

# Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the **Committee Meeting** at 27 Roman Way  
**Tuesday 31st July 2014 – 7pm**

## 1 Introductions and apologies

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)	Glenda Derby,
Peter Griggs (Secretary)	Wendy Tagg
Sally Major (Treasurer)	Dorothy Sparks
Jane Shepherd	

Apologies: Emma, Esteban, Ric

## 2 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The notes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the last meeting. Any matters arising appeared on the agenda

## 3 Treasurer's Report

Sally presented her report as previously circulated. We have a bank balance of £1009 with an income this year of £853, of this £700 is made up from successful grant applications. Expenditure so far amounts to £430.

## 4 Community Dividend

Councillor Eastwood had kindly allocated £300 from her share of the Community Dividend, for which she has been thanked.

Peter explained that he has asked Councillor Eastwood to clarify that the award can be spent on projects other than those mentioned in her application.

**ACTION: Peter** to enquire re progress.

## 5 Surgery Car Service Update

**Bookings** - Jane advised that there have 3-4 new bookings since the last meeting and 2-3 booked for August.

**Cover**- Glenda recorded her thanks to Tom who had covered for her during her absence. Interest had been shown at both the Big Day and the Open Day.

**Streatfeild House**-Jane and Glenda are arranging to talk to the residents of Streatfeild House about the scheme.

**New Volunteer Driver?**-Sister Sarah at Hooke Hall has expressed an interest in becoming a volunteer driver and Jane and Glenda will be contacting her to pursue this.

**ACTIONS: Jane and Glenda**

**Income**-receipt stubs and payments need to be collected from the drivers

**ACTION: Peter**

**North Ward**-Peter shared some interesting statistics that he had extracted from WDC's Uckfield North Ward Profile. There seems there could be an argument for including Church Coombe into the scheme at some time in the future.

**Bus Alliance**-Peter made reference to the Wealden Bus Alliance, the confusion that may arise with our residents thinking our scheme had stopped and the message he had sent to our media contacts to try and rectify the situation. There was some discussion about how to progress this and it was decided that we should invite Barry Marlow to meet with the committee and the volunteers to explain how he sees his proposal working out in practice.

**ACTION: Peter**

## **6 Village Green Project**

This project is being held in abeyance pending legal advice on recent case law. To ask membership if anyone is, or can suggest, a solicitor that will provide pro bono advice.

**ACTION: Peter**

## **7 ESCC Bus Service Review**

It was agreed that this could be a significant issue for our residents and that if services operate on an irregular basis they will soon be under used which in turn will threaten their future. It was suggested that we encourage members to respond as individuals but to also advise us of their views and concerns for us to feed into our 'organisation' response.

Note (1) deadline is 28<sup>th</sup> September (2) see later agenda item re meeting with other RA's to discuss this issue.

**ACTION: Peter**

It was also agreed that it would be useful to issue a press release re our concerns

**ACTION: Paul**

## **8 ESCC Parking Order**

This has been brought to the attention of residents, decided no further action is required.

## **9 Uckfield Volunteer Centre**

Consideration was given to whether we might join the UVC as there are various advantages. It was agreed that we would join.

**ACTION: Sally**

## **10 Linking to other Residents' Associations**

Wendy shared her thoughts on the merits of linking with other RA's. There followed some discussion on whether we might offer Associate Membership to households outside of our patch but a number of obstacles to this idea were identified. It was agreed that this would be a useful topic for a joint meeting with the other RA's (Fernley Park, New Town Action Group and Church Coombe). Contacts need to be identified for Church Coombe and NTAG.

**ACTIONS: Peter and Dorothy**

## **11 Big Day debrief**

Thought to have been successful and worthwhile, 4 new members resulted.

Manning was a bit thin, maybe next year share with another RA?

Thanks expressed to those that did help man the stand.

## **12 Open Day debrief**

Thought to be 'ok' adversely affected by hot weather, poor promotion and clashes with other events. The proposal to hold it in the autumn, (October) would be supported.

## **13 West View Fire**

Paul reported on his involvement, our financial contribution and the need to continue offering help in the months to come.

**14** Wendy reported there had been a surge in usage since her last report mainly due to interest in the house fire, pilot memorial and the Big Day. The account has 139 followers and numbers are still building.

The Facebook page experienced a similar surge in interest and it now has 247 likes.

## 15 Future events

Open day, Quiz evening and Wine and Food evening are still to be progressed

**ACTION:** Paul, Peter, Glenda and Sally

(Note) The Go Getters Club may leave some Friday evenings free at the Luxford Centre.

## 16 Any Other Business

- correspondence received –nice thank you message from Mr Mitchell
- Local Traders and Members Discount lists now have a disclaimer
- PA system – agreed to purchase (around £180) once grant confirmed
- Promotion and publicity:
  - Peter still looking for a robust all weather pavement sign **ACTION: Peter**
  - Printed Balloons are too expensive
  - Investigate cost of pre-printed pencils, rulers, coasters, pens **ACTION: Peter**
- Police community messages- draw attention to the neighbourhood watch message on Facebook **ACTION: Peter**
- Post box was destroyed by lightning in Nevill Road – ask Royal mail when it is likely to be replaced **ACTION: Peter**

## 17 Date and venue of next meeting

4<sup>th</sup> September - 7pm at 27 Roman Way.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 8<sup>th</sup> August – deadline for Parking Order responses
- 4<sup>th</sup> September, 7pm at 27 Roman Way - Committee Meeting
- 28<sup>th</sup> September – deadline for ESCC Bus Review responses