

Leomansley Area Residents Association (LARA)

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 16 February 2011

Opening:

The regular meeting of the LARA was called to order at 8pm on 16 February 2011 in 4 Caterbanck Way, Lichfield by Rev Jeff Fry.

Present:

Rick Hill (RH), Jeff Fry (JF), John Thompson (JT).
Apologies: Patrick Martin (PM), Mike Wall (MW), Graham Edwards.

A. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

C. Open Issues

1. Financial report – skipped as Mike was not able to attend
 - i. Agreed to pay over £25 to Alliance as long as Mike Wall agrees as Treasurer. This is to help them fund the hire of the hall for their meetings of which we are a part.
 - ii. Agreed to change webhosting to Netweavings in order to save on yearly costs.
2. Action Points from Last Meeting
 - i. LARA's response to Richard King's email of 26 January 2011 regarding footpath 36. Richard's response to our request to get the footpath transferred into LDC ownership for maintenance purposes was met with two questions from him – 1) due to funding cuts we (LDC) can't take on any more liabilities. 2) from whom would the land be transferred? How do we respond to this? JT has been working on our response and we will send the response JT has worked up.
 - ii. JF said that the LDC has agreed to cutback the trees on the Ormond's Close footpath in order that it would be better lit.
3. Election of new secretary – skipped as nobody has come forward yet.

D. New Business

1. Update on the Alliance of Residents Associations – Jeff update us on the current thinking of the Alliance. The Alliance has now changed its mind about putting a housing number forward and will now just say that the number needs to be reduced from the 8000. The Alliance has some well researched arguments regarding the LDF which they are putting forward as comments. JF believes LARA can contribute from its experience with Darwin Park estate and will submit its comments shortly before the deadline of 28th February. Comments will be circulated to Exec and members.
2. The issue of whether the town centre should be built up and developed or whether the development should be on the outskirts of Lichfield was discussed. JF was for moving development out from the centre so as to alleviate congestion esp. of traffic. RH was against this and would like to see the town centre developed with such things as a cinema, etc.. The issue of whether the Friarsgate development was over-development was discussed.

3. It was agreed that membership fees would be recommended, but not required as otherwise it would be necessary to keep track of members via membership fees. So it is necessary to call them "membership donations" now.
4. S106 projects for lighting on Blair House footpath and the second one for an interpretive panel for the trim trail has been applied for and we are awaiting decisions of the LDC.
5. Allotments behind Martin Heath Hall – information has been given by Peter Young in responding to LARA's question about consultation on access. JF said that there is no planned consultation on access by the LCC.
6. Next meetings will be:
 - i. Wednesday, 4th May, 8pm, Jeff's house
 - ii. Wednesday, 14th September, Jeff's house
 - iii. Wednesday, 12th October, Jeff's house
 - iv. Sunday, 19th November, AGM, 10am, location to be announced

E. Agenda for Next Meeting which will be held on 14th September / Action Points

1. Follow-up footpath 36 issue.
2. assess responses from the LDF to see if any trends
3. update on Blair House site
4. report on status of roads / pos – adoption progress?

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm by JF. The next general meeting will be at 8pm on 4th May in Jeff's house.