

L A R A

Leomansley Area Residents' Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 5th February 2014
at Darwin Hall at 20.00hrs.

Present: Geoff Lusher (Chairman), Paul Ledbury (Vice Chairman),
Dawn Hayward (Treasurer), Barbara Lusher (Secretary) Ann Morrison,
Peter King, Gaye King, Jeff Fry.

Apologies: Mike Gallagher, Veronica Birkett and Jay Bryan

- 1) The meeting was opened by the Chairman who introduced Dave Mosson, a new member co-opted onto the Committee and he was warmly received by other members.
- 2) **Minutes of Previous Meetings** - the minutes of meeting held on 8th January, were agreed with one minor amendment, relating to Ann's request to be notified of any lighting issues and the minutes stated that Paul Ledbury gave her this information. This was incorrect and Paul informed Ann of the lights not working at this meeting. They were E4 and E10 in the Sandfield Meadow and Sandfield Close areas respectively.
- 3) **Matters Arising** – None
- 4) **Christchurch Lane Traffic** -
Ann Morrison reported that she had friends in Christchurch Lane and they had now received a letter from the Council in respect to consultation with the residents in relation to a proposed one way traffic system, this was despite Geoff Lusher being notified verbally by Cllr Terry Finn that the proposal had been withdrawn. Geoff then read out a letter which was sent to the Headmistress of Christchurch Lane Primary expressing an interest in reinstating the "Walking Bus", and her response. Barbara then read out the letter sent to the Driving Test Centre re the use of Christchurch Lane as part of the test route, and again their response. Copies of both sets of letters were given to Peter King who was also in connection with Friends of Christchurch Lane.
- 5) **Road Adoption, Darwin Park** – Geoff reported that he had heard nothing from Cllr Finn regarding the highways department and parking restrictions being introduced. He did however confirm he had held a meeting with the highways and Cllr Finn in relation to the siting of Bus Shelters but the parking restrictions were not discussed as this time.
Dave Mosson queried whether Alesmore Meadow was actually adopted as the roads there had recently been resurfaced. Paul Ledbury checked the details from the AGM in November which showed that remedial work was still to be carried out in this part of the estate, this was dated 11th October 2013.
Geoff agreed to contact Sharon Daniels for a comprehensive list of unadopted roads and parking restrictions.

Concern was expressed at the parking of what we think are cars from staff of Waitrose on a Friday and Saturday along Whitehouse Drive and into Walnut Walk. The parking was both sides of the road half on and half off the pavements, restricting the passing of Emergency vehicles and the local Bus service. The Committee asked for a letter to be sent to the local Police along with photographs if possible to show our concerns. It was felt that tickets should be placed onto the vehicles advising that there should be no parking in this part of the estate.

- 6) **Hallam Park Development** – Jeff Fry reported that he had contacted Neil Cox who advised that no planning application had as yet been put forward. Jeff said he would send Neil Cox an email requesting to let us know when any application was applied for.

- 7) **106 Funding** – Jeff Fry reported as he was the one who applied for this funding he would carry it forward. The monies had been received and were sitting in the LARA account. Jeff would now make arrangements for the equipment to be purchased and Dawn would pay any invoices given to her by Jeff in this regard. Discussion followed in relation to the maintenance of this equipment. It was felt that LARA need not have any involvement with the maintenance, hiring or charging of the equipment and Jeff and Ann agreed to bring this up at the next Committee Meeting of Darwin Hall.

- 8) **Siting of Bus Shelters** – As mentioned in (5 above), Geoff had met with Cllr Finn and Bob Wright of County Highways on 22nd January to discuss these. Three stops were agreed as per the proposal reported in the minutes of 28th November.

- 9) **Treasurer's Report** – Dawn reported the balance in the bank was £247.76. Obviously the money from the 106 funding was not included as this was not in fact LARA's money. Dawn suggested that perhaps we could once again write to Waitrose in the hope of being able to secure one of the Community Matters boxes. A letter was apparently sent previously by David Short but the Committee did not have sight of the letter and it may have been misunderstood at Waitrose. Barbara agreed to draft a letter and email the Committee for approval prior to sending this to Waitrose. Dawn then confirmed that the new bank mandate had been lodged with the new signatories of the executive.

- 10) **Subscriptions** – Dawn reported that she had contacted Beacon Street Residents Association and was informed of the following:-
 - Annual charge of £4 per household
 - Two Newsletters sent to all paid up members (money from subscriptions pays for this)
 - They distribute PDF copies of the newsletters for Local Government, Police etc.
 - PDF copies also sent to District and County Councillors.

- Copies also sent to Local Press, Community Organisations, e.g. Beacon Park Friends and the Lichfield Alliance and also notify on Twitter so there is a link so it can be downloaded.

Short discussion followed and it was suggested that we make a charge per person and not per household which would encourage more participation at the AGM as each person would be eligible for a vote. Paul to develop proposal.

- 11) **Fundraising and Social Events** – Sadly Veronica and Jay were not able to attend this evening’s meeting, but an email had been received giving their apologies. Veronica also advised that after further investigation the idea of a ‘film night’ had been dismissed. However she and Jay were now firmly getting their teeth into organising a quiz night for when the weather improves and would report at the next meeting.
Peter King suggested that maybe LARA should hold a half yearly public meeting, perhaps with the local Police who could give a short talk on the crime in the Leamonsley ward which also incorporates Darwin Park.
- 12) **LARA Logo** – Paul gave examples of the proposed new Logo for LARA and asked all members to tick their preferences. There was a majority vote on one which Paul would now put into force.
- 13) **Website** – Paul reported that he hadn’t had time to commit to this at present as he was still working of the addresses of members, etc and apologised.
- 14) **Contacts** – Geoff thanked Jeff Fry for his list of Councillors and useful contacts for the various departments of the County, District and City Councils
Geoff also agreed to send an email to all Councillors inviting them to attend one of our next two Committee Meetings with the view to an understanding between us on the matters that affect our Community.
- 15) **Any Other Business** – Jeff Fry asked if we could ascertain the timescale of when the Bus Shelters would be sited. Geoff would look into this.
There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21.30hrs.
- 16) **Date of next meeting** – The dates of the forthcoming meetings were agreed as:-

Wednesday 19th March and Wednesday 30th April
Both at 20.00hrs at Darwin Hall unless otherwise advised.

Please note that a response is required from all the executive and apologies must be sent if anyone is unable to attend a meeting.

Signed.....

Chairman.