

L A R A
Leomansley Area Residents' Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2016
at Darwin Hall at 20.00hrs.

Present: Geoff Lusher (Chairman), Paul Ledbury (Vice Chairman),
Dawn Hayward (Treasurer), Barbara Lusher (Secretary), Sandra Booth,
Jeff Fry, Veronica Birkett, Dave Mosson, Mike Gallagher, Tracy Shepherd

Apologies: Cllr Andy Smith, Cllr Terry Finn, Cllr Iain Eadie, Shaun Bowden, Jay Bryan,
Peter & Gaye King

- 1) The meeting was opened at 20.00hrs by Chairman Geoff Lusher who welcomed Leon Jennings who was considering joining as a committee member.
- 2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the meeting held on 31st May were agreed and duly signed with one minor alteration to the Treasurer's reported where the balance of £1376.55 which had been recorded at £1376.35
- 3) **Matters Arising** – None
- 4) **Treasurer's Report** – Dawn reported that the bank balance stood at £1384.24 which shows a surplus for the year of £242.43. Dawn informed members that she was due to meet with J Pickwell (our volunteer Auditor from the AGM), at the end of July at a date awaited from him. A vote of thanks was recorded to Dawn for the hard work and excellent set of Accounts.
- 5) **Litter Pick, Saturday 9th July** –
Geoff agreed to redo the letter explaining what LARA do for those who attend and may not be aware of the Association. Geoff thanked Tracy for all her help in liaising with Christchurch School and also Veronica as they both got involved with the Press Release promoting the event. Once the event was underway then further photos would be taken and sent to the Gazette showing our results ready for the following week's publication. Routes for the litter pick would be obtained from the website and maps with clearly marked routes would be handed out on the day. Hi-Viz jackets had been purchased thanks to the organisation of Paul & Dawn and they looked fantastic with the LARA Logo on the back, to show a professional approach to any outdoor events we undertake, now and in the future.
- 6) **Walsall Road HGV Weight Restrictions** - Cllr Finn – No further progress to report
- 7) **Christchurch Lane Parking** – It was noted that problems with parking in Christchurch Lane were once again arising. It had been suggested that we should consider a voluntary one-way system with LARA

asking for the assistance of our local PCSOs initially to help get this underway.

Cllr Finn had stated in his email that the parking restrictions were awaiting further information and feedback and he would let Geoff have a copy of the latest proposals.

8) Grassed pavement areas in Alesmore Meadow – Cllr Finn advised that the existence of services under these grassed areas meant that paving would not be practical.

9) Potholes – Cllr Finn had advised that pot holes are programmed for repair once they have been reported.

10) Blair House Pathway – It has taken a while but thankfully this has now been brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

11) Lichfield City Station Toilets – Awaiting a response from London Midland to our letter.

12) Lagoon Project – Veronica with all the committee were very frustrated at the fact that we have been trying for the past two years to get things moving on this, but it appears the 'hierarchy' are less than willing to help us achieve our goal. The dreaded Koi Carp are now in every pool, destroying wildlife and they need to be removed as soon as possible. The reeds are at a dangerous level on Pool 1 (Waitrose) and rats had been seen in this vicinity. Some form of action MUST be forthcoming if we are to have a safe, wildlife friendly, educational place for our children and local community to live in.

Having been informed that Pools 1 and 2 are now formally adopted, what maintenance programme is in place for the upkeep of these pools? Who is responsible for the upkeep? How often are they going to be attended to? Barbara would email the Councillors to try and get some answers to these all important questions.

Tracy had been in touch with the Wildlife Trust and they had been in contact with developers for the proposed new housing developments and with their approval, new properties being built should have 'swift bricks' allowing these birds to nest happily but without doing any damage to houses, helping to attract more wildlife. They will also have gravel boards with 'hedgehog highways' to encourage them into our gardens.

13) Website – Paul reported he had new information relating to several topics that would be out onto the website to bring it up to date.

14) Any Other Business –

Updated list of contact numbers to be sent to all members – Barbara to send.

In relation to the Projector, Speakers and microphone required for our AGM, Barbara had been in email correspondence with Louise Fleming who was unaware of any such equipment, and stated that Darwin Hall do not supply any equipment for meetings.

In the end she hadn't realised this equipment was available for meetings if required. It was agreed that we should arrange a day (possibly a Sunday when the Hall was not being used) to go and test the equipment so we are familiar with it when the time comes to use it at our AGM in November. There was still the issue in regard to access to the building as since we last used the building to unlock/lock up, the code numbers had been changed and it was felt that as regular users of the Hall we should have been notified accordingly of these changes. Louise informed Barbara in her email that we should obtain them from the Caretaker but there seemed some doubt on this.

Barbara will try for a date from Louise when we can have access to test this equipment and contact Geoff, Jeff & Paul in due course.

As for booking the Fire Station for a meeting, Cllr Finn informs us that it is a very popular venue so we would need to book early.

Date of next meetings Tuesday 13th September at 20.00hrs and Tuesday 11th October at 20.00hrs both 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, and Eadie

Signed.....

Chairman