

## **HOCKLEY HEATH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2010**

**AT**

### **THE PAVILION, HOCKLEY HEATH**

Those present:                      Stu Barbour (Chairman)                      Janice Adams  
   Annie Rayson (Treasurer)                      Sue Byrne  
   Joyce Duffield (Secretary)                      Maria Vernon

#### **1            PUBLIC FORUM**

- 1.1            Two members of the public present – Mr Len Eacock and Mr John Nock. They came to object to the proposed 89% increase in the Parish Council rates, as reported in the local press. Stu and Maria declared an interest in the subject as they are Parish Councillors. However, it was explained to the visitors that the Parish Council is new and that the Councillors are all volunteers. It is the first precept that has been prepared and was put forward to Solihull Council to be allocated to the households within the Hockley Heath boundary. The precept list showing the detailed breakdown of costs is available from the Clerk to the PC, and Stu gave a broad outline of its contents. During the discussion it was apparent that a further number of villagers were unhappy about the proposal and had passed their comments verbally to members of the Committee. It was agreed that the HHRA should post notices in the village noticeboards inviting people to attend the next Parish Council meeting on 18 March at 8pm if they wish to learn the reasons behind the increase in the rate.  
VOTE in favour of placing notices – FOR 4, ABSTENSIONS 2.  
ACTION: Secretary

#### **2            APOLOGIES**

David Cox, Bert Robinson.

#### **3            MINUTES**

The Minutes of 11 February 2010 meeting were agreed and signed.

#### **4            MATTERS ARISING**

None.

#### **5            PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

- 5.1            Chairman reported on a number of matters:-
- 5.1.1            The PC agreed that the developer of the Jaguar site be approached regarding payment for the use of the car park.
- 5.1.2            A new ground maintenance contract is being considered with Community Garden Services Family Care Trust.
- 5.1.3            The War Memorial is to be cleaned.
- 5.1.4            The PC has agreed to giving the Church funds to help with roof repairs. The Church has raised £1,500 towards the cost.
- 5.1.5            The advertisement is out for the position of Clerk to the PC.
- 5.1.6            A new sign is being made for the entrance to the Park.

## **6 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

6.1 An MC meeting was held on 8 March but there are no major issues to report.

## **7 FINANCE**

7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 11/03/10  
Residents Association Bank balance remains the same at £1747.50

## **8 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT**

### **8.1 Conservation**

8.1.1 Nothing to report.

### **8.2 Planning Matters**

8.2.1 Jaguar Garage proposals – An email from David advises that discussions are continuing with between Solihull Planners and the developers. The treatment of the elevation abutting the war memorial remains an issue. Solihull would like to remove the existing fir trees and replace with high quality landscaping. Planners to speak to the Parish Council.

### **8.3 Highways**

8.3.1 David has emailed Matt Gardener with regard to the following:-

- 1) Potholes in School Road.
- 2) Hanging water along the Stratford Road southbound in the layby opposite 'The Big Fish', and northbound along the section adjacent to the service road just north of Orchard Road.
- 3) Sadlers Well – the state of the road surface following drainage work.
- 4) Pedestrian refuge at the Nags Head and near the canal bridge on the Stratford Road.
- 5) A further request for a flashing speed monitor sign northbound just south of Spring Lane.

### **8.4 Transport**

8.4.1 Sue has received a letter from Centro regarding the proposed new bus shelter just off to the side of the bus stop opposite 'The Big Fish'. A new timetable is due out 6 April. There will be more evening buses on the X20 route.

### **8.5 Policing Issues**

8.5.1 Nothing to report.

## **9 SOCIAL & FUND RAISING EVENTS**

9.1 The Village Fete will go ahead on 11 July and be organized by Tracie Powell and Russ Wootton again.

## **10 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

10.1 Annie has received a letter from The Solihull Partnership headed 'Consultation on Draft Community Involvement Standards'. This was to be discussed at this meeting but time did not allow. To be discussed at the additional meeting arranged for 1 April (see below).

## **11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 Annie and Joyce met to prepare a draft Constitution. This was emailed to

members and a discussion on the wording commenced. However, more time is needed to discuss the implications in full, so an additional meeting is scheduled for Thursday 1 April (see below).

**13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Additional meeting – Thursday 1 April at 8pm at Annie's house (10 Lindhurst Drive) – to discuss the Constitution and the Draft Community Involvement Standards.

Next formal meeting - Thursday 8 April 2010 at 8pm in the Pavilion.