

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the **Committee Meeting** at 27 Roman Way
Wednesday 31st January 2018 – 7.30pm

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)	Ric Mears
Peter Griggs (Secretary)	Dorothy Sparks
Sally Major (Treasurer),	Jerry Miller
Julia Brown	

1. Apologies

Jane Shepherd, Belinda Da Silva, Andy Clews

2. Minutes of the last meeting on 4th October 2017 and matters arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the last meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report

Sally circulated her report and advised that the Association has a current bank balance of £1,410 of which £378 is earmarked for the Walk and Talk campaign and £350 for next year's Big Lunch (a grant from Awards for All). One payment for advertising in the newsletter remains outstanding

The Surgery Car Service is £53 in surplus.

4. Secretary's Report

Peter reported as follows:

- Membership – number of members cannot be determined at this time as we are waiting for standing order payments to appear on bank statement and cash/cheque renewals still being received.
- Social media activity – now 481 following our Facebook page (an increase of 27 since the last meeting) and 274 following our Twitter feed (+6).
- Correspondence - the Uckfield Volunteer Centre have written to confirm our membership renewal (Bronze level) and to remind us that we may use their window for a display without charge for up to two weeks.

ACTION Peter to books slots to promote AGM and Big Lunch

5. Anti-social behaviour meetings (with Sussex Police and ESCC Councillors)

Paul feedback on the discussions at this meeting which focussed primarily on anti-social parking. The Police advised that they will only respond to incidents of obstruction to the highway i.e. parking that necessitated a vehicle be towed away.

Ric reported that because of school parking around the youth club entrance coaches are having difficulty leaving the car park and consequently are damaging the roadside verge when manoeuvring.

With regard to vandalism etc the Police encouraged that all incidents be reported to assist Operation Blitz to prioritise their presence.

6. Browns Lane handrail

Peter advised that a member had offered to fit a handrail to the sloping footpath. Concerns were expressed about the liability the Association may face if a private individual undertook this work who would probably not have the necessary public liability insurance.

ACTION Peter to contact the member and make further enquiries.

7. Surgery Car Service

Sally reported that 173 journeys had been undertaken during 2017, which makes it the busiest year since the service was introduced in 2014.

Dorothy said that Church Coombe Community Association are still looking at our offer to accept them into the MPHf Surgery Car Service.

8. Surgery Car Service (SCS)

Paul suggested that we organise a simple social event for the SCS volunteers by way of a thank you for the valuable work they do.

ACTION Peter to look at options and agree a venue etc. with Paul

9. Christmas Lights competition

Peter confirmed the winners and the charities they had nominated – Uckfield Food bank (£50) and the Salvation Army (£20). Peter Oliver Homes were thanked for their support - providing £35 towards the prize fund.

10. Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS)

Paul provided feedback from an AiRS meeting he had attended and the meeting that he and Peter had with Suzi Lock, Uckfield's 'Village Agent'.

It was agreed that a survey to gauge interest be included in the Spring Newsletter. Some amendments to the survey template provided by AiRS were also agreed.

Julia expressed interest in acting as coordinator for the scheme

11. Spring Newsletter

Ideas aired include:

- GNS survey form
- Article on TN22 group (submitted by Bill Hadgkiss)
- Contribution from Peter Oliver Homes
- The usual 'news in brief' items on the Association's work – e.g. Walk and Talk, footpath clearance, Big Lunch preparations, the community awards

12. Events and Activities

- **Weed clearing in Downsview Crescent** - confirmed dates are 18th and 25th March – 9am start at UCTC entrance.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – decided not to organise one this year
- **Demfest** in May (?)

ACTION: Paul to determine date, committee to then organise a presence.

- **Big Lunch 2018** – June 10th. Various activities and events were agreed including:
 - Dog Show – **Dorothy** agreed to organise, **Jerry** to liaise with Dorothy re sourcing rosettes
 - Punch and Judy – **Dorothy** to check P and J is booked
 - Fire appliance – **Ric** to contact ES Fire Brigade to request attendance
 - Jimmy the Juggling Jester (!) – **Julia** to contact and arrange attendance
 - **Peter** to book the field, the Bouncy Castle, Face Painter (Gloria Rudd), Ice Cream van, SHRT etc.
 - Other ideas – cookery demonstration, can anyone suggest someone?
- **AGM** – agreed this will be held at UCTC on 19th July at 7.30. **Peter** to find a speaker, probably on suffragettes in Sussex.
- **Remembrance Sunday** – in due course contact Norman Mayers who is a senior member of the British Legion

13. Any Other Business

Julia asked for clarification on twittens that are in poor repair. Peter referred to the Association's Twitten Toolkit.

Paul mentioned the hardship being caused by the recent rise in taxi fares.

14. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11th April, 7.00pm at 27 Roman Way

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 18 th and 25 th March	Footpath clearing Downsview Crescent
Wednesday 11 th April (7.00pm)	Next Committee Meeting
May 2018 (date tbc)	Demfest
Sunday 10 th June	Big Lunch
19 th July	AGM