

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Heritage Group 21st April 2017

Present: John and Meryl Flashman, Sarah Hamilton,

Apologies: Fred Lamont, Jean Saggars

Matters Arising: None

The Wesley Centre

Why do we want to retain the Wesley Centre for community usage?

- Central location
- Oldest public building in Paddock Wood
- It is identified in current Tunbridge Wells Plan as being for community usage
- Brass plaque located in building specifies community usage
- The building holds special memories for a lot of people who were married and christened there.
- Stained glass window
- Neighbourhood Plan consultation suggests that people want it retained for community use
- Open space at the back
- Building contains a first world war memorial which is the oldest of its type in Paddock Wood.

Facebook

It was agreed that a series of posts on the Wesley Centre should be made on Facebook.

- Different picture of the Wesley Centre every time – external views, internal views and the plaques.
- Ask for memories of the Wesley Centre
- What should happen to the land at the back of the Wesley Centre?
- What do you feel about the idea that the land at the back of the Wesley Centre should be built on to help fund a Community Centre?
- Would you like to see the front of the Wesley Centre to be restored to grass?
- Should there be an attempt to get listed building status for the Wesley Centre?
- What else would you like to see done with the Wesley Centre?

It was agreed that MF should approach Sarah Mewett about this and ask if she would need extra funding to carry out this project. If so this request will need to be put to the next NP Steering Group meeting on 17th May.

Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that comments about the heritage of Paddock Wood need to be included in the vision section of the final plan. It also needs to be included in sections of housing design, open spaces, height of housing, bungalows etc.

Date of next meeting: to be confirmed.