

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

**PRESENT:** Debbie Birchall - DB, Jim Burtonwood, Mike Lynch, Mike Walsh, John Vickers - JV, Jeff Unsworth - JU, Barbara Unsworth, David Dodsworth, Margaret Wright, Alan Wright, Barbara Lane, Julie Bradshaw, Ken Ellison, Sheila Woodward, Ann Sutton, Andy Sutton, Tony Brisco, J. Robb, Pauline Hilton, Doreen Pye, PC Wendy Rowson, PCSO Donna Longhurst, PCSO John Barker

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Maxine Armstrong and Cllr. Bob Brierley

1. **MINUTES:** No minutes were available from the previous two meetings for which apologies were given. However, all minutes will be available at the next meeting. Minutes from July's meeting were Proposed by Barbara Unsworth and Seconded by Jeff Unsworth. August's minutes have been produced by the Chairman, John Vickers, from notes taken by the Secretary, Debbie Birchall however the attendance list and finance report were omitted. These will be added and re-issued. Therefore, August's minutes were proposed by Mike Lynch and Seconded by Alan Wright.

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **POLICE**

- Whilst at the meeting the Police carried out some PACT (Police and Communities Together) Surveys. Lynn Hankey, PACT Co-ordinator would like to attend one of our meeting. **ACTION 149 – JV**
- Anti-social behaviour continues to be the major problem in Hindley Green although quiet at present. Last hot spot was Bexhill Drive where youths were amalgamating on the park and car pulling up. There has been positive feedback recently from residents. The Clayhole is still a problem area, disturbances not being reported. The Police tend to go where needed most when on duty although they still patrol the area. Leyland Park/Danes Avenue are problem areas.
- Operation Storm will be running from next week when the Police will be contacting victims of burglary to find out if they have taken up advice given and will also be contacting known burglars with a view to reassuring the public. They will also be speaking to shop owners asking that they do not sell eggs and flour to young people (TIP – bath cleaner removes eggs from windows).
- Operation Treacle will follow Operation Storm with dedicated units patrolling the streets in unmarked vehicles issuing fixed penalties. The Police will be working every night during this period. If you know of anyone selling cheap fireworks report this to the Police as they can be dangerous in the wrong hands. You can also call Crimestoppers.
- Police Surgeries are very quiet and not being utilized as anticipated.
- Speeding continues to be a problem throughout the Borough not just in Hindley Green which is enforced by the RPU (Police).
- It was reported at the meeting that a bungalow opposite Westlake has had it's windows broken this evening.

ii. **Engineer's Fund/Bethel Proposed Works**

3<sup>rd</sup> quote now in hand awaiting Malcolm Coe to confirm our quotes are viable. Unfortunately, this project and will be put on hold for 8 weeks due to road works at the junction of Atherton Road/Leigh Road commencing 5<sup>th</sup> October, contractors being unable to access until road works are complete. JV advised that he will now take over managing this project.

ii. **Sponsorship**

Help please!! We require your help in obtaining funds for the benefit of **ALL** residents in Hindley Green.

iii. **Thomas Street One Way System**

Stephen Bell has apologized for not getting back. He is arranging a meeting with Andy Allen to discuss issues. JU will attend meeting on 9th November. **Refer to ACTION 143 - JU**

iv. **Traffic Issues**

Vehicles traveling along Thomas Street do not take heed of the 20mph speed limit. Sleeping policemen are a good idea unless you live near to one.

v. **Planning Matters**

- Coupland Road play area planning application is scheduled to be dealt with under Delegated Matters. Due to interventions it will now go before a full Committee.

- Old Britvic Works on Swan Lane to be demolished and possibly four new industrial units to be erected. Asbestos should be removed under a controlled procedure however Wigan MBC have classified the asbestos roof as a Grade 3 and falls within environmental.

### 3. FINANCE

The current bank balance stands at £933.21, with an income of £14.80 from the sale of refreshment and raffle at July's meeting. A donation of £50.00 has been paid to Colin Welsh, Chaos Discs for the under 16's, a letter of thanks has been received.

### 4. COUNCILLOR ITEMS

- i. **Cllr. Barry Fagan** - No report received.
- ii. **Cllr. Louise Fagan** - No report received.
- iii. **Cllr. Bob Brierley**
  - CBB is undergoing investigations into the 106 monies for play equipment.
  - A breakdown of Brighter Borough Initiative funding 2009/2010 was produced, details of Hindley Green ward Councillors were given to those present a breakdown will be placed on the website **ACTION 150 – JU**
  - Winter and spring bulb planting has now commenced, the summer plants having lasted longer than expected

### 5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. **Crossdale Road Signage**  
A new sign post had been erected on Crossdale Road with no sign attached. What is the purpose of this?
- ii. **Land Adjacent Atherton Road Hairdressers**  
Parking is still a big issue in the alleyway between the two hairdressers on Atherton Road, cars have now started to park vertically which makes it more difficult for residents to access. This issue is a Council related problem rather than a Police matter. If the owners of this land can be found then there is a possibility of signage being erected. The alleyway has now had a facelift, before and after shots will be in October's newsletter.
- iii. **Westlake/Clayhole**  
Re-laying of the footpaths around the Clayhole is a proposed project however CBB has obtained a quote in the sum of £21K. If HGRA do not take this project on board then CBB will have it done his way not necessarily what is best for the environment/area. If we do take on board this project then it will be done in a way agreed by it's members and residents. Wigan Angling has done a deal with Westlake Angling and the Secretary has been in contact with Wigan MBC.  
  
The swings are Hart Common have bars on the swings although Debbie Freeman of WLCT has advised there are no funds available. We understand Bexhill Drive play area at one time was locked up at night by residents but stopped due to lack of support. However, residents want to reinstate this but the Council will not allow it to happen. Liaise with CBF regarding him assisting with the swing bars and maybe funding. **ACTION 151 - DB**
- iv. **Brighten up Your Borough**  
Boroughwide Community Network has now set up in Wigan where residents can attend workshops to enable them to improve their neighbourhood and to help make the Borough greener. If anyone is interested in attending these Workshops representing Hindley Green Residents Association please contact a committee member. We did have one volunteer at the meeting. Details to be given to members and placed on website. **ACTION 152 - DB/JU**
- v. **Alley Gating**  
Thomas Street back alley was cleaned but is now as bad as ever. Alley gates we are informed are to be fitted although no-one knows anything about this. Alley gating we understand has been stopped in Hindley Green and moving on to Leigh.
- vi. **Possible Scam**  
A letter has been received from Landmark Collections Limited trying to claim ground rent although nothing has been claimed for many years. If you receive one of these letters please do not pay without making full enquiries and getting satisfactory answers.

**vii. High Schools**

There is mounting pressure on Hesketh Fletcher High School, Atherton to close. There are plans afoot to extend Westleigh and Hindley High Schools. This would impact on a number of children residing in Hindley Green. HGRA support the school staying open.

**viii. Committee**

We have received a letter of resignation from one of our Committee members, Dawn Draper this unfortunately leaves us with another vacancy on our Committee. Should anyone be interested in joining the Committee in an endeavour to improve Hindley Green then please contact a Committee or come along to one of our meetings. The Committee and its members would like to thank Dawn for all her support and work done on behalf of the Association to date.

- Martin Kimber, Director of Environmental Services, is leaving Wigan MBC and moving to Bradford Council as Chief Executive.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 4<sup>TH</sup> November 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>				
47	05/11/08	Request further footprint be carried out at Atherton Road/ Leigh Road junction from Wigan MBC	CBB/CBF	COMPLETE – Works to commence October 2009
<b>2009 ACTIONS</b>				
104	07/01/09	Contact Wigan MBC regarding inadequate lighting on Ludlow Avenue	DB	Ongoing - E-mail sent 21/01
114	04/02/09	Investigate proposals for bale hostels	JV	Ongoing - No further information available at present
119	04/03/09	Obtain information regarding the PACT Process from Township Forum	JV	Ongoing - Not at last meeting
120	04/03/09	Raise at Township Forum problems with vehicles parking on grass verge Blair Avenue	JV	Ongoing – Greenspaces investigating
121	01/04/09	How do Highways consult with residents regarding proposed projects/plans?	CBB	
122	01/04/09	What can we do to encourage our local Councillors to support us?	JV	Currently in hand
124	01/04/09	Who owns the land on Leigh Road, the old railway gap	DB	
126	01/04/09	Add waste collection details to website	JU	
131	01/07/09	Chase 5 <sup>th</sup> boundary sign at Westhoughton boundary	DB	COMPLETE – No funds available
132	01/07/09	Arrange for shrubbery to be cut back to the rear of the land adjacent the Bethel	CBB	Ongoing – To be carried out after roadworks at junction
135	01/07/09	Put forward traffic issues to TE&E Sub Group	DB	E-mail to M Coe & Traffic Dept
136	01/07/09	Who is responsible for Bexley Street?	DB	E-mail sent to D Jenkinson
138	01/07/09	Provide list of sources available for funding	JV	
140	05/08/09	Collate further information regarding the development framework consultation	JV	
141	05/08/09	Visit shop owners requesting consideration be given to residents regarding parking	MA	
142	02/09/09	Confirmation awaited that proposed Contractor for Bethel works is acceptable to WMBC	MC	COMPLETE – Contractor accepted
143	02/09/09	Liaise with Stephen Bell, WMBC regarding Thomas Street one way system and attend meeting on 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	JU	
144	02/09/09	Chase WLCT for costings to place wraps on swing chains, clayhole	DB	Ongoing - E-mail sent to Debbie Freeman
145	02/09/09	Liaise with Rodney Hill regarding signage around Westlake	CBF	
147	02/09/09	Liaise with GMPTA regarding bus services and the withdrawal of the 652 service	CBF	
148	02/09/09	Investigate pecking order for adoption of roads	CBB	
149	07/10/09	Invite Lynn Hankey, PACT Co-ordinator to next meeting	JV	E-mail sent 03/11
150	07/10/09	Add Brighter Borough Initiative 2009/10 to website	JU	
151	07/10/09	Request CBF assist with replacement bars on the swings and possibly funding	DB	E-mail sent 03/11
152	07/10/09	Inform members of the Boroughwide Community Network and place details on the website	DB/JU	