

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

**PRESENT:** Debbie Birchall - DB, Jim Burtonwood, Eric Dickens, Mike Lynch, Ron Shuttleworth - RS, Dawn Draper, Ken Ellison - KE, J Bradshaw, John Vickers - JV, David Dodsworth, Jeff Unsworth, Barbara Unsworth, Cllr. Bob Brierley, Mike Walsh, Joan Blundell, Daniel Blundell, PC Wendy Rowson, PCSO Donna Longhurst, Malcolm Coe - MC

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Cllr. Louise Fagan, Maxine Armstrong - MA, Cllr. Barry Fagan – CBF, Sheila Woodward, Ivy Dickens, Alan Wright and Margaret Wright

1. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December 2008 were unavailable for approval. To be submitted for approval at next meeting.

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **Local Police**

The car in Westlake early December had apparently been joyriding around the lake and had got stuck in the mud and was not a stolen vehicle. With regard to the youths amalgamating on Westlake park appears to be in the main Friday evenings although there were no issues during the Summer months. The youths approached by the local Police have had their names and addresses taken and letters will be sent out to their home addresses advising that this will not be tolerated. The Police will monitor the situation and if noisy will be moved on. Ongoing problems on Edgeworth Road with bikes, should the culprits be caught their bikes will be seized. If residents are not happy with the Police resources within Hindley Green or anywhere else then put issues in writing. Councillors can also raise issues at the Councillor Police Surgeries or alternatively can attend the monthly Police Surgery on the last Friday of each month at the Bethel 7.00 pm. All incoming calls are graded by the Control Room, non-urgent jobs being passed to the Neighbourhood Team. If no action is taken from your call then please make note and report back to the Local Police Officer or HGRA who will take up any issues on your behalf, evidence will be required. When logging calls ensure a log number is given and if a problem is repetitive please make as many calls as necessary on as many occasions as it occurs without feeling you are becoming a nuisance. Not everyone sees Police patrolling their areas as they can carry out a patrol at any time, day or night. Fireworks on New Year's Eve were going off until the early hours of the morning. Recently a shed in Carr Common Road was burgled. MC advised that the Township Programme has a Youth Practitioner Team. Policing issues are they related to Police response times purely in HG or Nationwide, complaints started to digress away from HG. A recent intake of CPSO's produced no additional staff for Bamfurlong area.

ii. **Traffic Calming Measures**

A temporary closure notice was in the Wigan Observer for Leigh Road for Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January/1<sup>st</sup> February and Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February for carriageway resurfacing works and will be closed between Pauline Street and Coal Pit Lane. A speed camera has also been requested via the Township Forum.

The new 20mph speed limit is now in force along Swan Lane with all relevant signage being in place.

iii. **Bethel Lease**

£3,500 has been earmarked by the Township Forum for environmental improvements, the Church propose to install a disabled access and to improve the side of the building. This money could be utilized to improve the footpath to the front of the building and for the land at the side. This funding is irrelevant to the fact that the Family Church currently has no lease. CBB would like HGRA to have control of the room utilized by us for meeting together with an extension to the side. The best way forward is for HGRA to work together with the Church and if we can give the Township Forum a commitment before the end of March maybe we will be able to carry these funds over into the next financial year.

The Bethel lease as far as we are aware has still not been renewed by the Church. What chance does HGRA have to evict a Church from the Bethel and restore for residents of Hindley Green i.e. a library, health center, etc? MC to investigate current position of lease advising another group has an interest in the building and to report back to Chair at Township Forum. **ACTION 101 – MC/JV**

iv. **Boundary Signs**

The cost for each sign will be in the region of £600-800, the cheaper option being to utilize posts already in situ for other area signs. The design has now been forwarded to the Engineering Department to convert to an electronic design. MC to follow up. **ACTION 102 - MC**

v. **Coupland Road Play Area**

JV requested amendments to the Questionnaire submitted at the Township Forum. A clear copy has now been produced of the layout plan. The next stage is to produce the plan (will not include specific equipment purely a layout plan) and agree an open day. A tender exercise will need to be followed to supply the equipment, Playdale maybe on the tender list.

**vi. Harlea Avenue**

Wigan MBC will adopt 4 unadopted roads per year. Mike Walsh has been chasing the adoption of this road since 1978, covering 15 homes. CBB has given residents contact details for Council Tax rebate. He has also contacted the Highways to refurbish the kerb-stones and also a firm for tarmac. CBB has also suggested to residents that they contact United Utilities requesting meters however no action has been taken.

**vii. Planning Matters**

No planning matters issued since last month. Report to follow at next meeting.

**viii. Gating on Atherton Road**

Parking over the Christmas period was not too bad behind the hairdressers on Atherton Road although it has since worsened. CBB has had correspondence with Ken Wardle regarding unadopted road between the two hairdressers. Abram gating was added to the renewal area programme under parking and environmental issues which form one package. Alley gating elsewhere has been due to crime statistics. Check if planning permission is required and take copy of process to next meeting. **ACTION 103 - DB**

**3. FINANCE**

Total income to date £1,510 with outgoings of £697.57, producing a bank balance of £812.43.

Donations to the value of £23.35 have been raised via Easyfundraising, a cheque for which should be forthcoming in February. Also £11.00 has been raised from drinks provided at meetings.

**4. COUNCILLOR ITEMS**

**i. Cllr. Barry Fagan**

No report received.

**ii. Cllr. Louise Fagan**

No report received.

**iii. Cllr. Bob Brierley**

- CBB is to attend a meeting at Robin Park on 15<sup>th</sup> January with David Smith, Rodney Hill and the Audit. A project in Atherton for 12 pieces of equipment cost £60K for 4 pieces at Coupland Road the cost would be £72K.
- Quad bikes are going over the fields by the new bridge off Coupland Road – a banner is needed and in hand.

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**i. Ludlow Avenue Lighting**

Lighting on Ludlow Avenue was reported to be inadequate with one light within 60 yards. Forward complaint to Wigan MBC. **ACTION 104 - DB**

**ii. Engineer's Fund**

Township Forum have agreed to allocate £1,400 for each Community Group to spend on environmental and highways. Possible suggestions raised were barriers on Leigh Road, additional lighting in Ludlow Avenue, alley gating and lighting on Westlake play area. HGRA must give a commitment to MC. **ACTION 105 – Committee** to discuss and come back with suggestions at next meeting.

**iii. OMISSION FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

During heated discussions at November's meeting one member was accused of having no respect for others although this was later resolved.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2009 commencing 7.00 pm at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel.

Apologies for any errors and omissions.

Ref	Date	Action	Owner	Comments
<b>2008 ACTIONS</b>				
03	07/05/08	Confirm which ward Maxine Armstrong of 7 Bankhall Close, Hindley Green, WN2 resides	CBB	Ongoing – 12/01 E-mail sent to MA requesting list of properties to be incorporated within HG
16	04/06/08	Harlea Avenue update	CBB	COMPLETE – Refer to Action 56
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 – 15 houses
46	05/11/08	Liaise with Wigan MBC regarding accidents on Leigh Road on behalf of HGRA	DB	Ongoing – vehicle activation sign now repaired
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
48	05/11/08	Forward copy of Bethel lease to Treasurer also to all other Committee members	JV/CBB	Ongoing – Reminder sent to CBB 20/01/09
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	CBB	Ongoing investigations
53	03/12/08	Advise HGRA of proposed meeting with WMBC	KE	COMPLETE – Meeting did not go ahead as anticipated
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
56	03/12/08	Write to Martin Kimber requesting confirmation of works to Harlea Avenue	DB	Ongoing – In correspondence with D Dave, it appears the road will remain unadopted for this year.
59	03/12/08	Print poster regarding alley gating	JV	Ongoing
60	03/12/08	Contact WLCT for access key to noticeboards	DB	COMPLETE – WLCT will not give keys to others, environmental posters only to be inserted.
<b>2009 ACTIONS</b>				
101	07/01/09	Investigate current position of Bethel lease and advise Chair at next Township Forum meeting	MC/JV	
102	07/01/09	Follow up boundary signs from Engineering Department	MC	
103	07/01/09	Check if planning permission is required for alley gating and take copy of process to next meeting	DB	E-mail sent 21/01
104	07/01/09	Contact Wigan MBC regarding inadequate lighting on Ludlow Avenue	DB	E-mail sent 21/01
105	07/01/09	Discuss suggestions for Engineer's Fund and take information to next meeting	All Committee	