

## **Whiteleaf and Cadsden Residents Association (WCRA) Chairman's Review of Activities 2021/22**

We extend a warm and friendly welcome to residents old and new. We hope that you will be able to attend this year's AGM at the Whiteleaf Golf Club as a good opportunity to meet and catch up with each other.

Activities/events and matters worthy of reporting for the year 2021/2022 are below: -

- The 2021 AGM went ahead, as planned. The old-style accounts to March 2020 and Accounts for the Community Interest Company (CIC) to March 2021 were approved and filed at Companies House (CH). The 2021/22 accounts and affiliated documents are circulated and are part of these AGM papers.
- Our Community Interest Company (CIC) continues as the WCRA operating vehicle. It gives us necessary protection for WCRA directors and credence in a wider arena.
- In order to comply with Governance principles this year, we collated CH information in order to provide detailed descriptions of the roles and duties of the directors of WCRA CIC. This document is now on our website, along with our other corporate documents, for the purpose of transparency and probity.
- In compliance with the GDPR of 25th May 2018, WCRA CIC is registered with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) and responsibility for WCRA's residential database continues to be maintained in-house, since its confidentiality is a corporate responsibility.
- A WCRA CIC director has attended most scheduled meetings of Princes Risborough Town Council (PRTC). No major issues have arisen from these meetings during 2021/22. We continue to have a good working relationship with PRTC.
- WCRA CIC has kept residents informed of progress with Buckinghamshire Council planning matters as they affect the locality and wider environs. In the context of planning matters, during 2022 we have made a number of neutral representations to Buckinghamshire Council, asking for adherence of due process with planning applications.
- Six years on, there is progress to reinstate the fire-stricken cottages at the Peters Lane end of the Upper Icknield Way. WCRA CIC has continued liaison with neighbours and the wider community and are promoting resident consultation for the scheme proposal currently lodged with Buckinghamshire Council planning. A full financial appraisal and assessment has been properly undertaken and a decision is awaited. The site owner states that it continues to be his hope that this project will progress to full development as soon as possible.
- Our community help scheme remains available to those residents who need it. Residents should be aware that as a community interest organisation, this help scheme is important to the heart of this community. If you are aware of residents who need this service, please contact any WCRA CIC director initially.
- WCRA CIC purchased a replacement battery for the Vehicle Activated Sign which has been used through summer 2022 to slow traffic coming down Peters Lane past Westfields towards the Upper Icknield Way junction. The scheme to paint white edge lines at this dangerous junction has yet to be implemented by Buckinghamshire Council. In February 2022, Buckinghamshire Councillors Alan Turner and Matthew Walsh met on site with Kate Symons and Andy Vere to inspect road safety aspects of Peters Lane and Cadsden Road. Blocked road drains were recorded and a number (not all) were subsequently cleared by the council. Damage to the Peters Lane verges (resulting from erosion and the underground power line installation in 2021) were also noted. The possibility of building a footway along the section of the Cadsden Road just below the Plough was suggested and is being investigated by Councillors.

- In 2021/22 WCRA CIC continued with efforts to communicate with the Monks Risborough Parochial Charities (MRPC) and residents' concerns were raised at PRTC meetings and elsewhere. Enquiries have been made about trustee selection and community representation, connected with the various fields, paddocks, and orchards under MRPC control in these hamlets, which are all important to the conservation of our green environment. PRTC have recently informed WCRA CIC to communicate directly with the Charities Commission (CC). In this regard WCRA CIC, in so doing hopes that improved MRPC engagement comes about.
- In 2015, both The Red Lion and The Plough were listed by Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) as 'Assets of Community Value' (ACV). When this status is applied, the local community has a preferential right to bid, to purchase the ACV asset, if marketed. These listings are expired, so fresh applications for registration are to be made. WCRA, is now actively working with PRTC, who support these applications, for submission to BCC. The survey conducted during 2020/21 provides clear evidence which demonstrates the value of these pubs to our community.
- Our Facebook group membership continues to thrive, we have 124 group members. Postings are varied and exchanges are met with enthusiasm. Our continued thanks to Dom Larose for the success of this media link, which gives us all an easy-to-access community forum.
- Our website was comprehensively updated during 2022, so thanks to Robbie Francis with assistance from Andy Vere for giving the website a better look and feel.
- The annual events calendar for 2021/22 was busy. In October 2021 Fionnuala McKibbin held the youngsters Halloween event at the Red Lion pub and kindly hosted a Christmas event at her home. In 2022, a village supper was held at the Plough pub on 6th May. Other events held were a Cream Tea with the Ellesborough Silver Band on 21st May and a Sausage Sizzle on 3rd July both held at the cricket ground. Our thanks to Fionn, and Dom and Robbie (events team) for keeping these occasions on the agenda. Our special thanks also to other residents who stepped in to help out. We hope to hold a Halloween event for younger community members in October, plus a village supper at The Plough pub in November and a Christmas Event at The Plough pub.
- All current WCRA CIC directors remain in post until a term of 3 years has passed from the date of the formation of the Company on 31st March 2020. Having been a committee member/ director since 1996, Simon Clark has expressed a wish to stand down in the current year, so Jon Sareen who has been co-opted, is formally proposed as WCRA director. It is proposed that Simon Clark steps down but is remains as co-opted to enable a seamless handover of Treasurer roles. It is further proposed that Mark Weiner is co-opted as Treasurer. If you are interested in joining the Board of Directors of WCRA CIC, please contact Andy Vere at [andy.ver@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.ver@btinternet.com).
- If you are aware of any new residents who have not yet joined WCRA CIC, please can you contact them and ask them to send an email requesting new membership to [info@whiteleafcadsden.org](mailto:info@whiteleafcadsden.org) (or to any WCRA Director) so that we can add them to our mailing list.