



# Westhoughton Community Network

Meeting: 7:00pm Wednesday, 16th May 2018  
at Sacred Heart Church

## Minutes

### 1. Present

#### Groups in attendance (19)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Bethel Crowd (BCD)                    | 13. Sacred Heart Church (SHC)               |
| 2. CofE Churches (CoEC)                  | 14. Senior Solutions (SNS)                  |
| 3. Daisy Hill FC (DHFC)                  | 15. Westhoughton Local History Group (WLHG) |
| 4. Daisy Hill in Bloom (DHIB)            | 16. Westhoughton Age Support Project (WASP) |
| 5. Foodbanks (UO)                        | 17. Westhoughton Methodist ADS (WMADS)      |
| 6. Friends of Daisy Hill Station (FDHS)  | 18. Westhoughton Methodist Church (WMC)     |
| 7. Friends of Westhoughton Station (FWS) | 19. Women of Westhoughton (WOW)             |
| 8. George Formby Society (GFS)           | ~ Bolton CVS (BCVS)                         |
| 9. Harold Daniels Legacy Fund (HDLF)     | ~ Bolton NHS Trust (BNHS)                   |
| 10. Hope Church (HOPE)                   | ~ Co-op Members (Coop)                      |
| 11. Rotary Club of Westhoughton (RCW)    | ~ Westhoughton Town Council (WTC)           |
| 12. St. James Daisy Hill (SJDH)          |   |

#### Individuals in attendance (30)

Trevor Benn (FoEL)	Debbie Lee (GFS)	Veronica Swinburne (DHIB)
Val Chadwick (WLHG)	Brian Leyden (FWS)	Jason Taylor (BCR)
David Chadwick (WTC)	David Lilley (BNHS)	Mark Taylor (HOPE)
Wilf Dillon (WASP)	Julie Loughran (SNS)	Ian Templeman (DHFC)
Rev'd Lesley Dinham (WMC)	Len Maycroft (WASP)	Michelle Todd (SNS)
Dave Fensome (WMADS)	Adrian Nottingham (BCVS)	James Wilson (CoE/UO)
Stephen Freeborn (FWS)	Susan Missin (HDLF)	Ted Wisedale (WLHG)
Steve Harrington (RCW/SHC)	Elsa Parker (Coop)	Janice Bayliss CHAIR
Bob Latham (SJC)	David Reeve (DHIB)	Ann Benn (FoEL) SECRETARY
Dennis Lee (GFS)	Jack Speight (FDHS)	Chris Buckley (WCN)

#### Apologies (14)

Doreen Booth (Westhoughton Townswomen's Guild); Johnny Crook (Westhoughton Poetry Group);  
Doug Cunliffe (HACFRA/WAVE); Sarah Dunscombe-Berry (Barking Berrys); Tim Eden (Travelliin' Strings);  
Sandra Greenall (Westhoughton Community Royalty); Dave Hendry (Westhoughton Art Group);  
Kirsty Jacques & Joy Mooney (Wingates Band); Darren Knight (Bolton CVS); Bob Naylor (Daisy Hill FC);  
Julie Poundall (Friends of Washacre); Gaynor Ratcliff (Westhoughton Community Hub);  
Brenda Shott (Friends of Eatock Lodge).



## 2. Welcome/Apologies/Review of Minutes

This meeting was chaired by Janice Bayliss of WOW! (Women of Westhoughton), who welcomed all, and thanked Steve Harrington and Sacred Heart for the use of the Church Hall and provision of refreshments. Congratulations were extended to 'Doctor' Steve Harrington in obtaining a PhD from the Open University.

Chris Buckley updated on matters arising from the previous minutes, including progress with Town Council 'Certificates of Achievement' for Westhoughton High School and its pupils for the 'HeartBeats 2020' First Aid Training/Defibrillator campaign; the Bolton Council 'One-Stop Shop', moved from Town Hall to the Library, is now operational, providing a verification and document collection service for benefits.

Apologies were noted, and those present briefly introduced themselves and groups they represented.

## 3. George Formby Society

Dennis and Debbie Lee of the George Formby Society opened the evening with an overview of their experiences of being part of H.M. The Queen's recent 92nd birthday celebrations which took place live from the Albert Hall, London. Lead by Frank Skinner, members - including several from the Westhoughton branch - performed on stage before this illustrious George Formby fan. Though sworn to secrecy beforehand, it has gained them considerable media attention. We were treated to a rendition of 'When I'm Cleaning Windows' and we all shared in their excitement, as the evening sun shone through the Parish Hall windows and the music charmed everyone present. We congratulated them, and were reminded that the society meets at The Mercury Hotel on the last Wednesday of the month (7:30pm) – ukulele players welcome, as are visitors. [More info.](#)

## 4. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Chris Buckley explained the consequences of the regulations to WCN as well as all organisations collecting and processing personal data. The intention of this EU-wide legislation, as incorporated in the [Data Protection Act 2018](#) is to give individuals greater protection over the use of personal information and for companies and organisations to adhere to (7) 'data protection principles' and to offer (8) 'data protection rights' – covering: lawfulness, fairness, accuracy, need and safety...

Whilst more an issue with commercial organisations that use data commercially, the new law (25/5/18) has brought in organisations such as WCN which needs to communicate with community group members, promote their work and facilitate contact from the wider community. Enquiries to WCN are dealt with on an individual basis, and any requests for contact lists of groups would be refused. Chris recommended the use of the Bcc (Blind Carbon Copy) for emails, as it allows group mailings but individual privacy is protected. Any mailer should give the option to unsubscribe from future mailers, and query any use of personal data.



# Westhoughton Community Network

The onus is on individuals to opt in (and agree) to information being held and used for its stated purpose, and to be contacted. The signing-in sheet was changed to reflect this with an opt-in box. Other groups to be reminded they need to confirm.

Overseen by the Information Commissioners Office ([ICO](#)), it is expected that the law will be challenged and tweaked. The use of photographs appear to be an area of concern as many groups will use images from events or of individuals as part of promoting with they do ('legitimate interest'); for example, it is simply not practical to obtain permission from everyone in a crowd or have a piece of paper signed every time a photo is taken...

## Visitors

### 5. Bolton CVS (Community and Voluntary Services)

Adrian Nottingham, the recently appointed Quality & Impact Officer, joined us and introduced himself. He is part of a growing team based at the Bolton Hub, and told us that CVS had administered some £362,000 of grants and had some 26,000 visits during 2017. They continue to support the voluntary sector in Bolton, and Adrian's role is to work with groups in promoting sustainability amongst voluntary groups - of which there are 1,561 across Bolton. Grant funding is available as are special funds, e.g. for carers groups... there is an ongoing programme of training courses (including an enhanced GDPR session). There is a one off event - Pitch, Pasty and Peas – at the Thicketford Centre (BL2 2LW) on Thursday 28th June (11-3) giving 6 carers' groups the chance to 'pitch' their ideas for a chance to win up to £1,000 to get it off the ground.

### 6. Co-op Members

Elsa Parker from the Co-op explained the workings of the 'Community Pot' in supporting local causes (Members buying Co-op products and through the 'Local Causes' scheme donate to chosen good causes in their local area). Currently supported organisations: W.A.S.P., Wingates Band and Blackrod Girlguiding are receiving funds this year to November. So far: WB £2,002; W.A.S.P. £2,139; BG £2,020. Applications for the next round, from which new beneficiaries will be chosen is at the vetting stage – a number of Westhoughton groups have applied. Feedback welcome to improve schemes. Elsa stated that the Co-op is looking to support the community in other ways. Leaflets were distributed.

[coop.co.uk/causes](http://coop.co.uk/causes) | [elsa.parker@coopmembers.co.uk](mailto:elsa.parker@coopmembers.co.uk) | 07867 514706

*There followed a short break for tea, coffee and biscuits, and a chance to network. Thanks to Margaret and Angela for refreshments.*

### 7. Bolton NHS Foundation Trust

Dave Lilley, Health Improvement Practitioner Team Leader in the west of Bolton, spoke about his role in promoting healthy lifestyles in order to help prevent and reduce the incidence of conditions such as diabetes and heart disease (CVD) across the Borough - diabetes accounting for a staggering 10% of the NHS budget.



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Working across the borough through surgeries, meetings and involvement in community events, the idea is to work with health professionals and the community to signpost patients to help improve life-styles. Info:

[david.lilley@boltonft.nhs.uk](mailto:david.lilley@boltonft.nhs.uk)

## 8. Love Bolton Hate Litter

Chris gave an update on a Bolton Council initiative to support local people in cleaning up litter in their area. With pressures on funding, the Council hopes to encourage groups to form to do occasional litter picks. It can provide equipment (litter grabbers, etc.) and arrange for speedy collection of bags of litter. The scheme is working well with a number of groups involved including the John Holt Centre, Daisy Hill in Bloom and Friends of Eatock Lodge.

Info: [loveboltonhatelitter@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:loveboltonhatelitter@bolton.gov.uk) or call Andy Kerks on 07392 108206.

## 9. Information Share

**Rotary Club of Westhoughton** – Steve Harrington gave an update on the 2017 Santa Float (9 evenings visiting local estates and 5 supermarket collections). £7,431 was collected, plus an anonymous £5,000 donation from a local business man, who had seen them out and about. A presentation evening took place in March at which £11,500 was given to good causes. Rotarians are very grateful for the support they receive from the people of Westhoughton during this period.

**Friends of Eatock Lodge** – with Spring upon us, Trevor Benn reported on recent litter picks and general maintenance activities at the lodge. Funded by both Bolton and the Town Council, all the fishing pegs have been replaced, including the addition of a fishing peg with a new access path which can accommodate wheel chairs - this following an enquiry through the group. Further maintenance is planned over the coming months, including weeding of the lake and improvements to wildlife habitats. The group itself is to provide (make/install) three new benches, with some modest funding obtained from the Council. FoEL expect to hold their popular annual Family Funday on the first Sunday in September – currently looking at grants to cover costs.

**Westhoughton Local History Group** – Ted Wisedale informed us about the next big project and exhibition to be held in November to commemorate the end of World War One, with the focus on those returning home and what life in Westhoughton was like post-war - picking up the pieces. They are interested in hearing from local people with stories and memorabilia. The group has a new Chair, David Kaye, who is currently organising an exhibition at Horwich Heritage Centre (BL6 7BQ) – '40 years of British Aerospace'. It starts Saturday 19th May, and runs until 20th July. As well as the exhibition other items include DVDs (one, 'Propellers and Projectiles' is a joint project by David and Ted), as well as books.

This very popular group, regularly attracting 70-80, people meets at Westhoughton Library 1st and 3rd Thursdays (from 10:00am).



# Westhoughton Community Network

**Daisy Hill F.C.** – Ian Templeman. The football season is over for ‘The Cutters’, the team having to catch up with fixtures near its end due to weather postponements, and enjoying a good Cup run. Now is a busy time with pre-season preparations including general maintenance and work on the pitch. The club has a new Manager. Pre-season friendlies take place in July - 14th (3pm); 17th, 20th and 30th (all at 7:45pm). The club needs volunteers to help with a number of activities, tasks and promotion.

**Daisy Hill in Bloom** – Veronica Swinburne gave an update at this busy time for preparing for summer bedding plants. They are looking to have an ‘adopt a planter scheme’ for local residents to keep them watered and in good shape. The group does occasional litter picks. It will be holding its second ‘Fruit, Veg and Flower Show’, again at Daisy Hill Cricket Club, on Sunday 2nd September (earlier than last year). The group has a new Facebook page and will be dropping its website (has been hard to maintain).

**Westhoughton Community Choir.** Veronica also spoke about the choir, which meets every Monday at the Hope Centre (7:00 to 8:30pm). The singing ensemble will be performing at the 2018 Yarn Bombing event (14th July). They plan to have a Recruitment Day later in the year – currently all female, they are hoping to get more men involved.

Much going on for **Senior Solutions** – Michelle Todd updates... Awarded a £1,000 Break for Carers Grant from Bolton CVS for outings and support. Tuesday social group at Sacred Heart (Church) going from strength to strength, with two new classes starting up due to demand (from 5th June): Weekly Chair-Based Exercise Class (12:30 to 1:15pm), and for anyone who enjoys any form of needlework, a Weekly ‘Knit-2-Gether’ (1:30 to 3:30pm). Both classes cost £2.00 and include refreshments. New Service commencing shortly: ‘Telephone Befriending’.

Senior Solutions are taking part in the ‘Greater Manchester Festival of Ageing’ (2nd to 13th July), celebrating age (50+), offering various activities including taster sessions at Westhoughton Golf Club, a pamper evening, electronic device advice from pupils at Westhoughton High School, chair-based exercise, knitter-natter and a film night... It is hoped a film night can become a regular monthly event at the Winifred Kettle.

Also ‘Time For You’ – new project working in partnership with Bolton Carer Support, Mhist, Band and Age UK to deliver a borough wide befriending service to Carers and their cared for. Already delivering this service on a smaller scale, Senior Solutions will be working closely with lead partners, Bolton Carer Support. A new job position is to be created for the project. For more info on Senior Solutions call 01204 335107 (Michelle/Julie).

**Hope Church / Hope Centre**– Mark Taylor gave an update on both Centre and Church. Its family-friendly service is Sundays at 10am. There is a Toddler Group Monday Mornings (£1.80). An Alpha Session on Friday mornings. The Centre schedule remains busy and well used... details on WCN.



# Westhoughton Community Network

**Friends of Daisy Hill Station** – Jack Speight. There will soon be new seating in the form of planters with bench for commuters to enjoy the sights and sounds of nature nearby; the new installation is to commemorate the late Bill Greenhalgh of Westhoughton Methodist ADS, and in particular an epic rail journey from China to Daisy Hill via Russian and stations in between. Station maintenance and litter picking activities continue – regular monthly work sessions on Sundays (from noon) – upcoming dates 8th July, 12th August and 9th September.

**Friends of Westhoughton Station** – Steve Freeborn reported... although there have been some casualties due to the late Spring cold spell, the station is looking superb! Grateful thanks to those who join in on Sundays (10-1) to carry out tasks that are both social and rewarding; and for all plant donations. The group renewed their licence to work at the station for another 12 month (new safety fence to be added at a cost of £370). Local businesses such as Derby's, Hibbert's, Fipp's, GeeTees and Glass Onion now have FoWS donation boxes, which are doing well (making up for the lack of trains and thus passenger donations currently).

**Westhoughton Methodist ADS** – Dave Fensome reported on recent drama performances including the première of a brand new murder mystery which together with a Silent Auction raised some £850 for Guide Dogs (Atherton) – thanks to local businesses for prize donations. A special time for the group as they celebrate their 40th year. Dave stated that over those years £25,000 had been raised for the Church and good causes. Work on new shows will soon begin for 'One-Act Plays' (5th/6th Oct), then the panto. Rehearsals are Monday evenings; newcomers welcome.

**Westhoughton Methodist Church** – Revd Lesley Dinham told us the Church was 'open Sunday!' After all the work involved 'The Cantata' project (presentation of the life of Christ in music, drama and narration) performed over Easter was a great success. Lesley was conducting...

There is a well-established Luncheon Club on Wednesdays (£3 per head); Ring & Ride can be organised for OAPs. The will be a return of the popular BBQ event later in year (16th Sept).

**St. James Church, Daisy Hill** – Bob Latham gave an update on the latest in the series of concerts held for upcoming, professional musicians, with the Meraki Duo (flute / guitar), performing on Friday, 15th June (7:30pm) – tickets are £8 inc. refreshments (U18 free if accompanied). Church acoustics making it a great venue for such concerts. There will be a further concert as part of the Heritage Open Days (13th to 16th Sept). Call Bob 01942 811691 | [daisyhillconcertseries@outlook.com](mailto:daisyhillconcertseries@outlook.com)

The fabric of the Church is causing some concern, and it is hoped that an application for funding for improvements could be combined with plans for a much needed community facility in Daisy Hill (something for which WCN would provide strong support). It is hoped that the Church could be extended in line with its Grade II listed status, to provide a 700 ft<sup>2</sup> self-contained facility for meetings and activities. All-in-all this would be an ambitious project requiring major funding.



# Westhoughton Community Network

Starting 26th May, St. James Church will have 'Open Doors' on the last Saturday of each month (10am to -12 noon) – pop in for coffee, cake and a chat or even some quiet time. Book stall available. Next 30th June.

**Bethel Crowd** (Jason Taylor) - leaflets were distributed for the upcoming production, 'And They All Lived Happily Ever after...' featuring a collection of fairytale stories performed by the Bethel Crowd Junior Workshop (Ages 8-18) directed by Jason himself – tickets just £4. The group will be bag-packing at Tesco (Middlebrook) to boost funds. Preparations for 'Wizard of Oz', their big autumn production of (14th to 22nd Sept) ongoing. Book online [Tickets](#)

The Bethel Church itself is also requiring maintenance – and funds; the boiler being out of action necessitating that church services were moved into the warmer hall.

**W.A.S.P.** – Len Maycroft reported on the recent AGM and listed 5 upcoming events including coach trips and afternoon teas at various locations. The group meets on a Monday and Thursday. The annual Christmas party is planned catering for 60-70 OAPs. The group raises money in order to keep any costs down to members. Wilf Dillon, was recently featured as a 'Keawyed Character', part of the Westhoughton Local History Group folio series. WCN online info recently updated.

WCN welcomed Susan Missin who updated on recent **Harold Daniels Legacy Fund** activity. An enthusiastically received schools competition (organised jointly with the Rotary Club of Westhoughton) had been held around a theme of Road Safety – five schools took part with Sacred Heart coming out winners. It is hoped this will become an annual event. Requested by new Mayor and fellow Rotarian Arthur Price, Westhoughton Town Council has had a new memorial stone installed in Ditchfield Gardens as a tribute to Harold's memory and his work in the community. Applications for money from the fund still welcome.

**WOW! Women of Westhoughton** (Janice Bayliss). The thriving ladies' group, which meets on a Thursday evening, offering social evenings, talks and trips will celebrate their 5th birthday with a party at the Hope Centre (24th May). They had been raising money for Target Ovarian Cancer, and will now be supporting Bury Cancer Support. Full programme of events circulated. Info on WCN website.

**Parish Churches** – James Wilson told us that the rector Rev Canon Chris Bracegirdle has now taken up his role as Vicar of Bolton. This has left the local Ministry rather stretched whilst new Rectors and team members are found. Nevertheless, the busy work continues across the community and spiritually. The current week is 'Thy Kingdom Come Week' (12-17th May) with special services and prayer stations; further related events planned for September. The Mayoral Service for Cllr Arthur Price will be held Sunday 20th May. The Travellin' Strings performing at St. John's Wingates on Friday (18th May). Community support via the **Foodbank Network** with its collection rota supporting Urban Outreach continues, with some 171 families being helped across Bolton. Having benefitted himself, James informed WCN of the Healthy Exercise programmes available at Westhoughton Leisure Centre. He was also able to offer to any takers a set of cups and saucers (70) that are no longer needed.



# Westhoughton Community Network

**Rail Work and Electrification** – local Councillor David Chadwick, as Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, gave a further update (see also WCN M28) on local rail improvements. A new timetable is being introduced which should improve the frequency of services serving both Westhoughton and Daisy Hill. The delayed completion of electrification of the Manchester-Bolton-Preston line is now expected to happen by December 2019, coupled with station improvements and newer rolling stock (some will be diesel-electric units). There are no plans in place as yet to electrify the Lostock to Wigan line, which would include Westhoughton. It is frustrating and progress has been slow and fraught with engineering problems; money is tight and given other priorities, improvements to things such as station parking are unlikely. Updates [Northern \(Arriva\) News](#).

**Westhoughton Art Group** (by proxy) – there were two, consecutive, well-received art exhibitions held in Westhoughton Library in March (WAG and Art by Elise groups), which included art demos and a visit from esteemed local artists Judith Farnworth. On the WAG launch evening £140 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support through sale of some paintings and greetings cards made especially for the event. Dave Hendry thanks all who supported, contributed and visited. WAG meets at the John Holt Centre on Monday morning, and there are two Art by Elsie sessions at the Hope Centre on a Thursday.

## 10. Any Other Business

- Raising money for animal charities the 6th **Barking Berry's Fun Dog Show** takes place on Saturday, 16th June (11-4) at Central Park with the usual mix of stalls (pets and animal rescue), dog competition and fun activities. With announcement and commentary by Howfen Radio. Funds raised over the years by Scarlett and the team are now some £35,000.
- **Howfen Radio** has launched from its base at The Hub at the end of May with a schedule of programming from a variety of presenters that can be listened to online - [howfenradio.co.uk](http://howfenradio.co.uk).
- In partnership with W.A.C.O. and Westhoughton Market Traders, the 2018 **Yarn Bombing Festival** will take place over the weekend of 14th / 15th July. It will be the usual mix of colour, spectacle, stalls and entertainment around the Market, along Market Street and Ditchfield Gardens. Organisers would love for local schools, businesses and organisations to get involved. Pop into Market (Karen Hargreaves/Janet Colley) for further information – and free supplies of wool and yarn. Info on Facebook.

Additionally on the Saturday (14th) there will be Yarn Bombing displays at The John Holt Centre and Daisy Hill Station. This also coincides with the **Friends of Washacre** Summer Funday, with parade around estate, Lofty the Lion, stalls, inflatables..., which is to be held at the John Holt Centre.



# Westhoughton Community Network

- **Wingates Band** has been encouraged by recent developments and community support as they look the future. Refurbishment and wider use of the Band Hall is project being looked at (significant funding would be needed). Unfortunately, there have been some health set-backs affecting players. The band remains in the Top 30 of Brass Bands, and will look forward to another chance to impress at the prestigious 'British Open' in Birmingham in September. Upcoming concerts include: Andy Mac and Friends 'Celebrating 50 Years in Brass Banding', Warrington (20th May) and the band taking part in the Whit Friday March Contest at venues across Tameside & Saddleworth (25th May); 14th Annual Prescott Festival of Music Concert – (22nd June), and The Floral Hall, Southport (with Sefton Schools Music Service) (29th June).
- **Westhoughton Community Royalty** continues to meet and have presence at events, with a recent selection event at the Mercury. There will be a crowning of new Royalty at the Hub, Sunday 19th August.

There was thanks to Janice Bayliss for so ably chairing the meeting – the use of alternate Chairs seems to be working well as we continue with this unique and transformative community network.

## 11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place at

**Brookfield Hall**

**Tuesday, 4th September 2018**

Meeting finished at 9:35pm.

[WesthoughtonCommunityNetwork.co.uk](http://WesthoughtonCommunityNetwork.co.uk)

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