

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the **Committee Meeting** at 27 Roman Way

Wednesday 14 December 2016 – 7.30pm

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)

Sally Major (Treasurer)

Dorothy Sparks

Tom Crellin

Belinda Da Silva

Alan Baisden (Volunteer Driver)

1. Apologies

Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Peter Griggs and Jane Shepherd.

2. Surgery Car Service – Special Item

Alan Baisden had been invited to the meeting to congratulate him on his 100th trip as a volunteer driver for the Doctors Car Service. Paul presented him with a gift voucher as a thank you for his contribution to this service.

3. 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

4. Treasurer's Report

Sally reported that the Association has a bank balance of £2,251, 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 current position re the Car Service is as follows:

Income for financial year to date	£ 81
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Expenditure for same period	- £126
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However it is estimated that there is between £50-£70 due in from drivers

We have received all of the money for advertising taken in the Autumn newsletter

5. Secretary's Report

Due to Peter's absence, there was no Secretary's Report on this occasion.

6. Surgery Car Service – Update

Sally reported that November had been a bumper month for demand for the service with 22 trips made. This plus 13 trips for October brings the total for 2016 to date to 108.

Sally also suggested that, with drivers' permission, we should give the passengers the drivers phone number to enable customers to cancel direct with the driver where notice is short and the answer phone may not be manned.

We considered whether the cost at £3.50 was still appropriate, general view was that this is still adequate.

7. Walk and Talk (formerly Park and Stride)

Paul explained the purpose of this initiative, which is to reduce congestion around the schools, improve road safety and to encourage healthy walking.

Peter is to arrange meetings with the schools.

To be launched at Easter with publicity being given via, letters to parents, Uckfield FM and posters.

8. Twittens Working Group

Paul told us that the Town Council is to put this project into the Strategic Plan and whilst this is no guarantee of help with funding we may get other help and support.

9. Defibrillator at Tesco

This joint venture between Tescos, The Lions and The residents Association will be installed soon. We will arrange a photo shoot once in situ.

10. Park Bench – Update

We expect this to be installed opposite the shops on Browns Lane before the end of the year with a plaque to be added in due course.

11. Footpath Gritting around Manor Primary

Peter is getting a price for a grit Bin – we will ask the school to help with grit spreading on icy days.

12. Events and Activities

Footpath clearing with Brighter Uckfield

Some of our members came along on two Sunday mornings and a great deal was achieved especially along the school boundaries. Praise was expressed for Brighter Uckfield who would be happy to work with us again.

Christmas Lights Competition

A competition was suggested for next year. We will seek a sponsor for this.

Big Lunch 2017 – early thoughts

The 11th June was earmarked for this event with our usual attractions of Punch & Judy, Bouncy Castle and Dog Show. Committee members were asked to ponder on an appropriate theme.

AGM – early thoughts

A date towards the end of July was thought most suitable. UCTC an ideal venue. We need to address the matter of a speaker.

13. Litter Initiative Idea – postpone until next meeting

14. Any Other Business

Tom raised concerns about the possible removal of the phone box outside the shops on Brown Lane and suggested that we should respond to the consultation. He felt it should be retained for safety reasons even though it is little used. Should we consider 'adopting' it? Dorothy felt it is a lifeline.

If anyone has any ideas please let Peter know so he can forward suggestions to the Town Council

15. Date, time and venue of next meeting – 7.30pm on 18 January at 27 Roman Way

Paul closed the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.