

L A R A

Leomansley Area Residents' Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2017
held at 6 Colling Drive at 20.00hrs.

Present: Geoff Lusher (Chairman), Dawn Hayward (Treasurer),
Barbara Lusher, Jeff Fry, Veronica Birkett, Dave Mosson,
Peter King, Jay Bryan

Apologies: Mike Gallagher, Shaun Bowden, Tracy Shepherd, Cllr Iain Eadie.

- 1) The meeting was opened at 20.00hrs by Chairman Geoff Lusher and in the absence of the Secretary Barbara volunteered to do the minutes for the meeting. The meeting was held at the home of the Chairman as it was indicated in Tracy's email that the room we use is no longer available to us on a Tuesday evening, which included tonight's meeting. However Peter King had gone to Darwin Hall having not seen the email and the room was in fact empty. Clarification of meeting dates MUST be confirmed. It was agreed that we should ask if the small meeting room was available on Thursday evenings for our meetings on the following dates 5th October, 16th November and 18th January 2018. Please also inform the booking secretary that our AGM has already been booked at Martin Heath Hall on 4th November and **NOT** at Darwin Hall

Tracy to Action

The Chairman then reported with sadness that he had received notification from Shaun Bowden informing us that he will be standing down from the LARA Executive Committee at the AGM.

- 2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – The minutes of the meeting held in July were approved .
- 3) **Matters Arising** – With regard to the poster kindly designed by Dawn & Paul it was felt it would be a good idea to add to this the railings we managed to get erected between Victoria Garden, Halfpenny Lane & Alesmore Meadow, if it could be fitted in.

The Chairman said he was disappointed that no Councillors were in attendance due to a misunderstanding. It had been agreed at a previous meeting that the Councillors should be invited to attend every meeting with items related to council matters being top on the agenda. This would allow councillors to leave the meeting at that point (if they so wish) and it would then leave plenty of time for the executive committee to discuss other items unrelated to the councillors.

- 4) **Treasurer's Report** – Dawn reported that the Accounts for the year ending 30th June 2017 had been audited and signed off by our volunteer Auditor John Pickwell, and the Committee wished to record their thanks for doing this on behalf of the

Association. She also confirmed that he is happy to be put forward as Auditor for another year. The Committee approved the accounts for submission to the AGM. Dawn advised that there was a balance of £1197.33 in the bank with another £5.90 to be transferred from our Paypal account making a total of £1202.52 available funds.

5) Arrangements for the AGM –

Format - It was agreed the format would be similar to other years with a powerpoint presentation which Shaun has offered to help with and we are grateful for his input.

Agenda – Welcome, Minutes of last AGM, Matters arising, Treasurer's Report, Appointment of Independent Auditor, Election of Officers, Election of Committee, Maintenance of Darwin Park Estate and Leomansley Areas, Future Developments, Highways, Update on Pools Project, Open Forum, Thanks from Chairman.

Veronica had someone who was interested in joining the Executive Committee and asked for a Nomination Form. Barbara will send across to Veronica.

Any nominations will be asked to be received by the Secretary 5 days prior to the AGM. The Constitution stated 72 hrs but there was concern expressed by a number of current members that if we advertised the Chairperson vacancy then it could be open to abuse. It was decided that it may be better to co-opt new members onto the Committee at the AGM or very soon afterwards, and at that point if someone was thought to be suitable for the role as Chairperson then it should be offered at a future meeting.

It was agreed that this year we would NOT be doing a leaflet drop as the response is so poor. It was agreed that the money usually used to produce the leaflet would be better spent on paying for advertisements to be put in Darwin Advertiser, Lichfield Mercury, Beacon and City Life. Posters would also be produced and Dave would enlarge them to A3 size and laminate them. These were suggested being put in Darwin Hall, Martin Heath Hall, Outside Christchurch School (if permitted – **Tracy to ask if possible**), in Committee members windows and possibly on stakes by Waitrose on the ransom strip as you exit the Car Park. A total of 12 posters was thought to be sufficient.

Agenda details for the posters to be sent to Paul

Barbara to Action

As the Constitution states all members of LARA would be notified by email within the timescale stated and it would also mention that there would be vacancies on the Committee which will need to be filled but our main priority would be to ask for a Treasurer to take over from Dawn who stands down at the AGM after many years of hard work and meticulous book-keeping and thanks were expressed to her for all her efforts.

Dawn to Action

6) **Litter Pick** - Nothing had been forthcoming in relation to dates for the Litter Pick. It was agreed that we should check if the following dates were available for the small meeting room at Darwin Hall :- Saturday 28th October or Sunday 29th October OR Sunday 19th November or Sunday 26th November.

Tracy to Action

7) **Pools Project** – Veronica updated us on the position with the Pools Project. She advised that a meeting was being held with Peter Freeman and Ruth on 29th September where a walk round will be done of the estate. The Sub-Committee had a very long list of issues that they need to clarify who was responsible for and to check with Peter Freeman who his manager now is : Is it still John Smith? Or has he been replaced.

Veronica & Dave reported that they would also be discussing the design for the display boards. These would be maintained and be covered by insurance by the Council, but the initial funding would need to be obtained by way of a grant or donation. The sub-committee had several ideas of who to approach on this.

Any Other Business –

Dave tabled a re-submission of plans for housing on the Walsall Road Development site adjacent to Rosemary Lodge Residential Home and the back end of the previously proposed Hallam Park Development. It appears that access to this will now be from Walsall Road and NOT via the Hallam Park estate as was previously put forward. Some members felt that the new proposal showed an increase in density of housing but Dave will circulate the details and any concerns can be sent back to him and he will then submit these on behalf of LARA to the developer.

Dave to Action

It was decided and agreed that Dave should circulate any future details of new developments to the Committee to enable them to give their concerns and he would then do an appropriate letter to Lichfield District Council.

Dawn reported some annoyance by youths aged 13-17 riding bicycles backwards & forwards in front of their house. It was reported to the Police and PCSO's attended and obtained details of all those concerned. They were not exactly doing anything wrong but were just being a nuisance by waving & shouting at the windows which was making life very uncomfortable for Dawn and Paul.

One of the reasons they think this may be happening is the positioning of benches along Cathedral Walk. It has been felt for quite some time that there is an excessive amount of benches along Cathedral Walk both sides of the walkway. This is where the youths tend to gather and it can be quite intimidating (especially now the darker nights are arriving) if residents had to walk between these groups. The benches are positioned opposite each other all the way from Lichfield Road up to the statue by Deykin Road at the top. It was requested that we approach the Council to see if it would be possible to remove one of each opposite pair, therefore reducing the chance of youths congregating outside and annoying residents.

Peter King had brought a leaflet entitled Lichfield Living at Home. It was an initiative by the Methodist Church to help individuals over the age of 65yrs who live alone to become more involved in the Community. Among the services they offer are regular telephone support, advice on local services and activities, exercise and dance classes, lunch clubs, outings, wheelchair loan service and many more. The Committee felt this was a good idea and that a 10 minutes slot should be allocated at the AGM for this to be relayed to residents in attendance.

Date of next meetings Thursday 5th October, Thursday 16th November 2017 and Thursday 18th January 2018 to be held at 20.00hrs at Darwin Hall **TBC**
Tracy to confirm

Please note the AGM is being held on Saturday 4th November 2017 at Martin Heath Hall at 10.30am

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, Smith, Greatorix and Eadie

Signed..... **Chairman**

