

L A R A

Leomansley Area Residents' Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 7th October 2015
at Darwin Hall at 20.00hrs.

Present: Geoff Lusher (Chairman), Paul Ledbury (Vice Chairman),
Dawn Hayward (Treasurer), Barbara Lusher (Secretary),
Dave Mosson, Veronica Birkett, Sandra Booth, and Jeff Fry,
Cllr Terry Finn, Cllr Iain Eadie

Apologies: Jay Bryan, Ann Morrison, Cllr Andy Smith

- 1) The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 20.00hrs.
- 2) **Minutes** - The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th September were agreed by all present with two amendments. Firstly, the balance of £1157.83 included the LDC Section 106 money. Secondly, as in para 3 below.
- 3) **Matters Arising –**
Noise issue - Under any other business, Paul's complaint re the disco set up in the garden opposite their property. Minutes stated that police were called but could not attend. This was incorrect, it was in fact the environmental health who did not have anyone able to attend. The Police actually did attend but were not able to do much apart from ask them to turn the music down, which they did, for a short period of time.
Since this incident Paul had received a letter saying that an investigation had taken place but no further action could be taken. Paul was not happy with this response so he may take it further.
Cllr Eadie suggested we look at the LDC website and check the policies and procedures for such a complaint, for future reference, which Paul said he would do.

Friarsgate – Cllr Eadie confirmed that the LDC had given the go-ahead for the Friarsgate development, which would include a Cinema, Bars & Restaurants and reported that a number of restaurant chains wanted to obtain a plot within the development.
With regard to the development itself, planning application should be made by the end of October. One of the issues was that a new site needed to be provided for Tempest Ford as their present location would be used to build new homes. Concerns were expressed re the lack of residential parking spaces on the proposed development and the lack of spare capacity for buses, parking for tourist coaches and cover for waiting passengers on the new bus station. Cllr Eadie informed the committee that Richard King at LDC was the man to speak to with these concerns.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report** – Dawn reported a bank balance of £1142.36 with the only planned future expenditure being for the AGM in November.
- 5) **Councillor Items – Parking restrictions**
Cllr Finn reported that the delay in the painting of the yellow lines on the estate was due to the Council being busy doing the 'A Roads' but he was confident that he would receive copies of residents' comments and a date

would be given to him soon informing him of the commencement of these parking restrictions.

Weight Restriction – Walsall Road – This was an ongoing issue and Cllr Finn reported that a survey had been undertaken to see how many HGVs over 7.5tons were travelling along Walsall Road. Over a 3 day period it was reported that 37 travelled along Walsall Road into Lichfield with 25 travelling from Lichfield out along Walsall Road. Due to the cost of the signage needed for this, a pinch point would be put at the base of Pipe Hill by the roundabout which should deter lorries and make them travel along the ring road.

Christchurch Lane – Cllr Finn reported parking signs would be as follows; No waiting between 09.30am – 2.30pm with 2 hr no return either side of these times, and a no stopping outside the school. Hopefully this would stop all day parking in this area.

AGM – This year's AGM would be held at Martin Heath Hall on Saturday 7th November 2015 at 11.30 – 13.30. We asked who the contact would be for the Fire Service and were given the name of Caroline Ward (Lichfield North.) With respect to the Police, Sandra said she would find out and invite them to attend.

Rubbish in Leomansley Wood – Peter King advised that there were rotting trees from Leomansley Wood which were hanging over the gardens of those living on Walsall Road and one had fallen and broken glass in a greenhouse or shed. He had contacted the Crown Estates office in Bristol, who were the land owners, but no action had yet been taken. It was agreed that LARA would send a letter in support to Crown Estates if necessary.

Lichfield Library – Cllr Finn confirmed that the Library is NOT closing and would remain in the City. Only the records office would be moving to Stafford.

Cllrs Finn and Eadie left the meeting at this point.

- 6) **AGM** – As reported earlier, the meeting will be held at Martin Heath Hall, Saturday 7th November 2015, 11.30 – 13.30 with the option of staying until 14.30 to enable any individual questions to be dealt with. The cost for the Hall was £10.50 per hour instead of £15, so a total of £36.75 needs to be paid. Dawn confirmed that Ian Jackson had audited our accounts and thanked him for doing this on our behalf. He had informed her that he was retiring so we would need to appoint another independent auditor at the AGM. It was agreed we would circulate via email and the website for a volunteer to take over from Ian Jackson and see what response we get. Veronica would speak at the AGM on the Lagoon Project for about 5-10 mins with the aid of photographs and bullet points.

Discussion then took place on the issue of leaflet drop for the AGM and if the cost was viable to the response we get. A vote was taken and 5 members voted not to deliver 2500 to every house in the area and 2 voted for delivery of these. Accordingly Paul would do a poster which could be displayed in local areas, Darwin Hall, Library, Martin Heath Hall etc, etc, and 500 A5 leaflets (at a cost of £30) would be provided to those committee members who knew residents that were likely to attend for them to deliver. Notification would be put via email to all subscribing members of LARA and would be put on the Website and advertised in the Darwin Advertiser and Lichfield Gazette.

Dawn reminded the Committee that the Public Liability Insurance was due to expire on 16th November and it was unanimously agreed that this be renewed with the current supplier.

7) **Skittles Night –**

A skittles night was unanimously agreed and a date was set for Saturday 6th February 2016. Dave Mosson had enquired as to whom the Conservative Club used for their Skittles night and it was the same one that Ann had suggested at the previous meeting. The cost was £150 for two alleys. Dawn agreed to book these once Barbara had received confirmation from Louise Fleming that we were able to have Darwin Hall for that evening.

8) **Lagoon Project –**

Veronica reported that she had been in contact with Andrew Crawford at the Environment Agency for his opinion and guidance on the pools, mainly the one by Waitrose to see what our position was regarding the removal of reeds and carp. He had informed her that the type of reeds by Waitrose pond were of a very aggressive nature, and he also suggested extending the platform on the duck pond. It was suggested that Veronica could ask him if he was prepared to supply us with a report on his visit, his opinions and suggestions of a way forward which she was happy to do, and explain that we would be willing to pay for any report as it would help us move forward with the project.

9) **Any Other Business –**Meeting was closed at 22.15hrs

Next Meetings Saturday 7th November (AGM) at Martin Heath Hall 11.30 – 13.30 and Wednesday 25th November 20.00hrs at Darwin Hall.

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

Copies sent to Councillors, Finn, Smith, Awty, Eadie and Bacon

Signed.....

Chairman