



Westhoughton Community Network

Meeting: Tuesday, 15th May 2019 | 7:00pm

at Daisy Hill FC

Minutes

1. Present

Groups in attendance (18)

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| 1. Bethel Crowd (BCD) | 12. Senior Solutions (SenSol) |
| 2. Bolton Lads and Girls Club (BLGC) | 13. Westhoughton Parish Churches (CoE) |
| 3. Daisy Hill FC (DHFC) | 14. Westhoughton Age Support Project (WASP) |
| 4. Daisy Hill in Bloom (DHiB) | 15. Westhoughton Local History Group (WLHG) |
| 5. Friends of Eatock Lodge (FoEL) | 16. Westhoughton Community Royalty (WCR) |
| 6. Friends of Westhoughton Station (FoWS) | 17. Wingates Band (WB) |
| 7. George Formby Society (GFS) | 18. Women of Westhoughton (WOW) |
| 8. Grub Tubs / Urban Outreach (UO) | ~ Winifred Kettle Centre (Bolton Cares) (WKC) |
| 9. Harold Daniels Legacy Fund (HDLF) | ~ Bolton College (BCOL) |
| 10. Rotary Club of Westhoughton (RCW) | ~ Co-op Members (COOP) |
| 11. St. James Daisy Hill (SJDH) | |

Individuals in attendance (31)

Trevor Benn (FoEL)	Barry Jones (DHFC)	Caroline Stewart (WKC)
Val Chadwick (WLHG)	Bob Latham (SJDH)	Veronica Swinburne (DHiB)
David Chadwick	Glenys Latham (SJDH)	Jason Taylor (BCD)
Johnny Crook (WPG)	Brian Leyden (FWS)	Ian Templeman (DHFC)
Wilf Dillon (WASP)	Sue MacDonald (WB)	Michelle Todd (SNS)
Janice Estcourt (GFS)	Carly Mack (BLGC)	James Wilson (CoE)
Graham Fellows (DHFC)	Susan Missin (HDLF)	Janice Bayliss (WOW) CHAIR
Sandra Greenall (WCR)	Joy Mooney (WB)	Chris Buckley (WCN)
Peter Griffiths (BCOL)	Rebecca Moulton (SenSol)	Ann Benn (FoEL) SECRETARY
Garry Hampson (GFS)	Bob Naylor (DHFC)	
Steve Harrington (RCW)	Elsa Parker (Coop)	

Apologies (13)

Doreen Booth (Westhoughton Townswomen's Guild); Ann Butler (Westhoughton High School); Johnny Crook (Westhoughton Poetry Group); Rev'd Lesley Dinham (Westhoughton Methodist Church); Tim Eden (Travelliin' Strings / Howfen Radio); Dave Fensome (Westhoughton Methodist ADS); Stephen Freeborn (Friends of Westhoughton Station); Dave Hendry (Westhoughton Art Group); Darren Knight (Bolton CVS); Jack Speight (Friends of Daisy Hill Station); Mark Taylor; (Hope Church); Lynne Traynor (The Hub); Ted Wisedale (Westhoughton Local History Group).



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2. Welcome/Apologies/Review of Minutes

Chairing duties for this WCN meeting were taken on by Janice Bayliss of WOW! (Women of Westhoughton) who welcomed everybody to the meeting... for the first time at Daisy Hill FC (New Sirs), thanking Bob Naylor for arranging hosting of the meeting and looking after us.

Chris Buckley was congratulated on the recent presentation of the Civic Award and Harold Daniels Memorial Trophy by Westhoughton Town Council for services to the community over a 20-year period.

Apologies received were noted. Those present were asked to briefly introduce themselves and groups they represented.

Janice asked Bob Naylor, who has been at the club since 1961, to tell us a little about **Daisy Hill FC**, with him giving a brief overview of this local football club (also known as 'The Cutters') now playing in the North West Counties Football League (First Division North).

Football at Daisy Hill dating back to the late 19th century. Today's incarnation of the club dates back to 1951, with it moving to New Sirs in 1957, leasing the land giving it some stability and soon doing well in local leagues. There is both a Senior Side and a Youth Team (under 21).

With the National League System requiring clubs to meet new standards for facilities, new dressing rooms and a clubhouse for social activities were erected at New Sirs in 1982; and in 2005 floodlights allowing evening games.

The club is looking to improve its facilities if possible to help the club economically. Support is most welcome at matches; also needed are volunteers to help out in various capacities around the club.

3. Bolton College (Adult Learning Provision)

Peter Griffiths (Project Lead) gave an update about the recent Adult Learning Survey and developments in providing more provision in Westhoughton across a number of centres (The Hub, Library, Washacre School and John Holt Centre). The survey participants were relatively few; however Peter intends to persevere in order to come up with an offering that both meets funding criteria and identified need in the community. [See also WCN minutes 12/2/19.]

There was some promise regarding demand for computer and healthy living courses, though it would appear that most people see adult learning in terms of improving skills or hobby-related more than as a means to gain employment, which is the direction of policy and funding.

Peter will return next time to update us on further progress to improve Adult Learning provision in Westhoughton. More information at boltoncollege.ac.uk | 01204 4829660.



4. Co-op Local Causes

Elsa Parker, a **Co-op Members Pioneer** (and soon to be in a TV advert) gave an update on the annual scheme which has supported local groups including W.A.S.P. and Wingates Band with significant funding for community projects. Bids are now open; deadline 16th June for new cycle starting late October. There is a focus on community spaces, health and wellbeing and developing skills. Elsa encouraged local groups to put in bids for funding - 3 'local causes' in the Westhoughton/Horwich area will be chosen to receive a percentage of Co-op Members' spending on Co-op products.

There was an update on the Fairtrade Town initiative as talked about at the last WCN meeting; whilst there is interest and some take-up of fair-trade products, there would need to be some official support from the Town Council to progress.

5. Bolton Cares (Winifred Kettle)

Caroline Stewart (Marketing Manager) gave an overview the wide range of services offered by [Bolton Cares](#) across Bolton. It runs the Day Care facility, which is open every day, at the Winifred Kettle Centre with its mix of social and interactive services with assistance if needed. Refurbished in 2016 the Centre is thriving with dedicated staff and well-supported, happy clients.

Reaching out to the wider community, Bolton Cares continues to involve them with events: on July 4th an 'Open Day' event will showcase the Centre with involvement from a number of WCN groups.

Caroline also spoke of the launch of a new outreach service aimed at supporting people with dementia in their own homes with specialist care to manage their illness and help with day-to-day living.

There was a short break for refreshments and networking, as well as a chance to look at the football ground.

6. Information Share

We welcomed Carly Mack, Head of Operations of **Bolton Lads and Girls Club**, who spoke about the work of BLGC in Westhoughton at the Central Drive Centre and also the WTC commissioned outreach work, where its specialist teams carry out street based activities engaging with young people throughout Westhoughton (this also has included Eatock Lodge where some anti-social activity had been reported). The outreach work takes place on a Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings between 4pm and 8pm.

With a wide range of activities available in a positive, enriching, safe and fun environment overseen by enthusiastic staff and volunteers, the Central Drive Youth Club is open Monday to Thursday: Junior Club (8-12 yo) - Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-8:30pm; Senior Club (12-19 yo) - Mondays and Wednesdays 6-9pm.



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Volunteers and mentors are always welcome to get involved and support youth provision. CRB checks and training provided by BLGC.

Friends of Westhoughton Station – Brian Leyden. This enthusiastic group of volunteers continue to work on a Sunday morning at the station (10am for 2-3 hours), clearing and planting, adding features to the station such as fencing, and working with third parties to improve the amenity at the station. Collection boxes are sites at several local shops. The station coming into bloom is looking good – much appreciated by commuters.

Daisy Hill in Bloom – Veronica Swinburne. The group have been active with community litter picks, planting and preparing displays around Daisy Hill. It has been decided to rest the group's 'Flower, Fruit and Veg Show' this year.

Friends of Eatock Lodge – a busy year with the 'Everybody Loves Eatock' projects: working with 'Playing for Success' 12 outdoor-themed workshops will be delivered; six sessions with older people (July) brought over from the Winifred Kettle Day Centre, and six with local schoolchildren (September). All will experience a variety of nature-related activities and fun, learning experiences.

The group is also planning for its popular end of summer Family Funday (Sunday 1st September), as well as other community related activities. Community Fund (Lottery) money is funding this year's programme.

George Formby Society – Garry Hampson told us of the groups regular activities with their get-togethers at the Mercury Hotel, the last Wednesday of the month 7:30pm - all welcome! And occasional gigs to support the community; one of which is the May Heritage Festival at the Lancashire Mining Museum in Astley Green.

W.A.S. P. – Wilf Dillon gave an update for this busy social group for OAPs. The Co-op Local Causes money has helped fund this year's programme of events, which includes several trips to a seaside hotel for a meal and entertainment, a theatre outing, afternoon teas and parties in November and at Christmas. The WASPs meet on a Monday afternoon (John Holt Centre) and Thursday evening (Winifred Kettle) for bingo, games and occasional entertainment. The group welcomes new members and volunteers to help keep it going.

Harold Daniels Legacy Fund – good to have Harold's daughter, Susan Missin, with us. Helped by the **Rotary Club of Westhoughton**, the second Road Safety Quiz involving four local primary schools in March was a success; and should become an annual event. The fund will continue to support causes close to Harold's heart, including his church at Dean and its work with asylum seekers.

Senior Solutions – the visiting service and social outlet for OAPs and their carers goes from strength to strength; such is the demand for its services and projects that they have taken on a Volunteer Co-ordinator. A telephone befriending service has started, and the Tuesday social group is going very well. Senior Solutions has been nominated and vetted for a 'Queen's Award for Voluntary Service' (~MBE), and awaits the result...



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Wingates Band – Joy Mooney spoke of better times for the brass band with more stability and a busy schedule. It is half-way through the series of themed concerts at Blackrod Community Centre. The Co-op funded Music Therapy sessions and workshops at The Bridge Church Bolton went well from a project point of view, though the free concert could have been better attended. The band is continuing to look into capital funding for refurbishing or rebuilding its band hall as both a practice venue and a community facility.

Westhoughton Community Royalty – Sandra Greenall is organising a Royalty Selection event in May at the Hub; girls and page boys would be available for community events.... though Sandra says it is getting harder to recruit, and would welcome support, particularly from schools.

St. James Daisy Hill – Bob Latham informed us of success getting National Heritage funding to repair the bell tower, with work beginning soon. The church has an 'Open Doors' on the first Saturday of the month (10am-12pm) for refreshments, toast, cake... there is also a bookstall, and of course a chance to see this Grade II listed building. The programme of Daisy Hill Concerts with upcoming professional musicians is going well. The church will take part in Heritage Days events in September with a series of activities.

Westhoughton Local History Group – Val Chadwick gave an update on the group. Preparations ongoing for the bi-centenary Peterloo Uprising exhibition, which will explore local connections to this significant event; a special dramatic launch event (15th August) with actors from the Westhoughton Methodist ADS, will be followed by it being two months in situ at the Library. The group is especially busy with trips over the summer, and continues to meet for talks, quizzes and project work at the Library on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month (10am-12pm).

Grub Tubs / Urban Outreach – James Wilson gave an update on the Westhoughton Grub Tub network supporting the poor and needy through Urban Outreach initiatives. Our contributions really do help at Christmas with the Hampers and throughout the year with food parcels. Some 4,000 adults and 2,800 children have been helped across Bolton. The BL Lunches scheme will again operate over the summer, with the John Holt Centre as a distribution point, for schoolchildren who normally have free school meals.

James also told us about CoE church events over the summer.

Bethel Crowd – the amateur dramatic group continues to be busy as the cycle of shows continues apace. Jason Taylor gave an update on upcoming events. 'Hoodwinked' (The Robin Hood Musical) is the swashbuckling Youth Theatre production (June 21st, 22nd, 28th and 29th). Auditions in the offing for another youth production 'It's A Party' (December), and the Panto 'Frozen' (January).

In the meantime September (18th, 20th, 21st September) will see the comedy-drama/farce 'Out of Focus'. Tickets for all shows and events can be purchased [online](#). Jason himself has been branching out performing with Bolton Little Theatre as well as having a show on Howfen Radio.



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Women of Westhoughton (WOW) – Janice Bayliss promoted this active women’s group which meets at the Hope Centre on Thursday evenings. It has a busy programme with a wide range of activities, which also includes social trips out and restaurant visits. Bolton Newstalk (an audio news service for the blind or visually impaired) is its chosen charity this year.

7. Any Other Business

- Upcoming events: Westhoughton Golf Club Family Funday - 25th May; Barking Berrys Fund Dog Show - 22nd June; there is no Yarn Bombing Festival this year.
- After five years serving the Methodist community in Westhoughton Reverend Lesley Dinham is leaving for pastures new. A familiar face and contributor to our meetings and the wider community, we wish her well in her new parish. The Westhoughton Methodist ADS to bid farewell in dramatic fashion with a Murder Mystery - Who Killed the Vicar? - Fri/Sat 5/6th July.
- Guide Dogs (Gibfield) is appealing for local people to board dogs in training. The dogs are with them during the day Mon-Fri so the volunteers need to be able to drop off in the morning and collect again at the end of the working day. The dog stays with the volunteer over the weekend. The boarders have the same dog throughout its training at Atherton which is 16-26 weeks. Food, vet bills, equipment all provided. Tel: 0118 983 5555 | guidedogs.org.uk.
- Onward Homes (Emma Needham) has been working community and Pcsos with a view to setting up a Boxing Club; an Amateur Boxing event took place in May with the support of the Westhoughton High School. It is hoped in the coming months a club can be formed at a suitable venue as something to offer youths as an interest and activity.
- Blackrod Arts Group, which has connections with local artists, has its annual Art Exhibition at Blackrod Library from June 1st to 20th July. Always good quality. The Blackrod Scarecrow Festival is the weekend of 6th and 7th July.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at
John Holt Centre
Tuesday, 10th September 2019

Meeting finished at 9:10pm.

WesthoughtonCommunityNetwork.co.uk