

Claremont Community Association

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Height in Bloom

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Minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2009

Members present: Joan Dickinson, Jessie Fairchild, Cllr Mary Ferrer, PCSO 65159 Martin Kerr (GMP), Elaine Laidler, Mario McDonnell (Sec.), H Molyneux, Cllr. Norman Owen, Beryl Patten, Christine Phillips (Chair), PCSO 12351 Danielle Southwell (GMP),

Item 1: Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 2nd September 2009, were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Item 2: Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Brian Lee, Sgt. Craig Roberts (GMP), Cllr. Janice Taylor, Haydn Worrall (Tres.)

Item 3: Policing Matters

- (i) It was reported to the meeting that a cannabis farm was recently discovered in a house on Moorfield Road. One of our eagle eyed members had observed some youths acting suspiciously in the area and had reported this to the police. Some time later the house on Moorfield Road was broken into by these same youths and the police, being on the scene, discovered both the burglars and the cannabis farm at the same time.
- (ii) PCSO Kerr was in a position to detail the crime figures for his 'beat' area within the Claremont area. The police split each area within their division into beats and Claremont is roughly broken into two beats, H4 & H5, in which a PC and several PCSO's operate. The following is a list of crimes reported in the H5 beat to police for the month up to and including 1st September 2009:-
 - 2 domestic assaults
 - 1 burglary
 - 2 pedal cycles stolen
 - 1 thief from motor vehicle
 - 1 thief of motor cycle
 - 1 thief from Garage
 - 1 thief of lead from a building
 - 1 cannabis warning
 - 1 large cannabis farm discovered
 - 9 acts of criminal damage reported
- (iii) In addition to the above list of crimes reported, PCSO Kerr also reported that there were a series of ongoing crime issues on Bolton Road which were being monitored.
- (iv) Lunch times in the school year continue to present their own problems with scores of young people heading towards the take-a-way outlets along Bolton Road. There were two reported thief from students at Pendleton College in the first two weeks of the new term. PCSO Kerr could report

however, that pupils from Buile Hill High were not allowed out of the school premises at lunch time and that several motorists had been spoken to as to their parking outside the shops at this busy time.

- (v) Cllr Ferrer told the meeting that she and the GMP inspector were still liaising in respect to the CCTV scheme for Bolton Road shops but that the paperwork for the application for funding had been lost in the city council admin system. Several of those present expressed amazement that this could happen and the meeting in general wished to show their frustration at the delay in implementing this vital scheme.

Item 4: Bins

- (i) After the visit to the last meeting of Mr D. Whittle, Senior Waste Awareness Officer at Salford City Council it was noted that there are still large numbers of bins being left in the streets around the area days after the stated collection day for the Claremont area (Thursday).
- (ii) Beryl encouraged members to take photographs of offending areas and to email these to Mr Whittle with details of the time and place taken.
- (iii) The problem has been made worse by the fact that many people living in rented property don't have keys for the alley gates recently installed around the area. This forced them to either leave the bins either in their front gardens or out on the street by the alley gates themselves. In a small number of cases, it is fair to say that the new brown and blue re-cycling bins have not been claimed at all by their intended owners and these have been left abandoned.
- (iv) Cllr Owen told the meeting that he was due to meet with Mr Dave Tinker and Mr Dave Robertson, from the council, to discuss the area wide problem.
- (v) Again there have been reports of dumping and fly tipping in the Stapleton Street area.
- (vi) Beryl will again email Mr D. Whittle about residents concerns.
- (vii) It was highlighted to the meeting that if anyone has genuine difficulty in putting bins out on collection day, the council provides a service so that bins are put out and returned to their property.

Item 5: LOPRA

Maurice Kilk from Light Oak Park Residents Association was not present at the meeting so this item on the agenda was deferred until the next meeting

Action: Maurice Kilk

Item 6: Height Youth Club

- (i) Cllr Norman Owen told the meeting that the funding issues that have dogged the club in the past few months have now been resolved.
- (ii) However, it remains a fact the club is not well used. There needs to be a push to advertise the club and the facilities it provided within the community with perhaps a night or two set aside for younger children to attend without feeling intimidated by the older ones.
- (iii) Cllr Ferrer wanted to highlight some of the good work that comes out of the club at present and these included food/household goods collected and handed out as parcels to single mums and vulnerable persons in the Height area.
- (iv) There is a need for a 'man with a van' to help deliver this stuff around the area.

Item 7: Lighthoaks Park

- (i) No report.

Item 8: Buile Hill

- (i) None of those present attended the last meeting of the Friends of Buile Hill Park.
- (ii) CCA Members were encouraged to join Friends of Buile Hill Park group who meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Buile Hill Parks Office.
- (iii) There was nothing new to report on the Buile Hill Park hotel plans, except to say that the Salford City Council are still willing to sell the mansion to Mr J Wilkinson (and he is still willing to buy!) despite the failure of the lottery bid.
- (iv) Several members forwarded the notion that we (CCA) need to put an alternative viewpoint/proposal for the future of the mansion. It was suggested that a public meeting be arranged in order to stimulate interest.
- (v) The meeting asked Cllr Ferrer to contact the council for an update on their intentions for the mansion.
- (vi) It was agreed by all those who attended the Proms in the Park event, recently held in the park, that it was a great success and that it is a great advert for Salford and the Claremont/Weaste areas in particular.

Action: Cllr Mary Ferrer

Item 9: Treasurer's report

Haydn sent his apologies prior to the meeting but was kind enough to pass a Balance Sheet to the chair which is reproduced below:-

- (i) **Cash**
 - a. Nil
- (ii) **Current Account:**
 - a. The Current Account stands at £3,725.08 of which:-
 - £110.00 from local traders
 - £2,350.00 from the Co-Op
 - £1,000.00 from Salix Homes
 - £3,460.00

Cheques written but not presented:-

 - £250.00 for First Aiders at the Play Day 2009-09-03
 - £250.00

Which leaves **£15.08** in the Current Account
- (iii) **Deposit Account:**
 - a. The Deposit Account stands at £2,368.81

Item 10: AOB**(a) Elleray Road Alleygating**

Those councillors present could tell the meeting that the application for funding to alley gate Elleray Road had failed. This information was unofficially released by the councillors as the Council Officer responsible for these matters (Vicky Ryan) was on holiday but had not bothered to inform the residents concerned. Apparently the schemes for Barfield & Carlton Roads will be going ahead but Stapleton Street had also been refused funding.

(b) Wasp Infestation – Romiley Street

A local resident wanted to inform the meeting that a large wasps nest had been discovered near 21 Romiley Street and asked, as this house did not appear to be occupied at this time whether the City council would pay the £80 required to remove it as in their opinion it could be very dangerous to local children playing in the area.

Action: Cllr Mary Ferrer to contact the council.

(c) Table Top sale

Joan Dickinson wanted to advertise the forthcoming Table Top Sale in aid of children in Zambia. This event will be held between 10am and 2pm on Saturday, 14th November 2009 in the school hall, Oasis Academy, Eccles Old Road with tables costing £10 and a door charge of £1. Planned adverts had failed to appear in the Salford Advertiser so Joan wanted to publicise the event so that as many tables as possible were taken up. Joan also wanted to thank the Oasis Academy, who are providing the hall free of charge with some of their pupils to designing the event poster, which will be distributed around the area. The Co-op will be providing, free of charge, refreshments on the day. In a bid to further publicise the sale it was suggested that Salford Radio and the online sites for the Salford Star and Salford Online should be approached.

Editor's note – The flyer produced by the Oasis Academy has been produced and can be viewed on the Events page of the CCA website.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 4 November 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Height Methodist Hall, King Street, Irlams O'th Height, Salford 6