

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 2nd July 2008**

PRESENT: Debbie Birchall - DB, Michael Lynch, Sheila Woodward - SW, Barbara Lane, Barbara Unsworth, Jeff Unsworth, Michael Walsh, Avis Shone, Dawn Draper, Alan Wright, Margaret Wright, J Burtonwood, Eric Dickens - ED, Ivy Dickens, John Vickers - JV, Karen Dunlop, Neil Dunlop, Phil Cooksey, David Dodsworth - DD, Eileen Brooks

1. **APOLOGIES:** were received from Malcolm Coe, Cllr. Bob Brierley and Cllr. Barry Fagan
2. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th June 2008 (having been circulated) were approved by all. Proposed by Ivy Dickens, Seconded by Alan Wright.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - i. **Committee and Committee Meetings**

A Committee Meeting was held on 23rd June, a brief overview of the minutes given by JV. It was agreed minutes for which are for members only, not to be broadcast on the website.

JV advised Bankhall Close does not fall within Hindley Green ward although the address is known as Hindley Green therefore residents are unable to be members or to join the committee. SW advised that as the HGRA is not a political association the constitution could be amended at an AGM or Special Public Meeting. It was agreed the next meeting on 6th August will be a Special Public Meeting to expand the constitution.

The remaining committee seats were offered at the meeting. Neil Dunlop joined the committee after being Proposed by Eric Dickens and Seconded by Phil Cooksey. All in favour.
 - ii. **Website**

The Hindley Green Residents Association (HGRA) website is now a fully functioning site with a comprehensive navigation bar including pages with lots of general information, this can be found on almost all search engines.

Please send any interesting photographs old or new of Hindley Green to Jeff Unsworth or e-mail to hgrawebmaster@fastmail.fm to be added to the website. A neighbour of ED is a Past Forward member who may be able to assist with Hindley Green history.
 - iii. **Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel**

Investigations revealed Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel is owned by Wigan MBC. A lease has been taken out by the Family Church, one of the conditions being they maintain it's upkeep.

HGRA intend to utilize the Bethel more regularly for meetings, fund raising, etc. with the assistance of our Councillors. DB to formally invite all three Councillors to next meeting. **ACTION 17 - DB**
 - iv. **Hindley Green Ward Boundaries**

To enable all residents of Hindley Green ward and residents living within Hindley Green to become members of HGRA the next meeting will be a Special Public Meeting to address amendment to the constitution.
 - v. **Swan Lane Traffic**

A new sign has now been erected directing traffic along Coupland Road, this is deemed to be inadequate. Sacred Heart Primary School has still failed to return the Traffic Plan to enable Swan Lane to become 20mph. SW continually pursuing Headmaster for return. Andy Allen, Borough Travel Planner to visit Sacred Heart.
 - vi. **Coupland Road Play Area**

The land is hopefully to be adopted soon. Further information to follow at next meeting. Martin Kimber has been requested to provide a full breakdown of costings. Report to follow at next meeting. **ACTION 07 - BB**
 - vii. **Blair Avenue/Edinburgh Drive**

Grass cuttings are still continuing to be blown into drains and gardens. Martin Kimber requested to take the appropriate action with the workforce. It was suggested the churned up grass verges be tarmaced however the majority wish to keep "Green" within Hindley Green. Railings may be an option, however, this may prevent grass cutting. The road sweeper utilized along Windsor Grove is too large to undertake works necessary. To be highlighted with the Highways Department.

viii. Farm Odours

A continuing order is in force, should the fire brigade be called out the farmer will be responsible for all charges incurred.

ix. Harley Avenue

A recent flood was not dealt with for four days by United Utilities, with sewage strewn in the road. HGRA will assist in whatever capacity necessary. Wigan MBC have a numbering system in place for unadopted roads however it appears Harley Avenue is number 25 and has been by-passed, Wigan MBC currently working on 64 and 65. If a road is unadopted then a sign should be erected as in Wood Street. Investigations continuing.

x. Clayhole

SW has contacted the Probation Service (on holiday until next week) regarding the amalgamation of youths, sale of drugs and substance taking. A thorough clean up is required, a possibility of being included in Community Service activities. **ACTION 20 – SW to progress** Formally invite PC Wendy Rowson to next meeting. **Action 21 – DB**

A representative of WLCT has spoken to a resident informing them of £20,000 plans to fence around the swing area, for new swings and for the disabled and for rubber matting. Confirmation being sought.

A group of youths seen coming out of bushes at rear of Westlake Grove who appeared to be “high”. Trees need to be cut down.

Over the past few weeks anglers have been night fishing on the Clayhole, night fishing is not allowed. Trevor Smith, Westlake Angling Club, is responsible. **ACTION 22 – DB** to contact

xi. Donations and Fund Raising

JU to visit local businesses requesting donations to support HGRA in exchange for advertising on our website.

Fund raising suggestions needed i.e. fun day, social event, car boot sale (is licence required?).

xii. Stationery

Stationery has now been set up letter headings, business cards and receipt book.

xiii. Decimation of Adult Education by Wigan & Leigh College (W&LC)

W&LC plan to reduce adult education in the borough. A number of residents attend Courses at the College also Mornington and Westleigh High Schools. JV requested members write to W&LC asking them to reconsider and retain cost cutting courses, including vocational GCSE courses which are a valuable option for adults wishing to return to education which can make such a difference to someone’s future.

4. FINANCE

At the recent Committee Meeting it was agreed to open a bank account with the HSBC as they were the most efficient and helpful and do not charge for community bank accounts. Three signatories are Eric Dickens – Treasurer, John Vickers – Chairman and Debbie Birchall - Secretary. ED has sent details to the bank. JV and DB to visit bank with personal details. **ACTION 23 – JV & DB**

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. Traffic Calming Measures

DD raised the issue of speeding along Green Lane especially between the hours of 16.15 and 18.30. He has reported this to the police on numerous occasions and now ensures a crime reference number is obtained. At the time the play area was built PC John Murphy said that traffic would be toned down however this has only increased. A motorbike is repeatedly seen travelling in the region of 100mph down Green Lane which is also a bus route. Traffic calming measures also need to be reviewed along Coupland Road. Temporary cameras could be placed in situ to assist in reducing speeding. Traffic calming measures in Long Lane seem to be working well. DB to formally invite Highways Department to next meeting. **ACTION 18 – DB** Also invite Green Lane/Swan Lane residents to next meeting. **ACTION 19 - DB**

A Police Surgery is held at the Bethel on the last Wednesday of each month.

ii. Cllr. Bob Brierley’s Update

Telephone boxes on Taylor Road and outside Swan Lane Hotel to be removed due to vandalism.

Request made for both sides of old railway footpath to be cleaned and made good.

Dog fouling bags are available at Hindley Green Post Office, free of charge.

Hollins School – play area to be cleaned up, football field to be opened up and surface maintained. A donation was given for the Play Area to WLCT in 2003/4 and has apparently been spent in Abram, Platt Bridge and Spring View, totalling £103,000.

Two trees are to be removed from outside 570 Atherton Road as roots are damaging property. Have trees been checked for bats?

£56,000 has been allocated to the Askwith Road play area which has not yet been paid due to unadoption of land.

Cllr. Brierley looking into reinstalling hanging baskets with fresh flowers as Bickershaw and Bryn has them. A donation has been promised to renew flowers on the roundabout.

Debbie Freeman (WLCT) has quoted £7,800 (not including hard surface access path) for a children's play area basket swing. More information to follow.

Cllr. Bob Brierley's surgeries are from 6.00 to 7.00 pm at:

Bethel Community Centre	1 st Tuesday in every month
Park High School	2 nd Tuesday in every month
Mornington Road Leisure Centre	3 rd Tuesday in every month

Details of Cllr. Barry Fagan and Cllr. Louise Fagan's surgeries are to follow. Details of which will be posted on the HGRA website.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 3rd September 2008 at 7.00 pm at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel.

Apologies for any errors and omissions.

Ref.	Date	Action	Owner	Comments
02	07/05/08	Supply map of Hindley Green ward boundaries	MC	Ongoing - Map brought to meeting but not left. Copies to be left at next meeting
03	07/05/08	Confirm which ward Maxine Armstrong of 7 Bankhall Close, Hindley Green, WN2 resides	BB	Ongoing – investigations continuing
07	07/05/08	Check on status of negotiations on adoption of Coupland Road play area	BB	Land to be adopted soon. Investigations continuing. Reported to be provided at August's meeting
09	07/05/08	Liaise with Rodney Hill on grass cuttings being blown into gardens and drains in Blair Grove/Edinburgh Drive	BB	Martin Kimber to take appropriate action with workforce
10	07/05/08	Liaise with Highways Department regarding grass verges being churned up along Blair Grove	BB	Martin Kimber to take appropriate action with workforce
11	07/05/08	Follow up farm odour with Bolton Council	JV	COMPLETE
12	07/05/08	How does an area become a renewal/deprivation area?	BB	Ongoing
13	07/05/08	Provide form to join the Township Forum	MC	COMPLETE
14	04/06/08	Set up official website make live and distribute to search engines	JU	COMPELTE
15	04/06/08	Who does land at site of Bethel belong to?	BB	COMPLETE – Wigan MBC
16	04/06/08	Harley Avenue update	BB	Investigations continuing.
17	02/07/08	Formally invite all three Councillors to next meeting	DB	E-mails sent
18	02/07/08	Formally invite Highways Department to next meeting	DB	Request made to Martin Kimber
19	02/07/08	Formally invite Swan Lane/Green Lane residents to next meeting	DB	
20	02/07/08	Liaise with Probabion Service regarding clean up of Clayhole	SW	
21	02/07/08	Formally invite PC Wendy Rowson to next meeting	DB	On holiday until 8 th August
22	02/07/08	Contact Trevor Smith re night fishing on Clayhole	DB	
23	02/07/08	Visit bank with personal details	JV/DB	