability exercise and Tai Chi sessions, and also purchase therapy bands and other equipment for members' personal use.



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Westhoughton Methodist ADS – Colin Gradwell. The ADS is half-way through its panto run (Dick Whittington and his Cat) with performances remaining Friday/Saturday 14th/15th 7:15pm plus a Saturday matinee 2:15pm. Some new members joining the cast. Ticket sales have gone well. They have also had contact from Kirsty regarding 'Social Prescribing'. They rehearse Monday evenings 7:30pm, and would welcome new faces either for acting roles or helping behind the scenes.

Colin, very knowledgeable on such subjects, was thanked for his involvement with Friends of Eatock Lodge, and his early morning bird song walks and nature trail walks.

Daisy Hill in Bloom – Veronica Swinburne. The group has been on its winter break. It organised a well-supported first litter pick of 2020 around Daisy Hill in January – good to see children involved, picking up good habits! The group meets on Monday 17th February and will discuss a litter pick in April after Easter as part of the 'Great British Spring Clean'; they will also discuss whether the 'Flower, Fruit and Veg Show' is revived, possibly as a bi-annual event. Looking ahead, following Colin's earlier offer to do deadheading at Westhoughton Station, Veronica invited others to do similar with DHiB displays as well as topping up the plant troughs with water during dry spells. There was an offer to deliver some gardening advice via Howfen Radio.

Howfen Radio – Tim Eden. The station has settled in at The Mercury, collaborating well with the new owner; [Howfen Radio](#) supporting the live music events at the weekend and broadcasting them live. They are planning for the 2020 'Howfenbury' concert at the White Lion (27th June), with new people on board and wanting to up the game and make it better. Looking for sponsors for it. Tim reminded us that it is a community radio station with a wide variety of shows, people are welcome to come on shows to play some songs and talk about what they are up to in the community.

Travellin' Strings – Tim Eden then gave an update on the guitar-singalong group's activities. They continue to support community groups and do charitable events for a small fee; they also do private gigs which help cover costs, equipment and overheads - twice-weekly rehearsal room hire is £160 a month. They have 16 bookings already to December, culminating in the W.A.S.P. Christmas party at Brookfield Hall. They are doing charitable events for the Mayor of Horwich, Macmillan, JIGSAW... they will also be returning to St. Annes Pier after raising £577 during the 'Kite Festival' last year. Their main charity now is Bolton Dementia Support (Memory Cafés). There are two 'Open Mics' / talent evenings coming up with which Tim is involved: Westhoughton Golf Club (21st February) and The Mercury (24th February).

Rotary Club of Westhoughton – Steve Harrington. Main events over Christmas period: the Rotary Santa Sleigh run, which raised £6,200, and attending local lights switch-ons, and various parties. Help and support of volunteers and local people greatly appreciated. The Presentation evening is in April for sharing out monies raised. The Rotary Club had not been meeting so often, welcoming groups to talk about their activities, so now needs to renew its database of local groups and causes it can support. Fortunately, after losing some members and meeting less, they are currently being reinvigorated with new and some younger members (under 60), including three ladies. Raising their profile, they are more active on social media.



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They now meet twice monthly at Westhoughton Golf Club, first and third Thursdays 7pm; people would be welcome come along to learn more, and maybe get involved.

Steve mentioned the Poppy Collections, currently in crisis in Westhoughton with key British Legion organisers retiring or leaving the area. In 2019 the Rotary helped with poppy collecting duties, however there is a lot of organising to do in terms of Remembrance Day, poppy collections, and organising wreaths, etc., it needs new people to take on this responsibility – and soon. WCN a good place to start for support.

Senior Solutions – Julie Loughran. A lot going on at the moment with their range of activities. They are been recruiting volunteers, though it is mainly ladies coming through – they really need more gentlemen volunteers for the visiting service. They have now relocated the Tuesday ‘Social Group’ to the Pentecostal Church on Bolton Road; though a smaller venue, it is welcoming and they not lost any members. The two luncheon clubs are more or less full.

Bethel Crowd – Jason Taylor. The January pantomime, Frosted, played to full houses over its two-weekend run. Everyone involved delighted to see such support. The next show will be a reprise of a show they did a couple of years back: ‘You Still Can’t Stop The Beat’ and will include some 30 different numbers from different musicals. Hopefully something for everyone! Shows are in June: 19th/20th and 26th/27th. There is a general meeting Wednesday 26th February 7:15pm, a practice on the Friday, and auditions on Sunday 1st March from 1pm. All welcome – ages eight and above. After that is it anticipated that work will begin on the planned internal changes to the Bethel Church, which will cause some disruption to the drama group’s activities.

8. Any Other Business

- Stephen Freeborn brought up the issue of the vagrant often seen camped outside of Aldi, wondering what to do, how to best help him, and whether there is there a local agency dealing with homelessness. A short discussion took place. Darren Knight had some insight, and offered to make some enquiries via Bolton CVS. Help would depend upon individual circumstances. He mentioned [‘Hope For Change’](#), a new Bolton multi-agency organisation that takes donations, and puts them to good use to be a positive help to these individuals who for whatever reason find themselves in this situation.
- Dave Hendry (Westhoughton Art Group) has been in touch to remind us that Bolton Arts Forum has money remaining in funding pot for 2019/2020, and are inviting Bolton-based constituted groups to apply for up to £500 for a specific art-related project. Training grants of up to £150 also available to access arts related training. [Apply online](#) or by email. By 6/3/20.
- [Urban Outreach](#) sent an update: They received 12 Grub Tub donations from across Westhoughton in the last quarter equating to over 30 trays of food. Christmas saw them receive as many food donations as at Harvest time – they are still working on sorting through the mountain of donations received. They thank Westhoughton people for all their support. ‘Winter Watch’ is into its second month. The ‘In off the Street’ Project (Emergency Night Shelter) has



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been a success with between 13-16 guests on average each evening, some of whom now in permanent accommodation.

- Over Hulton Community Group are putting on a 'Bygone Over Hulton Exhibition' - old photos sent via Facebook. It starts Sunday 16th February 11am until 1pm in the Fireplace Centre, Four Lane Ends. It's free. Ribbon opening by local folk singer/ songwriter Corrie Shelley. Exhibition on again following Saturday 22nd February (11am until 1pm).
- Mental Health Charity MhIST have recently set up community self-help groups in Westhoughton with meetings at the John Holt Centre (Anxiety, Depression and Wellbeing) and The Hub (Mental Health Support). More info and details via Christine Markinson on 01204 537885.
- St. James Church (Daisy Hill) have a monthly 'Open Doors' (first Saturday 10am-12pm); their 'Coffee Concert' series begins with a performance by Patricia Hammond on Saturday 28th March 2020 (11am) - £6 inc. refreshment and cake. A new project is 'Hidden Nature', part of its Heritage Open Days offering, the aim to uncover and share the local stories, sites, places and people that traditional history has overlooked or forgotten.
- The WCN community articles for Daisy Hill FC home programmes have featured many of our groups with a few still to cover before the season is out. These articles will be shared on the WCN website.
- A new Facebook page has been set up for Westhoughton Community Network under [Westhoughton.net](https://www.facebook.com/Westhoughton.net), to be used to promote the groups, events and any news. It is late to plethora of local pages so will need members to use it, like and share it to get it established and trusted as a community resource.

Jason Taylor was thanked for doing great a job of chairing the meeting.

9. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at

Venue to be confirmed
Wednesday, 13th May 2020

Meeting finished at 9:10pm.

[WesthoughtonCommunityNetwork.co.uk](https://www.WesthoughtonCommunityNetwork.co.uk)

