

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the **Committee Meeting** at 27 Roman Way
Friday 28th October 2016 – 7.30pm

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)
Peter Griggs (Secretary)
Jerry Miller
Belinda Da Silva

Sally Major (Treasurer)
Ric Mears
Jane Shepherd

1. Apologies

Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Dorothy Sparks and Tom Crellin.

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

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

Matters arising: all included on the agenda

3. Treasurer's Report

Sally reported that the Association has a bank balance of £2,441, which includes the grant of £1,192.80 awarded by the Joint Action Group for the Park and Stride project.

No more new membership subscriptions received since last report.

The Association received £150 from Lloyds Bank following the Treasurer's complaint about accessing account information; and £22.28 from the Easy Fund Raising company.

The current position re the Car Service is as follows:

Income for financial year to date	£ 81
Expenditure for same period	- £112

However it is estimated that there is approximately £40 due in from drivers (possibly only £20 if drivers took up the offer of an extra 50p per trip to account for extra distances travelled during High Street closure)

Invoices totalling £197 have been issued for the advertising taken in the Autumn newsletter - £55 already received with a further £20 expected to be deducted from the Quarry Printers charges in respect of their advert.

4. Secretary's Report

Peter reported that membership currently stands at 147 paid up members, with one member having moved off of the estate sadly two others having passed away.

5. Surgery Car Service (SCS)

Sally reported that January to October had seen the service undertake 86 journeys compared to 115 for the same period last year.

6. Vacancy

Peter reminded the meeting that we still have one vacancy on the committee.

7. Park and Stride Scheme – update

Peter said that he had attended the Safer Wealden Partnerships Joint Action Group to speak in support of the grant bid and that he was pleased to report that the full amount had been awarded - £1192.80. Peter added that recently he had a very useful meeting with Dr Jeremy Leach, who is an expert on behavioural insight, and that he would be building his suggestions into the promotional activity that is being planned ready for the launch next Easter (radio ads, posters, flyers etc.)

8. Twittens working group

Work on this project as been put on hold temporarily due to other commitments.

9. No Cold Calling Zones

Peter reported that he had taken advice from Trading Standards who advised that a simpler and more effective route would be to encourage residents to use the 'no cold callers' front door stickers that TS supply free of charge. A supply of the stickers has since been obtained and is referred to in the latest newsletter.

10. Defibrillator

Paul was pleased to inform the Committee that Tesco has agreed that the AED can be sited on the external wall of their shop in Brown's Lane but before going ahead it will be necessary for Tesco's maintenance to determine exactly where it will be mounted and identify where the electrical supply can be drawn from. Paul reminded the meeting that the cost was going to be shared with Uckfield Lions and the Town Council (approximately £400 per organisation).

11. Hand Rail and Park Bench at Browns Lane Shops

More good news from Paul when he reported that the land owner had given permission for a park bench to be installed on the green in front of the shops – exact location to be determined in due course. Cost will be a very competitive £400 (approx.). A plaque will be fitted to the bench – the wording to be agreed.

In view of the demands on the Association's budget and the uncertainty over the ownership of the sloping footpath the installation of a handrail will be held in abeyance for the time being.

12. Winter Newsletter

Paul advised that a number of residents had agreed to help with the distribution and handed out allocations to those present. It is hoped that the vast majority will be delivered in the next week or two.

13. Social media update

Peter said that we had broken through the 400 Likes on our Facebook page with the figure now standing at 404 (16 more since the August committee meeting). The Twitter account had 3 more followers, a total of 236 followers.

14. Events and Activities

Ric reminded the meeting that this coming Sunday (30th October) volunteers from the Association would be working with Brighter Uckfield to clear footpaths around Manor Park.

15. Any Other Business

- **Grit bins at Manor Primary** – Peter has written to the Head Teacher offering funding towards a push grit spreader if the school will agree to provide the grit and the manpower.

- **TC policy re the provision of litter bins** – Paul investigating
- **Hedgehog Watch** – the Association to use its social media to promote the campaign being run by the Mammal Society (<http://www.mammal.org.uk/2016/10/hedgehog-watch/>)
- **Walk Netball** – an Uckfield resident is in the early stages of organising walking netball for people with mobility problems and another is looking at organising activities at the Day Centre
- **Dementia Friendly High Street** – many of our High Street shops and banks are supporting this initiative in Uckfield, which will be launched soon.

16. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Wednesday 14th December 2016, 7.30pm at 27 Roman Way

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wednesday 14th December 2016

Next Committee Meeting