

**HINDLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Held at Hindley Green Family Church at Bethel on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**PRESENT:** Debbie Birchall - DB, Jim Burtonwood, Eric Dickens, Mike Lynch, Ken Ellison, Julie Bradshaw, Mike Walsh, John Vickers - JV, Jeff Unsworth, Barbara Unsworth, D Pye, P Hilton, Maxine Armstrong - MA, Ivy Dickens, Alan Wright, Margaret Wright, Barbara Lane, Edwy Lane, Dawn Draper, Ken Smith, A Dermott, Tracey Williams – Wigan & Leigh Housing

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Lynn Collier, Phil Cooksey, Cllr. Bob Brierley - CBB, Malcolm Coe - MC, Cllr. Barry Fagan, Cllr. Louise Fagan, Sheila Woodward, David Dodsworth

1. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February were circulated and Proposed by Eric Dickens and Seconded by Maxine Armstrong

2. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i. **Guest Speaker**

Tracey Williams of Wigan & Leigh Housing (WALH) attended advising of funds available from April. The Better Estates Fund for initiatives/environmental works for estates is to be increased (£500 or more) and the Community Involvement Fund to a max of £300 for such as fun day/summer fayre/pensioner's trip, Christmas party, etc. Funding is generally quick with a 12 week lead time, quotations must be provided in advance. WALH hold Training Sessions certificates being given at the end of the course. If you are interested in attending any of the courses available please let Debbie Birchall, Secretary, know and she will keep you informed.

ii. **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, this will not be the normal residents meeting, a free buffet will be provided. Nomination forms will be issued to all members to be returned prior to the meeting. Reports and minutes will also be issued prior to the meeting.

iii. **Leigh Road**

Works are now complete with the exception of the road markings, the area was left in a good condition. We are a step nearer to safety although speeding is still an issue (however this is on most roads today). WMBC having done what has been asked of them, thanks were given to the Committee, local Councillors and to Ken Ellison who has campaigned for many years. The request for a speed camera in this area has been requested at the Township Forum

iv. **Bethel Lease**

It is up to HGRA to advise the Bethel exactly what we want as it seems others are acting on behalf of HGRA without authorization to do so. The Church Elders feel HGRA are trying to take over the building completely which is not what we want to do. Therefore, it is in our interest to speak directly to the Elders to discuss our requirements. **ACTION 116 DB/MA**

v. **Boundary Signs**

As previously advised 4 signs will be placed back to back with existing signs at the boundaries of Bickershaw Lane, Leigh Road (Tamar), Atherton Road (Laurel Nurseries) and Corner Lane (Garage). The 5<sup>th</sup> sign will be placed just beyond the Alder Lane/Swan Lane boundary.

vi. **Engineer's Fund**

Confirmation is required of the exact size of the land adjacent to the Bethel which is to be landscaped. The owners of the neighbouring property do not want benches placed on the land as this will attract the amalgamation of youths. HGRA propose to place a noticeboard on this land. JV to confirm if the money must be spent in this area. **ACTION 117 JV**

vii. **Highways Capital Project**

Currently the proposed pedestrian island at Richmond Road/Long Lane have been suspended by Councillor Bob Brierley. Discussions are continuing between CBB and Wigan MBC. **ACTION 118 CBB**

viii. **Sponsorship**

We are still appealing for Volunteers to help obtaining sponsors and donations which we appreciate is a very difficult task. Some businesses would prefer to provide a gift rather than cash. We do have a sponsor page on our newsletter and website advertising sponsors. Obtaining grants is dependent on having premises. Any suggestions will be most welcome!

**ix. Edinburgh Drive/Buchanan Drive**

An e-mail received from Cllr. Barry Fagan was read out. Closure of the footpath between Edinburgh and Buchanan Drive must follow the alley gating process, which has been explained to the residents. All incidents must be reported to the Police. A PACT Consultation is to be carried out with all residents (PACT Consultation is in the very early stages where WMBC want to process issues, Forums will be given a budget in future). JV to obtain more information regarding the PACT Consultation process from the Township Forum. **ACTION 119 JV.** Problems experienced in this area may be linked to the problems on the Clayhole. PCSO's are to be requested to make contact with the young people and other intervention groups may also be invited (Youth Mediation, CYPS and Sports Development).

**3. FINANCE**

Total income to date is £1,571.29 with total outgoings of £703.57, leaving a balance in the bank of £867.72.

The sum of £17.30 has been raised from the sale of refreshments since November's meeting.

£14.80 was raised at the meeting from drinks and the raffle. Thank you for your support.

**4. COUNCILLOR ITEMS**

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

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

iii. **Cllr. Bob Brierley**

- Harlea Avenue – WMBC Engineer's Department are investigating problems with drainage, paving and road surfaces and will report findings and possible costs of project
- Street Cleaning – Roads should be cleaned every 6 weeks with footpaths every 12. If complaints are received WMBC will go out and clean up as necessary. A meeting has been arranged in an attempt to get unemployed cleaning our streets
- Westlake – Meeting held with WLCT over issues with footpath surface, additional benches - 8, play equipment painting and the possibility of another fishing club taking over the lease with option for children's fishing matches
- Lincroft Road/Edgeworth Road – On 19<sup>th</sup> March the Cabinet will give the decision on the footpaths and roads which require resurfacing and replacement of some lampposts
- Shops near Richmond Avenue – Clean up of this area is being carried out, before and after shots to be shown in HGRA newsletter
- Dog Fouling – The dog unit are looking into this issue and carrying out random checks

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i. **Atherton Road/Leigh Road Junction** – Residents unable to cross at this junction. This problem is already in hand refer to Action 47.

ii. **Blair Avenue**

Parking continues to be a problem with vehicles parking on the grass verges and churning it up. **ACTION 120 JV** to raise at Township Forum.

iii. **Alley Gating**

Parking near the two Hairdressers on Atherton Road (near Swan Lane) continues to be a problem. All incidents must be reported to the Police and a log number received. Unless incidents are reported to the Police there is no evidence that a problem exists.

iv. **Thomas Street Incident / Police**

An incident in Thomas Street was reported to the Police, the resident received a log number and within 3 days received a visit from the Police. If, at any time, you feel threatened ring 999 or 112 even if the crime/incident has been reported previously. Police Surgeries are held on the last Wednesday of each month at the Bethel. Go along with any issues you may have. Details are also on our website and regularly in our newsletter.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 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	MA/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
34	03/09/08	Report to be submitted regarding Coupland Road	CBF	CANCELLED
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
54	03/12/08	Challenge Planning at Township Forum regarding proposed barriers on Lancaster Road	JV	CANCELLED
55	03/12/08	Discuss future requirements of Bethel	Committee	Refer to Action 116
59	03/12/08	Print poster regarding alley gating	JV	COMPLETE
<b>2009 ACTIONS</b>				
101	07/01/09	Investigate current position of Bethel lease and advise Chair at next Township Forum meeting	MC/JV	COMPLETE
104	07/01/09	Contact Wigan MBC regarding inadequate lighting on Ludlow Avenue	DB	Ongoing - E-mail sent 21/01
106	04/02/09	Identify exact location of possible 5 <sup>th</sup> boundary sign	DB	COMPLETE
107	04/02/09	Identify addresses Coupland Road play area consultation letters were sent to	JV	Leaflets distributed to 100 homes
108	04/02/09	Investigate Highways Capital Programme works outside shops at the bottom of Long Lane/Richmond Road	CBB	Ongoing - 12/02 CBB has temporarily stopped all works
109	04/02/09	Write to Swan Hotel requesting access for parking	DB	Ongoing
110	09/04/09	Write to St. John's Church re stall at Spring Fayre	DB	COMPLETE
111	04/02/09	Investigate additional street light Carr Common Road	JV	Awaiting Response
112	04/02/09	Write to local Councillors requesting action for Edinburgh Drive/Buchanan Drive	DB	COMPLETE
113	04/02/09	Apply for B&Q 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary application form	JV	Awaiting application form
114	04/02/09	Investigate proposals for bale hostels	JV	Ongoing
115	04/02/09	Submit proposals for one way system on Thomas Street to TE&E Sub Group	DB	Ongoing
116	04/03/09	Liaise with Church Elders regarding HGRA's requirements of the Bethel	DB/MA	Ongoing
117	04/03/09	Confirm if the £3.5K must be spent in the vicinity of the Bethel	JV	COMPLETE – Monies must be spent in this area
118	04/03/09	Investigate Richmond Road/Long Lane pedestrian island	CBB	
119	04/03/09	Obtain information regarding the PACT Process from Township Forum	JV	
120	04/03/09	Raise at Township Forum problems with vehicles parking on grass verge Blair Avenue	JV	