

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the **Committee Meeting** at 27 Roman Way
21st January 2014

1 Introductions and apologies

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)	Emma Luck
Peter Griggs (Secretary)	Ric Mears
Sally Majors (Treasurer)	Wendy Tagg
Dorothy Sparks	

Apologies: Glenda Derby, Jane Shepherd

2 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The notes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the last meeting and there were no matters arising.

3 Treasurers Report

Sally presented her report and a balance sheet which shows a current balance of £276.25.

Around 70 of the 128 members have renewed their membership.

It was agreed that reminders would be sent out at the end of February and that we would now close the Nationwide Building Society account. Reminder letters etc. should highlight the benefits of membership.

ACTION: Sally and Peter

4 Future AGMs

It was agreed that in future the AGM would be held approximately 3 months after the end of the financial year i.e. end of June beginning of July. Provisional date is 3rd July 2014. Need to book school hall.

ACTION: Peter

5 Surgery Car Service Update

In Glenda's absence Peter advised the meeting that we have 6 permanent drivers and three reserve drivers. So far only a handful of bookings have been received. Glenda has suggested that we keep up displaying the posters and leaflets in various locations including the Rugby Club and maybe the shops in Browns Lane. Also need to check that Bird In Eye Surgery is displaying the poster etc.

Peter will send a message to volunteers, thanking them for their patience etc. and advising them of the promotional activity.

It was suggested we approach care organisations such as Bluebirds Care and the Housebound Club to advise them of the scheme.

It was agreed that we should introduce the text relay service recommended by Tom Crellin.

ACTION Glenda, Paul and Peter to liaise and agree who actions what

6 Village Green

Wendy updated the meeting on progress so far. Next steps are to work out boundaries and collect evidence. **ACTION Wendy and Dorothy**

7 Future Role of the Association

Paul said we should review what kind of organisation we want to be – responsive, community events based, or both. He is concerned that we will over stretch ourselves. After some discussion it was agreed that the community/social events were ‘enablers’ and that the friendly face of these events and the social interaction that results will help us to approach the tougher problems such as the footpath repair issue.

It was decided that we will continue to do both but to be realistic.

8 Future Events and Projects

- *Question Time* (23rd January 8pm) –Police, Fire Service, ESCC and Wealden have confirmed attendance.
- *Quiz Night* – Esteban has not come back re availability of the Rugby club in February. It was felt that it was getting rather late to organise this event plus enlist sponsors etc. **ACTION Peter to contact Esteban**
- *St Georges Day* (Weds 23rd April) – Paul proposed we drop this event-agreed. Wendy suggested that instead we promote the day via social media and encourage people to fly flags etc. and promote other associated events in the Town. **ACTION Wendy and Peter**
- *Big Lunch 2014* – to be held on 1st June. Emma agreed to feed back once she has received the information pack – due in February. Nobody felt able to volunteer to lead on this project and it was agree we should approach Richard Eyres who did such a good job last year. Maybe we could work with a partner organisation (Twiglets, Lions etc.) and include a young people element again – band or orchestra and/or a tree painting competition?
ACTION Peter to contact Richard
- *Post-Christmas Committee Meal* – arrangements were agreed, to be on 20th or 27th of February. **ACTION Peter**

9 Spring Newsletter

Peter said now is the time to start preparing this but first should we still aim to deliver to every household. The feeling was that we should but ask members to deliver locally to their street etc.

Suggestions for items to be included were:

- AGM date
- call for volunteers to aid the committee
- publicise the Surgery Car Service
- feedback from Question Time
- Big Lunch
- call for skills e.g. street representatives, organisers, deliveries, plus entertainers etc.

ACTION Peter

10 Social Media

Wendy advised about activity on the Twitter account and submitted a report (copy available) showing that our statistics continue to increase gradually.

Peter advised that we now have 216 ‘likes’ on Facebook page.

11 Any Other Business

- a resident has suggested that we enlist volunteers to repair twittens and footpaths - noted
- a resident has suggested that we investigate collective purchasing of power –

ACTION Sally to look into this

- a resident has suggested that we sell advertising through our email network – agreed not to pursue as may be seen as yet more spam
- PCC awards (£5000) – to consider application for crossing in Browns Lane
- Community Dividend (£1247) – to consider application for crossing in Browns Lane
- Litter – Peter reported that he had no reply to either email he had sent (to local community rep. and to HQ) but he will try again **ACTION Peter**

16 Date and venue of next meeting

Tuesday, 20th or 27th February 2014. 7pm at 27 Roman Way.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 20th or 27th February - next Committee Meeting
- 20th or 27th February Committee Meal