

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 4th February 2009

PRESENT: Debbie Birchall - DB, Jim Burtonwood, Eric Dickens, Mike Lynch, Ron Shuttleworth - RS, Ken Ellison, Julie Bradshaw, John Vickers - JV, Jeff Unsworth, Barbara Unsworth, Cllr. Bob Brierley - CBB, Mike Walsh, D Pye, P Hilton, Avis Shone, Sheila Woodward - SW, Lynn Collier, Maxine Armstrong - MA, Julie Butler, Ivy Dickens

APOLOGIES: were received from John Hatton, Cllr. Louise Fagan, Cllr. Barry Fagan – CBF, Malcolm Coe - MC, Barbara Lane, Dawn Draper

1. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December 2008 were circulated and Proposed by Jim Burtonwood and Seconded by Eric Dickens. The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2009 were also circulated and Proposed by Eric Dickens and Seconded by Mike Lynch.

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **Guest Speaker**

Pauline Gregson of Wigan MBC Adult Services attended give details of the new Carer Centre which they are hoping to open by 8th June (during Carers Rights Week), in Anrich House, Frederick Street, Hindley and will be funded by Adult Services for 3 years, available for all ages. Full details of this service can be found on our website <http://hgra.web.officelive.com/events.aspx> and also in February's newsletter <http://hgra.web.officelive.com/newsletter.aspx>

ii. **Committee**

At the last Committee meeting on 14th January the Committee received a resignation from Ron Shuttleworth which was left in abeyance for further consideration. As no response was received by the date given, it is therefore with regret that Ron's resignation was accepted.

iii. **Leigh Road**

Kerb replacements will take place Thursday 5th/Friday 6th February and possibly continue the following Monday. Leigh Road will definitely be closed weekend 7th/8th February for resurfacing works between Pauline Street and 221 Leigh Road. Apparently, when works of this nature are planned by WMBC they do not have confirmation from the contractors of the exact date in which works will be undertaken. Therefore, three different dates are given to keep options open. Anti-skid surfacing will be put down approximately two weeks later together with a new central hatched area. Hopefully this will drastically reduce the accidents on this stretch of road.

iv. **Bethel Lease**

All Committee members have now been issued with a copy of the lease. The Committee are to come back to the Secretary with comments and suggestions. The Constitution states that the Committee can act in this nature without consulting members. There is a mine shaft to the side of the Bethel.

v. **Boundary Signs**

The Engineer does not think he will need to digitize the photograph. He has identified four locations for the signs, back to back with existing signs: Wigan Road, Leigh (Tamar); Bickershaw Lane; Atherton Road, Hindley and Corner Lane. The Westhoughton/Hindley Green boundary will not be considered by the Engineer as they fall under different Councils. The Engineer suggested Green Lane as a possible 5th sign although MC thinks he may mean Swan Lane, exact location to be identified. **ACTION 106 DB.** The cost of the signs are £600 each. CBB questioned the costs are the signs are made in-house and asked how many suppliers tendered.

vi. **Coupland Road Play Area**

Consultation letters have been issued by Wigan Leisure Culture Trust to those affected by the proposed play area. WLCT have organized a meeting on Thursday 19th February between 3.30pm and 5.30pm at Body Image Fitness Centre on Swan Lane. JV to find out addresses letters were issued to **ACTION 107 JV**

Following SW's complaint to Wigan Evening Post regarding the lack of gritting on Coupland Road, WMBC have now confirmed that this road will now be gritted as a matter of course during icy weather conditions.

vi. **Harlea Avenue**

WMBC have advised that there are no planned works for Harlea Avenue during 2009.

A flyer is to be put together for Harlea Avenue residents. The road in front is full of potholes. Apparently, unadopted roads are not cleaned by WMBC however, Brecon Drive and Beaumaris Avenue are.

vii. Planning Matters

A list of the latest planning applications was circulated amongst those present.

viii. Hindley Green Ward Boundaries

MA provided a list of residents to be included within Hindley Green ward. MA to check with residents of Smith's Lane. Refer to **Action 03**

ix. Engineer's Fund

There is £1,400 available for HGRA to spend on highways/environmental related issues. The purchase of HGRA noticeboards was suggested as the recently provided Westlake noticeboards are inadequate and inaccessible. Different locations were discussed and signage above a certain size may be subject to a planning application. Additional lighting on Hawthorne Avenue was considered to be a Council issue. Should HGRA set a precedent in funding this type of works we may not get any works done in our area as it may become an expectation. This type of project would far exceed the £1,400 available. HGRA will follow this up separately. Additional lighting on Westlake may be objected to be residents as amalgamation of youths is already an issue in this area. Guardrails on Leigh Road, WMBC have already advised that the pavement is too narrow to facilitate. Previously additional lighting was installed in the bus stop outside Jeyes Factory on Atherton Road caused problems with youths. However, since removal of the lighting there have been no further issues.

x. Highways Capital Project

WMBC propose to put in place a pedestrian refuges island at the bottom on Long Lane/Richmond Road and to build up the paved area to the front of Soltan. Works to be completed before the end of March 2009. These works will cause hazards for buses and shops and the loss of parking spaces. CBB was unaware of these works and will follow up with WMBC. **ACTION 108 CBB**

xi. Alley Gating

Leaflets made available with advice. No planning permission sought for alley gates at Lulworth Road/long Lane at a cost of £1,000. To install alley gates to the rear of the hairdressers would be greater. All residents must be agreement for gates to be installed, CBB advised that they were. However we were advised that it was looked into 5/6 years ago and the land was said to be privately owned. Residents from Tavistock Avenue who utilize this route as access would be unable to use this route, CBB advised that they were able to obtain gate keys. Cinnamon Avenue garage has been gated off. With regard to the passageway between the hairdressers on Atherton Road a consultation process would need to be followed with all residents agreeing. The Swan car park is locked during their closed hours therefore reducing parking around the immediate vicinity. Write to Swan requesting access for parking, **ACTION 109 DB**

xi. Sponsorship

Obtaining sponsors and donations is a very difficult task. A volunteer is needed to carry out this task as JU is busily utilised in other areas. Some business would prefer to provide a gift rather than cash. We do have a sponsor page on our newsletter and website advertising sponsors and letters have been issued thanking them for their kind donation. There is no need to move away from how sponsors have been obtained to date unless other suggestions prove more fruitful. Obtaining grants is dependent on having premises. Suggestions welcome!

xii. Fund Raising

It was agreed not to progress with a Lottery licence. It was agreed to hold a monthly raffle at each meeting utilizing the prizes already donated. This would inevitably target the people regularly attending meetings. Should anyone be unable to attend a meeting and would like to buy raffle tickets please contact a Committee member.

A suggestion was made that we approach St. John's Church for a stall at the Spring Fayre allowing HGRA an opportunity to advertise. **ACTION 110 DB** to contact Church

3. FINANCE

No financial changes since last month. The sum of £12.50 has been raised from the sale of refreshments during the last three general meeting.

The sum of £23.67 has been raised from the Easyfundraising donations during the fourth quarter of 2008. A cheque for which is expected during February.

4. COUNCILLOR ITEMS

i. **Cllr. Barry Fagan** - No report received.

ii. **Cllr. Louise Fagan** - No report received.

iii. **Cllr. Bob Brierley**

- Clean up works behind the parade of shops on Atherton Road is commencing this weekend with alley gates being erected in April. Shop frontages are owned by WMBC although shop owners have agreed to assist with funding to replace grassed area with flags.
- On-going projects are old folks home in Brasswood; Lulworth Drive (Long Lane) end, CBB funding alley gating; 3-9 February alleyways are being cleaned up.
- Streets, roads and footpaths should be cleaned every 12 weeks. CBB suggested every 5 weeks unemployed should carry out street cleaning and WMBC do every 6th week then Unions cannot become involved. He would supervise and motivate people. Work on Oak Avenue is being carried out by people on Community Service.
- Pricing has gone out to 4 different companies to tender for the proposed.
- Pricing obtained to fence off Westlake play area.

5. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Bexhill Drive Play Area** - We were advised that this project is now complete.
- Additional Lighting Carr Common Road** - An additional street lamp has been positioned at the bottom of Carr Common Road where there has not been any for the past two years. **ACTION 111 JV** to investigate
- Buchanan Drive/Edinburgh Drive Alleyway** - Over the past few weeks there have been numerous incidents involving vandalism caused to residents property near the alleyway in that a wheelie bin was set alight with aerosols inside, fencing panels damaged and a concrete panel stolen. Dog feces and urination is also a problem. A couple of residents will carry out a survey and report back to next meeting as to whether residents wish to have this walkway blocked off, which is sad when this sort of action is taken. The area is only cleaned as and when requested. Residents have attended the Police Surgery and also tried to contact Cllrs. Louise and Barry Fagan. Write to all local Councillors requesting action. **ACTION 112 DB**
- Working with Other Agencies** - The question was raised does HGRA work with other agencies? Yes we do. Dispute was raised as to the position of Homewatch Co-ordinator which we are advised the Police no longer consider this as a recognized position. Hindley Green Homewatch is now managed by our local PCSO's. It was advised that this issue be taken up directly with the local Police.
- B&Q 40th Anniversary** - As part of their 40th Anniversary B&Q are running a scheme where organizations can receive between £2k to £10k and they plan to fund 40 schemes across the country. All applications to be submitted by Friday 27th March 2009. **ACTION 113 JV** to apply for application form.
- Bail Hostels** - Clearsprings are setting up bail hostels around the country, WN2 and WN7 and included. They are under no obligation to let people know where. **ACTION 114 JV** to investigate further.
- Thomas Street** – Residents on Thomas Street would like to see it made into a one way system between Organ Street and West Street. A list of objections to be raised. **ACTION 115 DB** to raise at TE&E Sub Group.

6. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 4th March 2009 commencing 7.00 pm at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel.

Apologies for any errors and omissions.

Ref	Date	Action	Owner	Comments
2008 ACTIONS				
03	07/05/08	Confirm which ward Maxine Armstrong of 7 Bankhall Close, Hindley Green, WN2 resides	MA/CBB	Ongoing – Details given to CBB. Further info to be sought by MA
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	CANCELLED
43	01/10/08	Clarify area covered as Harlea Avenue	CBB	COMPLETE
46	05/11/08	Liaise with Wigan MBC regarding accidents on Leigh Road on behalf of HGRA	DB	COMPLETE
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 – Chased CBB 20/01/09 & 02/02/09
48	05/11/08	Forward copy of Bethel lease to Treasurer also to all other Committee members	JV/CBB	COMPLETE – Copy now obtained
50	05/11/08	Obtain frequencies of activities for Play Area Inspector	DB	COMPLETE - Weekly
52	05/11/08	Liaise with CBB regarding gating between the two hairdressing shops on Atherton Road	CBB	COMPLETE – Refer to Action 103
54	03/12/08	Challenge Planning at Township Forum regarding proposed barriers on Lancaster Road	JV	Ongoing
55	03/12/08	Discuss future requirements of Bethel	Committee	Ongoing – 13/02 – Having difficulty arranging meeting with Church
56	03/12/08	Write to Martin Kimber requesting confirmation of works to Harlea Avenue	DB	COMPLETE
59	03/12/08	Print poster regarding alley gating	JV	Ongoing
2009 ACTIONS				
101	07/01/09	Investigate current position of Bethel lease and advise Chair at next Township Forum meeting	MC/JV	Ongoing – MC awaiting response
102	07/01/09	Follow up boundary signs from Engineering Department	MC	COMPLETE
103	07/01/09	Check if planning permission is required for alley gating and take copy of process to next meeting	DB	COMPLETE – Information leaflet obtained and distributed
104	07/01/09	Contact Wigan MBC regarding inadequate lighting on Ludlow Avenue	DB	Ongoing - E-mail sent 21/01
105	07/01/09	Discuss suggestions for Engineer's Fund and take information to next meeting	All Committee	COMPLETE – See report
106	04/02/09	Identify exact location of possible 5 th boundary sign	DB	E-mail sent to CBF 14/02/09
107	04/02/09	Identify addresses Coupland Road play area consultation letters were sent to	JV	
108	04/02/09	Investigate Highways Capital Programme works outside shops at the bottom of Long Lane/Richmond Road	CBB	12/02 CBB has temporarily stopped all works
109	04/02/09	Write to Swan Hotel requesting access for parking	DB	
110	09/04/09	Write to St. John's Church re stall at Spring Fayre	DB	
111	04/02/09	Investigate additional street light Carr Common Road	JV	
112	04/02/09	Write to local Councillors requesting action for Edinburgh Drive/Buchanan Drive	DB	15/02 E-mail sent to Councillors. 17/02 CBB wrote to I Harrison
113	04/02/09	Apply for B&Q 40 th Anniversary application form	JV	
114	04/02/09	Investigate proposals for bail hostels	JV	
115	04/02/09	Submit proposals for one way system on Thomas Street to TE&E Sub Group	DB	