

**Minutes of**  
**William Morris Big Local – Get Together**

William Morris Community Centre, 6-8 Greenleaf Road, Walthamstow, E17 6QQ

7.00pm – 9.00pm, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Partnership members present

Adam Taylor  
Angela Rouse  
Chrys Christy  
Emily Rogers  
Lawrence Walker  
Mohamed Khan  
Valerie Stapleton

Other representatives

Gabriel Edwards (GE) – WMBL Development Worker (minutes)  
Sian Penner (SP) – Local Trust Representative  
Alan Horne (AH) – Crest Waltham Forest (Locally Trusted Organisation)  
P.C Alex Ware – William Morris Ward Police Officer  
Clare Farrow – MovE17  
Rezia Wahid – Woven Air

Apologies

Alison Caldwell  
Gillian Jacob  
Valentina Lewis

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>1. Welcome &amp; Introductions</b></p> <p>Chrys Christy welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the meeting's agenda. She explained that the Get Together was a chance for people to meet and hear about William Morris Big Local and for people to contribute their ideas and potentially get involved with the project.</p>	

## 2. Community Chest Round 2

Clare Farrow of MovE17 introduced herself and shared her experience of applying and getting a community chest grant from William Morris Big Local;

- Straight forward process
- Getting a big local grant helped bring in other funding
- Supportive, helpful and creative process

Clare then introduced the project that the funding had helped create

- Community dance project bringing residents together to perform the dance piece *Rosas danst Rosas*
- A dance piece that has been performed all around the world.
- Open to all ages and abilities and free of charge for William Morris Ward residents
- The piece will be learnt over 6 sessions with a final performance given at Walthamstow Garden Party in July.
- Rehearsals starts on 28<sup>th</sup> May

A demonstration of the dance piece was led by Clare and some of her dancers and included optional audience participation.

Rezia Wahid of Woven Air shared her experience of the Community Chest;

- Weaver for many years and delivered community based weaving projects and inspired by William Morris.
- Arts and crafts can unite people and gives people the chance to try something new.
- Project will be for all abilities and ages and will take place over 2 x whole day sessions.
- Easily accessible grant and good support from Big Local during the process.

Gabriel Edwards then gave some background information to the Community Chest giving further examples of what had been funded in round 1. He then gave an introduction to round 2 and summarised what types of organisations were eligible that groups of individuals with a community project could apply. Any project proposal that brought people together would be considered if they and helped unite the community.

### 3. P.C Alex Ware – Safer Neighbourhoods Update

- The way the ward is to be policed is changing. Until now Alex has been on his own but there will be two new policemen joining the Ward team.
- Has received comments in the past that he was not seen enough so having more help on the ground should help this.
- Twitter reporting can now take place by tweeting @MPSWilliamM
- Still call 999 for emergencies

Q: concern about number of bikes on pavements

Alex - Miniholland initiatives still being implemented in the ward. Working with cycle campaigns and cyclists are always told not to cycle on pavements when seen by PCSO and PCs.

Q: Interested in crime statistics

Alex: these can now all be found on the website:

<https://beta.met.police.uk/your-area/waltham-forest/william-morris/>

Q: Is the ward panel still going?

Alex: Yes we are actively seeking new members for the ward panel meetings. Residents get the chance to have their say on needs for the area.

### 4. Minutes of Last Forum

Gabriel asked if there were any amendments or comments on the minutes from the last Forum (7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017)

A general comment was made about the Local Economy theme and that nothing had been done with it to date.

Gabriel said that this theme was being worked on and that the Partnership acknowledged it had not been moved on much. There was now an emerging sub group to take it forward and the partnership were looking at potential long lasting projects for it.

Chrys also said that any money drawn down from the lottery to date that was not spent under the existing big local plan would not be lost and would go back into the pot.

The minutes were then agreed as an accurate record.

### 5. Update from William Morris Big Local

Gabriel introduced the William Morris Big Local for the benefit of people unfamiliar with the project and gave an overall update on the project:

- 4 main priority areas under existing improvement plan
- 12 months into an 18 month plan at the end of which a new plan will take its place
- 4 main priorities are; Local Economy, Greenspaces, Intergenerational Working and Improving Community Spaces.
- Current Plan budget is worth £139,000. Crest WF manage the books for WMBL
- Alan Horne of Crest took the meeting through the figures for the main priority areas to date and reminded the meeting WMBL was early on into a 10 year plan.
- 64% of current plan budget spent. Any underspend will go back into the overall pot for WMBL

*Q: What does intergenerational mean in plain English?*

*Gabriel: Intergenerational is a bit of a buzz word. The partnership is keen to make the next plan clearer and more concise.*

- The new plan will be communicated in bitesize and full version so that people can more easily know what WMBL is about.
- Partnership is now looking at what should go into the new plan from November 2017 onwards.
- Examples of the consultation that has been done on the Local Economy and Greenspaces themes were on display and available for commenting at the breakout sessions.

Gabriel then introduced Lawrence, the Partnership lead for Local Economy and Angela the lead for Greenspaces and invited people to talk to them and share ideas for those themes.

## **6. Welcoming existing and new Partnership members**

Gabriel explained that the partnership had lost a few members over the last 12 months and currently stood at 8 out of a possible 14 members. WMBL had actively sought new members via its newsletter and website and two new members were formerly joining after having been to a couple of Big Local meetings as co-optees.

Chrys shared her experience of being part of big local and encouraged people to get involved either on the partnership or on one of the sub groups.

Then both new and existing partnership members stood up to introduce themselves and explained their reasons for being part of the Big Local.

<p>Gabriel then summarised to say that this now took the total number of Partnership members up to 10 which left 4 spaces available. One of these spaces was being reserved for a young person (16-19) to join the partnership to help begin forming ties with the local youth population.</p>	
<p><u>Community Announcements</u></p> <p>The Mill will be having a baking competition as a fundraising event on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Lots of other fun activities taking place on the day too. Free entry.</p> <p>Rashida from Soho Theatre announced that a big community play was being organised with a performance in Lloyd Park. Participation open to the whole community. Rehearsals in Gnome House from June onwards, ages 16+</p> <p>Waltham Forest Parks festival also going to take place with different events happening around the parks of Waltham Forest.</p> <p>Big Picnic in Lloyd Park on the 28<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p><i>The meeting then finished with a community social taking place</i></p>	
<p><b>Next Get Together:</b>  Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September  Big Creative Academy, Clifton Avenue, E17 6HL</p>	