

## CROSSPOOL FORUM – AGM & OPEN MEETING

Wed. 27th Oct 2021.

### Bullet Points

Eleven Crosspool residents, six Forum Management Committee members, two councillors and a guest speaker Brenda Nelson attended.

Ian Hague (chair) welcomed everyone to the Forum's first open meeting for 18 months (17th AGM), with an apology for the short notice for the change of day and venue from St. Columba's to Stephen Hill Church.

### **CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Ian made reference to the very first 'SW Area panels' meeting he attended saying that what he had said at that meeting still held as true today as it was then. That the aim of the Crosspool forum is to retain the character of Crosspool for future generations and that the Committee still remains dedicated and steadfast in this resolve. He expressed his gratitude to Steve Reynolds (Vice Chair) for his assistance.

The viability, safety and security of the precinct are a major priority for the forum. The newly purchased precinct CCTV camera has helped the police with their investigations on a couple of occasions since its installation. The defibrillator situated at St. Columba's has been used twice in 2021. The Forum retains its links with police, councillors and schools. He thanked all the residents for their support.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

John Drinkwater said, thanks to Covid the previous year's accounts could not be considered normal!, but despite the loss of income the Forum generated a little more than it spent – Profit & Loss sheets were available for anyone who wished to see the details. The calendar sales still bring in the most, followed by the annual event of Xmas tree shredding! He thanked Archers for their continued sponsorship of the Clarion, and wished to remind the floor of the quite high fixed expenses that need to be covered each year – insurance etc. On a lighter note he thanked the Festival team for their hard work in producing the programme of events – especially the precinct yarnbombing! Committee Nominations, etc.

There were no resignations this year but the committee was glad to welcome Angela Southward back on to the team. There are still six posts to be filled – please contact Ian or Steve.

### **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Pam Thompson sent in a report as their work rota meant they could not attend in person; there were nine burglaries, and eight attempted break-ins in our area. Once again changing your locks to ensure they are the secure ISO07 sort is essential. Pam & Phil Whittaker are often to be found in 'nest' café – do pop in and talk to them. The councillors present were asked about increasing police teams – apparently new officers are still in training. There was a question about children's lives being put at risk by vehicles being driven along pavements/verges on Manchester Rd – this will be followed up by Cllr. Ruth Milsom.

### **CROSSPOOL PERSON OF THE YEAR**

Ian & Steve were proud to present Brenda Nelson with an engraved glass goblet & certificate for all her sterling work at the Crosspool vaccination hub (St Columba's church) for the past year. Brenda gave a thoroughly interesting short presentation of the work still being done there.

### **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

1. Cllr Mohammed Mahrouf spoke about the road safety issues at Crosspool and how much difficulty he is having in getting funding to change anything. The dangers the Stephen Hill/Manchester

Rd/Benty Lane junction posed; the Tesco car park entrance and both-sides parking on some already-narrow residential roads was mentioned.

2. The brand-new LACS (Local Area Committees) had their first public meeting in September, Our councillors Mohammed, Ruth Milsom and two Forum committee members attended, (apologies from Cllr. Tim Huggan). It is to be hoped we can 'tap into' some good funding from LACS once they are properly up & running.

3. The Council has lost 50% of its funding over the last few years - & Ruth accepted that when there is a budget overspend (as now) some S10 & S11 projects are the ones to be cut first.

4. The Rivelin Valley has had a problem for over a year with the Hind Wheel pond leak – Mohammed was asked to put pressure on the Council to get this fixed.

5. Tree Pruning, apparently STAG together with StreetsAhead has to inspect any tree before major work is done now.

FORUM EVENTS etc.

1. Hagg Copse autumn tidy-up -28th Nov. Orchard had a good apple crop.

2. Planters still looking good so the change to spring bulbs was postponed for a week or two.

3. Festival dates for 2022 – Well dressing 24th June, end event 3rd July.

4. Crosspool calendar out now - still £4 (Enhance, Pet Shop, Charisma, GT News)

5. Children's' party – still up in the air.

6. Easy Exercise and Tai Chi are up and running again.

AOB?

1. Crosspool quilt, LAC survey and St Columba's & Stephen Hill Church Newsletter Add in

Next Open Meeting, Thursday 27th Jan 2022 – venue either St Columba's or Stephen Hill Church; Keep an eye on the Crosspool News or Spa notice board nearer the time.