

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009**

**PRESENT:** Debbie Birchall - DB, Jim Burtonwood, Eric Dickens, Mike Lynch, Ken Ellison, Julie Bradshaw, Mike Walsh, John Vickers - JV, Jeff Unsworth, Barbara Unsworth, Doreen Pye, Maxine Armstrong - MA, Ivy Dickens, Barbara Lane, Dawn Draper, Avis Shone, Sheila Woodward, PC Wendy Rowson, PCSO Donna Longhurst, PCSO John Barker, David and Alison Hull – Leigh Residents Forum

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Phil Cooksey, Cllr. Bob Brierley - CBB, Cllr. Barry Fagan, Cllr. Louise Fagan, Pauline Hilton

1. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March were circulated and proposed by Maxine Armstrong and Seconded by Dawn Draper following one amendment. Mike Walsh was present at last meeting.

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **Guests**

David Hull of Leigh Residents Forum together with his wife attended the meeting to see how we conduct our meeting and hopefully to share experiences and knowledge. David left us copies of their newsletter "The Leyther – A Leigh Residents' Forum Newsletter"

Councillor Jim Ellis failed to attend after requesting an invite to discuss the future of the Borsdane Avenue shopping precinct.

ii. **Police Issues**

Crime in Hindley Green is low the biggest problem being anti-social behaviour although this has quietened down somewhat over the past few weeks. Leyland Park at Hindley appears to be the new hotspot. The Police have found the best way to deal with this is to leave them alone to prevent amalgamation elsewhere in the area but to monitor and keep a watchful eye on them. Friday evenings are when the main problems arise and the Police are stopping outside off licences to prevent the sale of alcohol to the underaged. A recent PACT (Police Against Crime Together) survey was carried out in Lulworth, Skipton, Harlea, Pendennis Avenue and Long Lane when 90 questionnaires were sent out, responses still being collated. Unofficial reports of door knocking and hiding in privets have been received from residents in Hawthorn Avenue. The Fire Brigade notifies the Police when malicious fires are caused – all fields off Leigh Road have recently been burned. The Police unfortunately are unable to issue tickets for parking problems in Thomas Street and near the two hairdressers on Atherton Road although they are making a presence. PC's to look in to parking issues in this area. There are PCSO Traffic Officers who are able to issue fixed penalties, although these are thinly spread. PC Rowson has requested the Training Officer to look into the possibility of PCSO's issuing tickets. The licensee of the The Swan has agreed to open the car park in the afternoons only, the gates are locked for security reasons although this restricts access to the recycle bins situated on the car park. Parents when attending Sacred Heart School should give consideration to other traffic and pedestrians particularly when parking on the pavement as pedestrians are having to walk in the road, PC's are to approach schools. Reminder: The Police Surgery is held on the last Wednesday of each month at the Bethel.

iii. **Annual General Meeting**

Nominations have been issued to all members for the 2009/10 elections. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May commencing 7.00pm when a free buffet will be provided and a raffle held. We hope to see as many members as are able to attend.

iv. **Bethel Lease**

Letter to be issued to the Church Elders outlining HGRA's requirements following a brief discussion.

v. **Boundary Signs**

The new Hindley Green boundary signs are currently with the Borough Engineer. Once the order is received from Cllrs. Fagan and funding has been approved the manufacture can commence.

vi. **Engineer's Fund**

Malcolm Coe has advised that the £1,400 from the Engineer's Fund combined with the £3,500 allocated to the development of the land adjacent to the Bethel can be combined as one project, Malcolm will then deal with the financial side of things. However, we must produce a detailed plan of exactly what we want together with contractor details and costs identifying the exact area. It was agreed to keep as much green space as possible. No planning costs will be incurred.

**vii. Highways Capital Project**

How do Highways Dept consult with residents regarding proposed projects/works? Liaise with Councillors.  
**ACTION 121 - DB**

**viii. Sponsorship**

The Government is promoting an initiative to get local shop keepers more involved. If you or anyone you know would be interested in helping the Association with sponsorship and fundraising please contact a Committee member for details.

**ix. Carnival 2010**

It was agreed to go ahead with a full carnival in 2010, it being too late for this year, to take place over a period of time i.e. a week, a month, and this would encourage great community spirit to get the involvement of local schools. We have received an offer of a fun fair. An event organizer is to attend the next Committee meeting to advise of funding, etc.. Volunteers will be needed so anyone interested in offering their help and assistance or who would like to join the Committee please contact a Committee member. Where would it be held? Give this some thought and bring your suggestions and ideas to one of our meetings or contact a Committee member.

**x. Planning Matters**

There have been three new planning applications this month, copy of report issued.

**3. FINANCE**

Total income to 4<sup>th</sup> March £1,571.29. Income from sale of refreshment from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2008 to 4<sup>th</sup> February 2009 £19.10. Income from Raffle held on 4<sup>th</sup> March £13.00 produces a total income to date of £1,603.39. Total outgoings £733.36 giving a total (bank) balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 of £869.83. HGRA account books are available for inspection should anyone wish to view.

**4. COUNCILLOR ITEMS**

No Hindley Green Councillors have attended the last two Township Forum meetings. What can we do to encourage our local Councillors to support us the residents and voting constituents of Hindley Green? **ACTION 122 – JV** The overall census of opinion at the meeting is that we are unhappy with our Councillors.

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

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

**iii. Cllr. Bob Brierley**

- Cllr. Brierley advised that Wigan MBC clean the roads every 6 weeks and the footpaths every 12 weeks. Thomas Street is looking much cleaner after Cllr. Brierley requested a clean up. He has now put in hand clean ups comprising 5 block areas within Hindley Green and hopefully all should be looking much cleaner in the very near future.
- New lamp posts to be installed in Lincroft Road and Edgeworth Road.
- Work commences early April to the Atherton Road row of shops which are to have a facelift to the front of the properties with new flags, flower boxes, gutters and road safety poles on pavements.
- The walkway along the old railway station has been extended another 30 metres and will be maintained right into Westleigh giving residents a nice country walk.
- Plans are in hand for a new footpath around Westlake.
- Coupland Road play area still ongoing.
- The owner of the Cottage Bakery has requested help in supplying hanging baskets along the terrace properties on Atherton Road – update to follow at next meeting. **ACTION 123 – CBB**
- 4 litter bins have been ordered for Coupland Road and 3 for Alder Lane.
- As from 1<sup>st</sup> April all three Councillors received £6,034 to spend in Hindley Green.
- National Cycle Network Route 55 Section 10 is currently being developed linking Leigh Road to Howe Bridge Crematorium.

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i. **Leigh Road** – Who owns the land on Leigh Road the old railway gap. **ACTION 124 - DB**

**ii. Planters outside Bethel**

The planters outside the Bethel have become an eyesore with green mould around and one being full of water. There are under contract to be maintained. **ACTION 125 - JV**

**iii. Waste Removal**

Poor waste removal collections were encountered week ending 13 February with numerous calls made prior to collection. Recycling bins not emptied last week and green bins emptied once per month from Christmas to March. Should your bin not be emptied then contact Environmental Services on 01942 404364. Brown bins are emptied every two weeks. If you have been given a large bin and wish to exchange for a smaller bin please ring the above number. Details to be added to the website **ACTION 126 - JU**

**iv. Income from Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009**

The sum of £12.00 has been raised from tonight's raffle together with £2.50 from refreshments.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 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 - Further info to be sought by MA
29	06/08/08	Investigate how standards of play areas were achieved in Bolton	JV	Ongoing – Bolton not funding play areas, difficulty obtaining info
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
<b>2009 ACTIONS</b>				
104	07/01/09	Contact Wigan MBC regarding inadequate lighting on Ludlow Avenue	DB	Ongoing - E-mail sent 21/01
108	04/02/09	Investigate Highways Capital Programme works outside shops at the bottom of Long Lane/Richmond Road	CBB	How do Highways consult residents - Refer to Action 121
109	04/02/09	Write to Swan Hotel requesting access for parking	DB	COMPLETE
111	04/02/09	Investigate additional street light Carr Common Road	JV	Unknown
113	04/02/09	Apply for B&Q 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary application form	JV	CANCELLED – No feedback
114	04/02/09	Investigate proposals for bale hostels	JV	Ongoing - No further information available at present
115	04/02/09	Submit proposals for one way system on Thomas Street to TE&E Sub Group	DB	Proposal submitted - Awaiting Response from Township Forum
116	04/03/09	Liaise with Church Elders regarding HGRA's requirements of the Bethel	DB/MA	Ongoing - An informal discussion was held following this meeting with Pastor Rob Channings
118	04/03/09	Investigate Richmond Road/Long Lane pedestrian island	CBB	Ongoing
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?	DB	
122	01/04/09	What can we do to encourage our local Councillors to support us?	JV	Currently in hand
123	01/04/09	Update on hanging baskets on terraced properties along Atherton Road	CBB	
124	01/04/09	Who owns the land on Leigh Road, the old railway gap	DB	
125	01/04/09	Planters outside the Bethel have become an eyesore	JV	COMPLETE
126	01/04/09	Add waste collection details to website	JU	