

L.A.R.A. Committee meeting Minutes

28 January 2008

1. Present

Jeff Fry (Chair)
Graham Edwards
Chris Hamilton (Secretary)
Patrick Martin
John Thompson
Valmai Bowden (Treasurer)
David Sandland

2. Apologies

Mike Wall
Roger Hartley

3. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from (28 November 2007) were reviewed for accuracy, no amendments made, agreed as correct by members.

4. Matters arising/actions.

Jeff and John reported on the recent panning application for the Blaire House site, they raised concern that L.A.R.A.'s concerns and comments were not addressed through John Allison (Planning Officer). Although the initial application was dismissed at this stage, it is more than likely that Delta Bridge would seek an appeal on a number of points.

Jeff confirmed that in light of this potentially happening, every effort would be afforded through L.A.R.A. and local residents to continue to fight this application on a number of grounds. Jeff confirmed he would contact all concerned parties for their input and continue to liaise with L.D.C. for any updates.

5. Play area/amenity areas

Members raised many concerns at the current back-log of outstanding work, the quality of work and those matters still outstanding. Jeff confirmed that he had received several emails in relation to the play area at Blakeman Way, Jeff has raised the issue of the play area previously with LDC planners who have been in turn talking to TW. At the moment it is in the hands of TW according to the LDC.

Valmai made a valid point that most contractors will shortly be off site and subsequently getting them back on site will be difficult; it is therefore imperative that these matters are addressed immediately whilst we still have some personal relationship on site with the developers. John stated that there was an issue over "statuary duty of care" and responsibility. L.A.R.A accepted that they needed to push for answers on all issues outstanding, this may be addressed through the next Implementation meeting.

Chris agreed to email all members requesting they send all queries to him relating to work incomplete, he would compile master list of all issues within Darwin Park, this list would be sent to Jeff for clarity and to taken forward to appropriate personal/contractors and L.D.C.

6. Darwin Hall

Jeff stated that he had recently seen new applications for the proposed development from Delta Bridge, there are still several proposals on the table and L.A.R.A. had previously confirmed that they would support residents, although to a point. The situation still remains:

- Seek an alternative suitable site, further into the WRZ
- Design and implement a smaller community hall within designated zone
- Withdraw planning application completely

Jeff indicated that inevitably further consultation on this matter will follow, by LCC and residents of Darwin Park alike, it is recognised that this matter is a sensitive one and difficult to be subjective on. L.A.R.A. will continue to keep residents up to date by way of regular bulletins/emails.

7. Blaire House

The concern over the future of Blair House continues, recent planning applications suggest this issue will be subject to further appeals and applications for development, Jeff confirmed that L.A.R.A. has voiced its concern and supported residents throughout opposed to any potential "overdevelopment".

8. Date of next meeting 10 March 2008. 8.15pm Waitrose