



Westhoughton Community Network

Meeting: 7:00pm Wednesday, 5th February 2014
at St. Bartholomew's Church (Annexe)

Minutes

1. Present

Groups in attendance (18)

1. Friends of Daisy Hill Station (FDHS)
2. Friends of Eatock Lodge (FoEL)
3. Friends of Westhoughton Station (FoWS)
4. Hindley's And Clough Farm Residents Association (HACFRA)
5. Hope Church (HOPE)
6. Rotary Club of Westhoughton (RCW)
7. St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas & St. George LEP Parish Church Group (SBC)
8. Washacre FM (WFM)
9. Washacre Primary School (WPS)
10. Westhoughton Active Communities Organisation (WACO)
11. Westhoughton Art Group (WAG)
12. Westhoughton Community Queens Association (WCQA)
13. Westhoughton Local History Group (WLHG)
14. Westhoughton Market (WMK)
15. Westhoughton Methodist ADS (WMADS)
16. Westhoughton United Reformed Church (WURC)
17. Wingates Band (WB)
18. Women of Westhoughton (WOW)
- ~ Bolton at Home (BaH); Bolton CVS (BCVS)

Individuals in attendance (25)

Janice Bayliss (WOW)	Jenny Haunch (WPS)	Ted Wisedale (WLHG)
Ann Benn (FoEL)	Dave Hendry (WAG)	Mike Wood (HACFRA)
Trevor Benn (FoEL)	Alexandra Ingram (WMK)	Mark Grundy (BCVS)
Anne Burns (BaH)	David Kaye (WB)	Harold Daniels (RCW)
Val Chadwick (WLHG)	Kellie McGarry (WACO)	Chris Buckley (WCN) CHAIR
Margaret Curme (WURC)	Helen Purnell (WURC)	Chris Green
Sandra Greenall (WCQA)	Jack Speight (FDHS)	John Pool
Stephen Freeborn (FoWS)	Mark Taylor (HOPE)	
Bill Greenhalgh (WMADS)	James Wilson (SBC)	

Apologies (11)

Sue Ashcroft (Westhoughton Methodist Church); Doreen Booth (Townswomen's Guild); Becky Boydell (Youth Services Get Active); David Chadwick (Westhoughton Town Council); Pam Clarke (Westhoughton Local History Group); Doug Cunliffe (HACFRA); Andrew Glitheroe (Save Westhoughton Act Now); Steve Harrington (Rotary Club of Westhoughton); Len Maycroft (WASP); Brenda Shott (Friends of Eatock Lodge); Yvonne Woolley (Westhoughton Local History Group).



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1. Welcome/Apologies/Review of Minutes

Chris Buckley (acting as Chair) welcomed all to the St. Bartholomew's for our first WCN visit, thanking James Wilson for hosting the meeting. Apologies were given. Minutes of previous meeting on 12/11/13 - with two amendments noted - agreed. Individuals introduced themselves, stating the group they represented.

2. Grants and Funding

Our guest, Mark Grundy from Bolton CVS, gave a presentation on grants available to voluntary and community groups. This included an overview of the Small Grants Programme (up to £1,500) as well as other sources of funding depending on the nature of the proposals. This was accompanied by a comprehensive handout giving details of contact information, completion of applications (help offered), untapped areas of funding such as training, and timescales for applications. There followed a lively discussion of Mark's presentation and a series of questions and answers. A number of local groups have already benefitted from such funding.

Bolton CVS produce a monthly 'Funding Bulletin' detailing current grants. Another useful source of information is the [Jumbo](#) magazine (available in print or as a PDF download). Further information regarding the grants can be found at:

[Funding & Development Team](#) | [Small Grants Programme](#) | [Funding Portal](#)

Other sources of funding mentioned were the Area Forum, Westhoughton Town Council, Bolton Arts Forum and the National Lottery.

3. WACO (Westhoughton Active Communities Organisation)

Kellie McGarry updated WCN on WACO following change to the group's activities over the last year. The annual 'It's-a-Knockout' event will not go ahead for this year (2014), but hopes to be back in the future. It was acknowledged that the June event had been a great success, had brought out the community and had been a credit to Westhoughton.

Hoping to register as a charity, and in line with its original remit, WACO will be concentrating on fundraising in order to support a wider number of voluntary groups across Westhoughton. Donations have already been made to the Mercury Hotel (for their 2013 Christmas lunch for the isolated), an up and coming boxer, Joshua Taylor, and Friends of Daisy Hill Station.

A panel has been set up and grant application forms are to be made available for local groups to apply for funding for projects up to £500. Funding from the pot will be allocated four times a year. (Watch WCN website for details.)

4. Summer Event / WCN Community Fayre

Dave Hendry, Mark Taylor and Chris Buckley updated the group on the work of the Sub-committee in discussions about content and timing of a summer community event involving Hope Church, as managers of the former Communiversity (now



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Hope Centre), WCN and Westhoughton College. The idea is to produce an event at the Central Drive site with a funfair, family activities, sports competitions, involving community groups and the college. Mark Taylor and his team will project manage the event. A July date for a Sunday event is being looked at; cognisant of other local community events.

It is hoped to build on the success of the 2013 'It's-a-Knockout' event in having broad community involvement. A question was raised on WCN groups being outside under cover (tents/gazebos would be needed) or inside again (not as high a footfall). Weather might be an issue – can both options be allowed for?

Alex Ingram mentioned that the market space remains available for community events.

The sub-committee reconvene on Wed, 26th Feb (7pm at the College) to progress and make a final decision on the date of the event.

UPDATE [13/2/14]: Due to availability of the funfair, Sunday, 1st June is the chosen date for the event.

Other Summer Events to date confirmed as:

- Fri, 27th June (1-3pm) – Eatock Primary School
- Sat, 28th June (11am-2pm) – Washacre Primary School (Westhoughton Village Fayre)
- Sat, 28th June (12-2pm) – St Bartholomew's.
- Sat, 5th July (1-4pm) – St Andrews CofE.
- Sat, 5th July (12-3pm) – The Gates.
- Sat, 19th July (2-4pm) – World War One 100-year Anniversary Commemoration at Westhoughton High School. A Civic Event organised by Westhoughton Town Council (Ticket only, by application).

5. Wingates Band – 140th Anniversary Update

David Kaye reported on the many and very special events and activities during 2013, commemorating and celebrating the 140th Anniversary of Westhoughton's world-renowned brass band.

Wingates is one of only two bands to have performed for this length of time. Such an achievement has been marked by references to "Wingates brass band" in Hansard (proceedings of House of Commons), local and national media coverage, including an piece in Lancashire Life magazine, and an upcoming (March) broadcast on [BBC Radio 2 \(Bolton News\)](#).

David informed the group of the lively sales of the book 'From Bible Class to World Class' and also reminded us that 2015 is the 100th Anniversary of then Band recording music. The commemorative CD 'From Fifes to Fanfares and Fame' is also selling well. At this stage of the meeting Harold Daniels asked that a formal minute note be made congratulating Wingates Band on their success and longevity.

Those at the meeting were presented with an anniversary poster – '140 Glorious Years' painted by local artist and historian Tom Newton.



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6. Washacre FM 2014

The 2014 broadcast is planned for the week Mon, 16 to Sun, 22 June (8am to 10pm) on 87.7FM. There will be a mix of programming, including a midday two-hour 'Community Show' featuring interviews with local group representatives, news, Schools broadcasts, youth features, and a daily play specially written and performed by Westhoughton Methodist ADS. The final day, Sunday, 22 June (12-4pm) will be the Showcase Day with activities going on around the John Holt Centre.

The Washacre FM team are equipped and available to provide entertainment for community events. There is a possibility of them providing music and chat on the odd Saturday at Westhoughton Market.

7. Group Updates / Information Share

Going round the room there were group updates and information sharing.

Friends of Westhoughton Station reported on some decorative tiles being prepared for display, and that activity days are the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 10am to 2pm. Volunteers welcome.

Westhoughton History Group – an exhibition about World War One is to be held in August. It was also noted that Pam Clarke had been interviewed in Westhoughton by Michael Portillo as part of his Great British Railway Journeys (Series 5, Episode 2).

Ted Wisedale informed the group about Bolton Movie Makers: Ted has been making videos in and around Westhoughton for the History Group and at Community Events... [Westhoughton History \(YouTube Channel\)](#).

Friends of Eatock Lodge – a number of management works and improvements being undertaken with the support of Greenspace (Bolton Council) and Westhoughton Town Council. These improvements include new kissing gates at two entrances, environmental improvements to promote wildflower, butterflies and bees, repair of the football pitch; and working with the Local History Group, a new historical notice board is to be installed informing visitors of the lodge being a former working colliery. Subject to funding, the Friends are looking to put on some community activities over the summer.

Bolton at Home – Anne Burns reported on a successful bid for funds from 'Sports England' for a new scheme 'Sports Reunited' which is to have its launch at an event at The John Holt Centre on 22nd March. There is also ongoing work of a joint steering group (with BWFC) to secure funding for activities across Bolton, which would benefit Westhoughton.

Further updates on activities by **Hope Centre**, **WOW (Women of Westhoughton)** who have a full programme of events and will celebrate their first full year in July; and **Westhoughton Art Group** – a second session has been discontinued but will be revisited for a separate day.

Westhoughton Methodists ADS – their latest pantomime 'Puss in Boots' to be performed on Fri/Sat 14/15 and 21/22 of Feb. As a result of being involved with



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WCN links have been formed with other groups – Washacre FM and the children and teachers of Washacre Primary School.

Westhoughton Market is to repeat the Victorian Market themed event (Dec). There is discussion of holding a summer event with a group formed to look into this. Sacred Heart School has been involved in activities at the market.

Westhoughton Community Queens Association is to hold a selection event on Sun, 9th March at the John Holt Centre to appoint new Royalty; they are keen to support other groups at events with their presence.

Refurbishment work at the **Westhoughton United Reformed Church** is ongoing; we were informed that The **Bethel Crowd** will put on a Murder Mystery play on the Sat, 29th March, and that a production of Alice in Wonderland is planned for September (12th/13th and 19/20th including matinees).

Washacre Primary School informed WCN of their very popular [Facebook page](#) which is working well in reaching their community, and which following on from an event in December gives information about personal safety and being safe online.

Church Events at St Bartholomew's, St. James and St. John's:

- Sat, 22nd Feb (10am-1pm) – Coffee Morning at St. Bart's. This is to help build a school for children in Namibia Africa (target £9,000). Tombola, cakes, light refreshments...
- Sat, 1st March (7:30pm) – The Houghton Weavers in concert at St. James Church, Daisy Hill. Tickets £10; [info](#) or call 01942 811184. Light refreshments will be served. Money raised will go towards making good the £18,000 lead theft damage. A further table-top sale fundraiser will take place on Sat, 8th March.
- Tues, 4th March (6:30pm) – Ladies Only Dinner at the Brookfield Masonic Hall in aid of Bolton Hospice. Tickets £20 from Dora Mills. Tel 01942 813741.
- Sat, 8th March (7:30pm) at St. Bart's, the Bolton Chamber Orchestra in concert. Pay on the door.
- Sat, 15th March (1-4pm) at St. Johns Church, Wingates, the Lancashire Area Group of The Association of Christian Writers meet for an informal writing session. New, fledgling writers welcome; all genres. Refreshments and inspiration. Also 21st June, 11th Oct and 6th Dec. To book a place call Sheila Clift on 01942 831414.
- 12th to 19th April (10am-12noon) – six free presentations at St. Bart's mark the 'Easter Experience.'

Rotary Club of Westhoughton raised £6,500 from the Santa Sleigh tours and supermarket collections before Christmas ([Bolton News](#)), to be allocated and presented to local groups and charities at the annual presentation evening at Brookfield Hall on Thurs, 20th March.

A lunch party for the socially isolated is planned for St Georges Day 30th April.



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Friends of Daisy Hill Station – ongoing station improvement sessions on 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month (from 9am). Bird boxes to be installed and planting of bulbs in platform tubs. Daisy Hill Station is Fairtrade Station.

8. Foodbanks.

James Wilson gave an update on activities. There are now 10 'grub tubs' around Westhoughton, including one at Westhoughton Market accessible Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The rota system of local collections is working well, with a good relationship with Urban Outreach/Storehouse. Drop-off locations and statistics have been updated on the [website](#). 48 families received 239 food parcels in Westhoughton in 2013.

9. Medical Records Database (Care.Data)

There was a brief information share and discussion about the imminent plans to upload medical records to a central database, and make these available for sale in a pseudo-anonymised form to third parties for research and health monitoring; individuals who do not wish their records to be released must opt-out - this will require a visit their doctors to fill in an opt-out form.

Concerns have been raised about privacy, identifiable markers in the data and a lack of public awareness – the [NHS information leaflet](#) (pdf) being distributed locally along with junk mail.

Information from GP medical records is to be extracted from March over three months. More information at links below:

[NHS - Care.Data Scheme](#) | [medConfidential](#) | [HSCIC](#)

The meeting finished at 9:30pm

Item from Minutes Secretary: during the meeting those present commented on the value of WCN in relation to supporting all the voluntary groups and establishing a successful networking forum.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 14th May from 7.00pm at Wingates Band Hall.

WesthoughtonCommunityNetwork.co.uk