

# Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association News Release

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents now have their own Residents Association.

Last Thursday at Manor Primary School saw the launch of the Association, County Councillor Paul Sparks, who is a local resident had the idea for the Association, he told the meeting that:

**'...this is a very good place to live and we should celebrate this but acknowledge that nevertheless there are some matters that need to be addressed. It is often difficult to tackle important issues as an individual, but a coherent organisation with a strong clear voice will ensure that people in authority take notice of the views and needs of the residents of the estates'.**

Paul went on to talk about the background to his idea for the Association and said that a sample resident's survey had been undertaken which showed strong support for an Association it had also highlighted a number of issues that people were concerned about.

He pointed out that Manor Park and Hempstead Fields has around 1200 houses – a significant number when considering that the whole of Uckfield Town comprises approximately 5,800 properties.

A committee has been formed to tackle some key issues. These include: trying to find a solution to the problem of the disrepair of the many privately owned footpaths on the estate, planning issues and developing community self- help groups help groups to assist the less able to tackle snow clearing etc. Interestingly wild deer seem to be visiting the estate and concerns were voiced about the road safety implications this brings.

The Association also has its own Facebook page which people are asked to visit if they want to keep update about its work and to join the mailing list.

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Date: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012

