

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the Committee Meeting at 27 Roman Way

Wednesday 24th October 2018 – 7.00pm

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)	Julia Brown
Peter Griggs (Secretary)	Andy Clews
Sally Major (Treasurer)	Belinda Da Silva
Ric Mears	Dorothy Sparks

1. Apologies

Jane Shepherd, Jerry Miller, Cllr Daniel Manvell

2. Minutes of the last meeting on 1st August 2018 and matters arising

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

Paul asked for an update regarding the repair of the grass verges in Downsview Crescent and Peter advised that he had recently received a call from Cllr Dowling advising that she was chasing ESCC Highways.

All other matters arising were included on the agenda.

3. Treasurer's Report

Sally circulated her report and advised that the Association has a current bank balance of £1687 of which £378 remains of the Walk and Talk campaign. This includes £300 received from AiRS for the Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS), £250 from CPJ Field towards the cost of the Lest We Forget bench and £43.53 from Easy Fund Raising.

Expenditure includes £196 for our Public Liability Insurance and £25 for UVC membership renewal.

4. Secretary's Report

Peter reported as follows:

- Membership – the Association has approximately 140 members. The committee discussed how we might undertake a membership drive.
- Social media activity remains high, our Facebook page now has 529 'Likes' – numbers increase month on month.
- Correspondence – included in agenda items.

5. Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS)

Peter advised the committee that it is planned to launch the scheme on World Kindness Day – 13th November, with associated publicity. Peter asked Paul to check insurance cover for this initiative and also the Lest We Forget bench.

ACTIONS: Paul and Peter

6. Surgery Car Service (SCS)

Sally advised that bookings have settled down and to date we have made 99 trips so far this calendar year. Since April we have received £57 income with expenditure of £28.80 - two quarters cost of the phone service.

7. Sensory Garden Project

Peter advised that for various reasons it was not going to be possible to pursue this project with the Sussex Horse Rescue Trust but that fortunately another opportunity had presented itself working with Wealden DC at a site in Southview Drive.

8. Lest We Forget Bench

Peter said that donations towards the purchase and installation of the bench had been received via a grant from Uckfield TC and a donation from CPJ Field. It is hoped that the bench will be delivered w/c 5th November and installed on 10th November. Andy said he would help with receiving the bench and Ric with installing it. The Chairman thanked them for their help with this.

A simple ceremony/photo opportunity to be arranged subsequently with the Chairman of WDC and representatives from Uckfield TC and CPJ Field to be invited.

9. Planning consents

Paul updated the committee on the discussions at a recent Town Council meeting regarding the planning application for the redevelopment of the Uckfield College. He also referred to a recent consent for a fence which seemed contrary to the open plan nature of Manor Park. It was decided to request a meeting with WDC planners to discuss the latter.

ACTION: Paul and Ric

10. Browns Lane handrail

Peter advised that the landlord's agent had been in touch and that he had requested a meeting about progressing this project.

ACTION: Peter and Paul

11. New Planter

Dorothy told the committee that it is planned to use the funds donated by the Uckfield RFC towards purchasing and installing a new planter at the junction of Browns Lane and London Road. We are currently waiting for the supplier to obtain unwanted timber which can be repurposed for the planter. Peter is in discussions with a building contractor about this.

Dorothy recently replanted the Tesco planter – thank you Dorothy!

ACTION: Peter and Paul

12. Jeffreys Way signage

Peter said that he has been chasing WDC about this work which was promised to be undertaken in the Autumn.

NOTE: it now appears that the new signs were erected as promised some weeks ago but we were not informed at the time – they have now demystified both ends of Jeffreys Walk and also the green where Tower Ride etc converge. Please advise Peter of any other localities where the road/twitten signage can be improved.

13. Forthcoming Events

- **Question Time** – it was decided to put this on hold
- **Big Lunch** – Peter advised that Red Butler were not available during June and Paul and Dorothy have commitments in June. Peter to explore alternatives.
- **Christmas Dinner** – Paul suggested we invite our volunteers to a joint meal at the Civic Centre in December. Peter to invite SCS and GNS and committee members, Paul to handle the booking.

14. Any Other Business

- Peter said that the Defibrillator has still not been replaced, he will pursue with Lions Club
- Winter newsletter – ideas for content were discussed.

15. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

To be decided (the 9th January was suggested but Peter now finds that he is not available on that date)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Next committee meeting - date to be decided

Christmas Meal – 14th December at the Civic Centre if a sufficient number wish to attend