

Leomansley Area Residents Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting Held 8pm Tuesday 28th March 2017

At Darwin Hall, Stonneyland Drive, Lichfield.

Present: Geoff Lusher (Chairman), David Mosson (Vice-Chairman), Dawn Hayward (Treasurer), Tracy Shepherd (Secretary), Paul Ledbury, Shaun Bowden, Sandra Booth, Veronica Birkett & Martin Hellawell.

Apologies: Michael Gallagher, Jeff Fry, Barbara Lusher, Jay Bryan, Peter & Gaye King, Cllr Terry Finn, Cllr Iain Eadie, Cllr Andy Smith & Cllr Colin Greatorex.

- 1) The meeting was opened at 8pm by Chairman Geoff Lusher.
- 2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – The minutes of the previous meeting of 21st February 2017 were agreed and duly signed.
- 3) **Matters Arising** – A special mention was made concerning the continued ill health of Gaye King. It was agreed that a card would be sent from the committee to Peter & Gaye ([Action Dawn](#)). Martin Hellawell was introduced by Veronica as a member of the Pools sub-committee and was welcomed by the Chairman and the Executive committee.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report** – Dawn reported there was £1238.70 in the bank. Which suggests a £55 deficit requiring 19 new members to cover running costs. The membership is currently 51. An email will be sent when leaflet due. Suggestions to advertise LARA were made by posters in Martin Heath and Darwin Hall, Litter picks and Waitrose funding. ([Action - Dawn](#)) Posters on permanent display in Darwin & Martin Heath halls ([Action - Paul](#)) An arrangement to pay fees by standing order to be offered on website ([Action-Dawn](#))
- 5) **Social Events Sub-committee Report** – Dawn reported that a meeting is scheduled for 19th April 2017. Adverts in press, dates to be checked, Citylife, check deadlines etc. ([Action-Dawn](#)) The committee were asked to source raffle prizes if possible, mention of Waitrose mugs vouchers etc. Sandra announced that due to a prior commitment she would not be able to be quiz master this time. However she would be able to write the questions so

the committee were asked for a volunteer to read them out. Geoff Lusher offered to be quizmaster with Paul as a possible alternative. It was agreed to ask the rest of the committee at the next meeting when more members were present.

- 6) **Pools Sub-committee report** – Veronica reported that following on from the successful meeting with John Smith of Lichfield District Council, when it had been agreed that LARA would be working alongside LDC to enhance the Pools on Darwin Park and as agreed, in the last Executive committee meeting, a drop in morning had been arranged on Saturday 6th May 2017 10.30-12.30pm.

A draft leaflet, created by the Pools committee, advertising this event was shared and feedback requested. Having obtained several quotes a cost estimate for A5 double sided folding leaflets was approximately £125. It was hoped to use a local firm to encourage local business and obtain a lower best price ([Action-Tracy](#))

Paul & Dawn noted that the words needed realigning and justifying. The bullet point spacing needed to be checked and more prominence given to the advertising of the Quiz night. Martin gave his email address to Paul so an email of the Quiz logo could be forwarded for inclusion.

Paul requested that his views on the drop-in-morning and leaflet be noted. He stated that he did not understand why LARA were doing the work of the council in promoting the meeting and paying for the leaflets. He noted that if we are spending money on the brochures some benefit must come back to LARA. He requested his frustration to be minuted and was concerned that we are duplicating work already done and budget is critical. Dawn also commented that we had leafleted before with not much success.

Veronica explained that in the past we had only been able to *talk* about the Pool Project as something we would *like* to do but now it is actually happening. The Koi carp will be removed and the reeds cut back and maintained etc. so we need to let the residents know. The leaflet was approved. David requested area maps for leaflet distribution.

- 7) **Local Planning Applications** - A volunteer was requested to scan LDC current planning applications and report to committee any that have relevance to the Leomansley area. David offered to take on this role and Geoff thanked him and said would advise LDC to send the report to David in future. ([Action – Geoff](#)) David explained that he had been to a recent Local Plan Allocation meeting by LDC , these consultations run from 20/3-12/5/17 at various venues across the District. It is a very large document so he will need more time to digest and give a fair overview of the contents and relevance to LARA. ([Action - David](#))
- 8) **Crime Update and Neighbourhood Watch** - Michael had sent the committee a Neighbourhood watch update concerning Leomansley Woods, to be

updated further when present. Tracy notified the committee that during the recent problem concerning youths “fishing” late at night on the Pools the police response to a 101 call was very prompt and reassuring. It was noted that the OWL notification system is now called Smart Alert Messaging.

- 9) **AOB** - A question was raised by Dawn about the number of committee members allowed by the constitution. It is currently 4 elected officers and 10 members. A change can be made to the constitution to allow more members at the next AGM. It was explained that it is possible to co-opt members for a specific purpose, publicity, for example. As a member of the Pools sub-committee, Martin Hellawell was therefore co-opted in accordance with the constitution and welcomed. It was noted that Hi-Viz jackets should be worn when delivering leaflets.

- 10) **Dates of next committee meetings.** 2nd May 2017 & 6th June 2017 8pm.

Executive committee members are reminded that apologies must be sent to the Chairman if they are unable to attend a meeting.

Signed.....  Chairman