

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008**

**PRESENT:** Debbie Birchall - DB, Jim Burtonwood, Eric Dickens, Ivy Dickens, Mike Lynch, Ron Shuttleworth - RS, Dawn Draper, Ken Ellison - KE, J Bradshaw, Alan Wright, Margaret Wright, John Vickers - JV, David Dodsworth, Lynn Collier, Jeff Unsworth, Barbara Unsworth, Cllr. Bob Brierley, Steve Jones – Dawn Patrol

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Phil Cooksey, Neil Dunlop, Karen Dunlop, Cllr. Louise Fagan, Maxine Armstrong - MA, Cllr. Barry Fagan – CBF, Malcolm Coe

1. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2008 having been circulated were Proposed by Ivy Dickens and Seconded by Ron Shuttleworth, all in favour.

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **Guest Speaker – British Red Cross – Dawn Patrol**

Dawn Patrol is a service delivered by The British Red Cross to provide older people, Monday to Friday, excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, giving peace of mind that someone is checking to see if they are OK each morning. Dawn Patrol has been running in St. Helens for 6 years and has secured funding from the National Lottery for 5 years. Elderly residents have an indicator in their window with lower end Junior School pupils being engaged to ensure indicator has been changed to correct day when passing for school checking all is well. Pupils are chosen by the school, with 3/4 pupils monitoring each home in the event of absence. School holidays are covered by adults and phone calls. If indicator shows previous day then child reports to a co-ordinator at school who, in turn, checks on resident. Should a person be on holiday then the indicator is removed from the window. Posters and leaflets have been distributed in Ince and some Doctors have agreed to pass on leaflets, the service is being brought to Hindley Green. No-one passes cul-de-sacs and some elderly people may feel threatened by having a school child checking on them. This service is free of charge and engages both young and old. Dawn Patrol are a team of 3 staff, all with Enhanced CRB checks who hold coffee mornings once per month. HGRA would like to help promote this scheme in Hindley Green.

ii. **Traffic Calming Measures**

Resident, Ken Ellison, has been liaising with Andy Burnham and CBB. WMBC have suggested a site meeting, KE to advise when to enable HGRA representative to attend. **ACTION 53 KE** HGRA received acknowledgement from Andy Burnham who is to liaise with WMBC. WMBC have advised that they "are currently procuring resurfacing work around the bend which will include amending the camber. High friction surface dressing will then be applied to the bend to improve the skid resistance of the road surface. It is envisaged that these measures will address the concerns of residents and negate the potential for further road traffic collisions". It was suggested that the main problem was speed and the road width outside PPG. Action is needed to reduce speed.

Challenge Planning at Township Forum regarding proposed barriers on Lancaster Road. **ACTION 54 JV**

iii. **Bethel Lease**

The Bethel lease lapsed some two years ago, CBB is of the opinion that HGRA should take this opportunity to obtain our own building, pay minimum rent pa and rates free with all income going to the upkeep of the building. The Church recently had an opportunity to move premises however they were unable to secure a long term lease therefore remaining in situ. It was advised that the Council fund the running of businesses in Council owned premises. Recently some HGRA committee members attended Abram and Platt Bridge Community Centres for a feel of what they are all about, HGRA want no more or less than they have and need the support and backing from our 3 local Councillors. CBB has requested John at the Legal Department together with all 3 Councillors attend an HGRA meeting. We would be able to obtain grants whereas the Church are unable to and possibly have an extension built on the side of the current building. Currently HGRA are unable to provide funds for a new build. Part of Council tax goes towards community centers. HGRA Committee to meet to discuss requirements. **ACTION 55 COMMITTEE**

iv. **Boundary Signs**

HGRA wrote to all residents whose properties appear on the proposed sign requesting any objections be received by 28<sup>th</sup> November however no response was received whatsoever. Therefore HGRA are to go ahead with proposals approved at previous meetings. It was agreed the boundary sign between HG/Atherton will be situated near the Bull & Butcher. Costings to be obtained.

v. **Fund Raising/Christmas Social Evening**

The Christmas Social evening has unfortunately been cancelled.

**vi. Harlea Avenue**

Residents have advised that works are to be carried out next year however CBB has not received notification. Kingsdown Road, Abram, has recently had resurfacing works completed at a cost of £72k, The cost to complete Harlea Avenue would be nothing in comparison. WMBC Planning advise roads need to be up to standard prior to adoption. Write to Martin Kimber requesting confirmation of works. **ACTION 56 DB**. If living in an unadopted road contact United Utilities as residents in Harlea Avenue received a rebate, Poplar Grove is unadopted. CBB advised that Coupland Road will never be adopted due to inferior lighting.

**vii. Township Forum**

Next meeting to be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

**viii. Hindley Green Ward Boundaries**

Advise CBB of addresses to be included within the Hindley Green ward **ACTION 57 COMMITTEE**

**ix. Christmas Trees**

CBF advised 27 trees had been purchased this year. The question was asked why spend £3k? HGRA to review in August 2009 for the following Christmas with competitive quotations being sought. Alternatively, Councillors can pay HGRA who will, in turn, arrange for trees at more competitive costs, any excess to go into HGRA funds for other works. It was suggested Christmas flower baskets and lights be placed on lamposts next year. £1k is allocated per ward from the Township Forum, all other funding given by Councillors from Brighter Borough Funding. St John's Christmas Fayre will be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm when the tree lights will be turned on. HGRA to possibly have a stall promoting the Association, all in favour. Liaise with Phil Cooksey – **ACTION 58 ID**

**x. Atherton Road Planters Update**

Grass verges to be removed and planters to be put in place. CBB in negotiations with shop owners to replace broken flags and will give a £1k donation towards works next year.

**xi. Planning Matters**

A list of the latest planning applications was circulated.

**xii. Gating on Atherton Road**

Gating required on Atherton Road to rear of hairdressers (near Swan) as residents are constantly blocked in until after 6pm. Funding is provided by John Black, Environmental Services. Unfortunately, the road between the two hairdressers is unadopted and will therefore remain untarmaced. JU to print poster **ACTION 59 JU**

**3. FINANCE**

- Total income to date is £1,470 with outgoings of £647.66, leaving a balance of £822.34.
- Accounts are available for inspection.
- A laptop has been purchased for the Secretary and a carry case at half price.
- £2.00 raised at last meeting for purchase of drinks.
- Raffle donations have been received and will be utilized for a raffle in the new year.

**4. COUNCILLOR ITEMS**

**i. Cllr. Barry Fagan**

No report received.

**ii. Cllr. Louise Fagan**

No report received.

**iii. Cllr. Bob Brierley**

- ACTION 12 – A deprived area is decided by the number of children receiving school meals within the relevant area.
- All other issues discussed above.

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**i. Gritting**

DD advised that her drive is steep and can be very slippery when icy. CBB has slipped on Thomas Street apparently we can apply for grit bins. In today's climate should you put salt on driveways or footpaths in icy conditions in law you are taking on liability.

**ii. 620 Bus Service**

Arriva have reviewed and will be altering the terminus point from Thomas Street during the school peak times.

**iii. Noticeboards Westlake**

CBB has requested key to noticeboards however WLCT have refused. The process is to contact WLCT who will send someone out to unlock the cabinet hence time and money wasted. Contact WLCT for access key.  
**ACTION 60 DB**

**iv. Westlake**

The Police have been contacted on numerous occasions regarding youths amalgamating on the Clayhole. A car was disposed on into the lake on Saturday evening who tried to pull it out using a Volvo the following day. Police notified and requested to attend immediately. Cars are frequently parking on Green Lane during the course of Friday evenings. Invite Police to next meeting. **ACTION 61 DB**. Youths continually throw swings over top bar creating loud noise. Night fishing is continuing with the lake not being maintained as expected.

**v. Police Surgery**

The surgery on 31<sup>st</sup> December has been cancelled the next meeting being 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**vi. Sponsorship**

Letter sent to businesses thanking them for their support and hopefully their continued support. JU requested Social Committee take on this responsibility.

**vii. Coupland Road Play Area**

CBB has objected to WLCT carrying out works on the play area, both CBB and CLB disagree. £81k is now available for the play area after 10% being deducted for administration. 4 pieces of equipment in Atherton cost £75k. To date no consultation has taken place with residents, planning permission gives people the opportunity to object should they so wish to do. HGRA will represent the views of all residents. There are arguments both for and against the project being carried out. Plans were for 3 separate play areas one in a wooded area which was deemed to be unsafe, the second for under 5's and an open area. A sub-station was built but was not originally planned for.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2009 commencing 7.00 pm at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel.

Dates for your 2009 Diary:

Wednesday 4th February  
Wednesday 4th March  
Wednesday 1st April  
Wednesday 6th May  
Wednesday 3rd June  
Wednesday 1st July  
Wednesday 5th August  
Wednesday 2nd September  
Wednesday 7th October  
Wednesday 4th November  
Wednesday 2nd December

Apologies for any errors and omissions.

Ref.	Date	Action	Owner	Comments
03	<b>2008</b> 07/05/08	Confirm which ward Maxine Armstrong of 7 Bankhall Close, Hindley Green, WN2 resides	CBB	Ongoing – investigations continuing
12	07/05/08	How does an area become a renewal/deprivation area?	CBB	COMPLETE - see
16	04/06/08	Harley Avenue update	CBB	To be pursued via Cabinet
29	06/08/08	Investigate how standards of play areas were achieved in Bolton	JV	Ongoing
34	03/09/08	Report to be submitted regarding Coupland Road	CBF	Ongoing
43	01/10/08	Clarify area covered as Harlea Avenue	CBB	Ongoing
44	01/10/08	Arrange bulb planting day	DB	CANCELLED – To be reviewed in September 2009
46	05/11/08	Liaise with Wigan MBC regarding accidents on Leigh Road on behalf of HGRA	CBF	Ongoing
47	05/11/08	Request further footprint be carried out at Atherton Road/ Leigh Road junction from Wigan MBC	DB/ CBB	E-mail sent to CBB 28/11/08 – awaiting response from WMBC
48	05/11/08	Forward copy of Bethel lease to Treasurer also to all other Committee members	JV	Ongoing
50	05/11/08	Obtain frequencies of activities for Play Area Inspector	DB	Ongoing
52	05/11/08	Liaise with CBB regarding gating between the two hairdressing shops on Atherton Road	DB	E-mail sent 02/12
53	03/12/08	Advise HGRA of proposed meeting with WMBC	KE	
54	03/12/08	Challenge Planning at Township Forum regarding proposed barriers on Lancaster Road	JV	
55	03/12/08	Discuss future requirements of Bethel	Committee	
56	03/12/08	Write to Martin Kimber requesting confirmation of works to Harlea Avenue	DB	
57	03/12/08	Advise CBB addresses to be included within HG ward	Committee	
58	03/12/08	Liaise with Phil Cooksey regarding stall at Christmas Fayre	ID	COMPLETE
59	03/12/08	Print poster regarding alley gating	JV	
60	03/12/08	Contact WLCT for access key to noticeboards	DB	
61	03/12/08	Invite Police to next meeting	DB	COMPLETE