

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 6th August 2008**

PRESENT: Debbie Birchall - DB, Michael Lynch, Sheila Woodward - SW, Barbara Unsworth, Jeff Unsworth, Michael Walsh, Avis Shone, Alan Wright, Margaret Wright, J Burtonwood, Eric Dickens, Ivy Dickens, John Vickers - JV, Karen Dunlop, Neil Dunlop, David Dodsworth, Maxine Armstrong - MA, Sue Wiggin, George Wiggin, Ray Byrne, Dorothy Byrne

1. **APOLOGIES:** were received from Phil Cooksey, Cllr. Barry Fagan, Cllr. Louise Fagan, Cllr. Bob Brierley - BB, Malcolm Coe and Dawn Draper
2. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 2nd July 2008 were not available for distribution. To be presented at next meeting for approval.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - i. **Constitution**

A Special Public Meeting was called as an amendment to the Constitution was proposed. Some residents live within the Hindley Green postal address but fall outside the Ward, the current Constitution does not allow these residents to become members of the Association or the Committee. It was, therefore, proposed by John Vickers and seconded by Debbie Birchall to amend the Constitution paragraph 4a to read "Membership shall be open to all residents of Hindley Green Ward and all residents with a Hindley Green postal address". All in favour.
 - ii. **Guest Speaker**

Invitations were issued to all three local Councillors, Environment Services and the local Police to attend the meeting. However, none were available to attend. **Actions 17, 18 & 21 DB** to extend invitation for next meeting.
 - iii. **Hindley Green Ward Boundaries**

Not discussed. Awaiting feedback from ongoing investigations. **Action 03 – BB**

Map supplied by Malcolm Coe does not clearly identify boundaries. **Action 24 – JV** to source clear map identifying Hindley Green boundaries.
 - iv. **Swan Lane Traffic/Traffic Calming Measures**

Sacred Heart Primary School has still failed to return the Traffic Plan to enable Swan Lane to become a 20mph zone. **Action 25 - DB** to formally write to Headteacher.

One member advised signage on railings was illegal and required moving. Mixed views as to whether speed bumps on Long Lane are effective. HGV's continuing to utilise Swan Lane. Woodland Avenue is being utilized as a by-pass road, traffic exceeding speed limit. **ACTION 26 - DB** to formally write to Environment Services.
 - v. **Play Areas**

The open space at Coupland Road was formally transferred into Council's ownership on 31st July 2008. Details of play equipment can now be sought. What proposals are planned by WLCT? **ACTION 27 – DB** – Invite Debbie Freeman to next meeting. What do residents want? Should a satisfactory response be received invite all Coupland Road residents to next meeting **ACTION 28 - DB**

Currently there are two play areas in Hindley Green, Westlake and Bexhill Drive. What is the definition of a play area? JU made a personal complaint to WLCT and Ward Councillors. As a result of this he was invited on a field trip by the Forum (106 Fund) visiting 20 play areas around the Borough. A number of Associations are raising their own funding, Bickershaw having applied to different organisations for grants, no funding available for Westlake. Malcolm Coe and Lynne Hankey are available to help obtain funding. Play areas in Bolton are far superior than Wigan's (photographs provided). **ACTION 29 - JV** to investigate how standards were achieved in Bolton. The play equipment is not as expensive as WMBC are quoting.

WLCT advise sand is sieved every evening. It was reported that the footpaths may be swept and bins are sometimes emptied by hand.
 - vi. **Harley Avenue**

No further information available. **ACTION 16 - BB**

vii. Clayhole

Trevor Smith of Westlake Angling Club (WAC) advised they are responsible for the water and for up to 1 yard from the water's edge. The remaining area belongs to Wigan MBC. Officially WAC are unable to move night fishermen as they are on Wigan MBC property. However, they can ask them to move, should they refuse then it becomes a Police matter.

WAC are on the lookout for a Bailiff should anyone be willing to take on this role please let a Committee Member know, full details can be given.

JV attended last month's Police Surgery. With regard to problems highlighted on the Clayhole as far as the Police are aware Hindley Green does not have any problems with crime. During the previous month no complaints were received and no residents attended the Police Surgery, therefore, they are unable to take any action. Should you encounter any problems whatsoever whether it be on the Clayhole or anywhere else in or around Hindley Green then please ring the Police ensuring you received a Crime Reference Number. Do not feel under pressure of becoming a "nuisance".

ix. Donations and Fund Raising

Donations and sponsorship totaling £300 has now been received from businesses within Hindley Green in exchange for advertising on our website. Thanks to Jeff Unsworth for all his efforts to date. Maxine Armstrong volunteered to assist Jeff as this task is becoming very time consuming.

x. Boundary Signs

Posts are in place for Hindley Green signs. Are there any guidelines for signage? Possible competition for school children. **ACTION 30 - DB** – check guidelines

xi. Police Surgeries

A new monthly Police Surgery for Councillors has been set up on the 1st Tuesday in each month at Bamfurlong Police Station. No Hindley Green Councillors attended the last meeting. **ACTION 31 - DB** to ensure at least one Councillor attends next meeting.

Police surgeries are open to all residents on the last Wednesday of each month commencing 7 pm at the Bethel.

4. FINANCE

A bank account is now fully operational.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. Committee

Amendment to the Constitution was passed, therefore, it was Proposed by Sheila Woodward and Seconded by Jeff Unsworth that Maxine Armstrong be elected to the Committee. All in favour.

ii. Township Forum

The forms will go to the next Forum on 8th September. JV will represent HGRA at the Forum with DB and MA being substitutes.

iii. Friends of Hindley Station

An urgent Committee Meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 13th August at 5.30 pm at the Edington Arms. The next Public Meeting will be held on Thursday 16th October at John's church at 7.00 pm.

iv. Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel

A joint meeting was held by the Access Officer and the Bethel regarding a disabled ramp for access to the premises from the car park down the side of the building. However, the group still need to take a view on whether they want to open up the grassed area through to the main road.

v. Promoting the Association

As we are now a fully functioning Association complete with committee and bank account we need to advertise ourselves to involve more residents. Suggestions made: a) Local Newspapers; b) Link magazine; c) leaflet dropping to all homes; d) leaflet for businesses; e) church magazines; f) Hindley library. JU to design leaflet for distribution. **ACTION 32 - JU**

A social sub-committee to be set up. To be discussed further at next meeting.

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	COMPELTE
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	COMPLETE
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
12	07/05/08	How does an area become a renewal/deprivation area?	BB	Ongoing
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 17/08/08
18	02/07/08	Formally invite Environment Services to next meeting	DB	Refer to Action 26
19	02/07/08	Formally invite Swan Lane/Green Lane residents to next meeting	DB	Awaiting response from Environment Services and Police
20	02/07/08	Liaise with Probation Service regarding clean up of Clayhole	SW	COMPLETE - Advised they will add us to their list
21	02/07/08	Formally invite PC Wendy Rowson to next meeting	DB	Left message 13/08/08
22	02/07/08	Contact Trevor Smith re night fishing on Clayhole	DB	COMPLETE
23	02/07/08	Visit bank with personal details	JV	JV to present additional info
24	06/08/08	Source Hindley Green clearly identifying boundaries	JV	
25	06/08/08	Formally write to Sacred Heart Primary School chasing Traffic Plan	DB	COMPLETE – Letter sent 17/08/08
26	06/08/08	Formally write to Environment Services outlining issues and offer invite to next meeting	DB	Request made to Martin Kimber
27	06/08/08	What proposals are planned for Coupland Road play area by WLCT? Contact Debbie Freeman	DB	
28	06/08/08	Invite Coupland Road residents to next meeting should a satisfactory response be received from WLCT	DB	
29	06/08/08	Investigate how standards of play areas were achieved in Bolton	JV	
30	06/08/08	Check guidelines for Hindley Green signage	DB	
31	06/08/08	Invite Councillors to attend monthly Police Surgery at Bamfurlong Police Station 1 st Tuesday of each month	DB	E-mail sent – 17/08/08
32	06/08/08	Design leaflet for distribution	JU	COMPLETE