

Claremont Community Association

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Height in Bloom

Web: <http://www.bloomingheight.colsal.org.uk>

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2009

Members present: Janice Alderson, Janet Ambler, Mary Bunting, Joan Dickinson, Cllr Mary Ferrer, Pam Gill, PC W Hardman (GMP), D Judd, Brian Lee, Helen Leigh, T Lindley, D Locke, Mario McDonnell (Sec.), Miranda Mzoksimovic, Joan Nolan, Cllr Norman Owen, Christine Phillips (Chair), May Rice, E Traynor, Pat Vickerstaff, Haydn Worrall (Treas)

Item 1: Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from: Beryl Patten, John Cook, Jean Faucitt, Insp. D Henthorne (GMP), Steve Hesling, Mark Howorth, Sgt. C Roberts (GMP),

Item 2: Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 1st April 2009, were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Item 3: Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Item 4: Policing and traffic issues

- (a) The electronic speed warning signs along Bolton road have been installed and are operational. Many of those members present felt that the signs were having an effect on drivers' behaviour wherever they were installed but in some cases the speed increased again once the area had been cleared!
- (b) The meeting was informed that a crossing 'island' will be created at the bus stop near Pattsons on Bolton Road. Those councillors present were unsure of the exact timings but the relevant permissions and finance had been approved.
- (c) The new Parking Bays in front of the shops on Bolton Road are also imminent and talks are in progress with local traders on the issuing of permits.
- (d) It is likely that the paved area in front of the shops from Patsons to the Lancastrian chippy will be re-surfaced by the council in the near future. There was much discussion on the ownership of the land between the shops and the road and what could be done about the driving and parking of vehicles onto this area. After it was established that the traders probably own the tarmac area between the shop fronts and the paved walkway adjacent to the road, PC W Hardman (GMP) stated that drivers mounting the kerb to gain access to this area were probably causing a traffic offence and this would be looked into in time for the next meeting.

Action: PC W Hardman (GMP)

- (e) On purely policing matters, the meeting was told that GMP now produces a monthly Crime Figures summary for the Salford Neighbourhood Police area and this can be obtained from a number of sources, including the web.

Item 5: Pendleton College planning and parking:

- (a) Council Enforcement Officers have visited the college to remind them of their obligation to the various planning conditions they are in breach of, but to date this work still needs to be carried out.
- (b) Parking in the roads around the college is still an issue and to add to this, several buses and coaches, contracted to ferry students away from the area, can now be found parked along Dronfield Road in the hours leading up to the end of lessons.
- (c) It was suggested that in the first place, a representative from the college be invited to attend the next meeting in order to discuss residents concerns. Secondly, the Police will have a word with the college hierarchy to see if the current situation can be resolved and lastly that the coach companies supplying the student transport, Jones, Chester's & Rigby's, be approached to give their views on this impasse.

Action: Cllr Ferrer, Cllr Owen, PC W Hardman (GMP)

Item 6: Ellera Road Alley Gating:

- (a) Cllr. Ferrer reported that she is to have a meeting with Salix Homes to see if a revenue stream can be opened on this front. Additionally, the owner of the Shops & Flats backing onto the alleyway has stated that they may be prepared to pay for one of the required gates.
- (b) In the meantime the residents have started to band together in a more formal way and in addition to attending meetings such as this one and the CWCC, are in the process of collecting a petition to lobby the council with.

Item 7: Height in Bloom:

- (a) It was agreed by all that this project has suffered from a late start this year and we will be doing well to have anything in place for the summer.
- (b) The meeting was informed by the Treas. That a cheque for the sum of £2,500 was received from the Co-Op on 25 March, 2009 with the proviso that this money be spent in the area around the Store itself.
- (c) As we know already, Salix Homes has contributed £1,000 to this project and it has been proposed that this money be used to purchase two large planters and that these are placed on the grassed area in front in the Irlam Square shops.
- (d) Much discussion ensued about the type and style of planter to be used and it was agreed that Myranda Mzoksimovic would investigate and report back to the meeting on suitable designs.

Action: Myranda Mzoksimovic

Item 8: Play Day 2009.

- (a) The date of the event was confirmed as Saturday 8 August 09 1pm - 5pm.
- (b) Various activities have been booked, of which, most will be free of charge:-
 - Large slide/bouncy Castle will be on site.
 - Fair Ground rides (There will be a small charge for these!).
 - Salford Sports Development will be in attendance.
 - City of Salford will have a stand.
 - There will be a Police presence.
 - Dance Troupe.
 - Volunteers are required to man various points around the site.
 - Fund raised ideas needed.

Item 9: Height Youth Club.

- (a) Now the Youth Club has survived, work has started in earnest to bring it up to scratch and into the community. A new cooker has been installed, furniture for various areas has been sourced and redecoration has started. A permanent youth officer to run the club will be recruited there are plans are afoot to use the club throughout the day.
- (b) There will be more details supplied at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr. Owen

Item 10: Buile Hill Mansion.

- (a) A letter from the CCA secretary, Beryl Patten to the Lottery officer (copy attached and also posted to the CCA Website) was read out to the meeting.
- (b) A 600 name petition against the proposed development will also be included within the submission to the Lottery Officer in charge.
- (c) Other evidence will be submitted at this stage.

Item 11: Light Oaks Park.

- (a) Razor wire placed on the perimeter of the park has been removed by the council and those responsible for its placement have been warned against its future use.
- (b) Two recently planted trees have been stolen. An estimated cost for replacing these was put at £110.
- (c) There have been reports and several sightings by some of those present of people taking plants/flowers from the beds within the park. Those reported were not just kids but adults who seem to think it was their right to take items from the park!
- (d) The problem of motor bikes in the park still persists.
- (e) It was reported that a walk-a-bout would take place in the park on Monday 11 May, 2009 at 14:00 starting from the Summer house and that the Police would be in attendance.

Item 12: Bin Mania.

- (a) A lively discussion was held over the recent rollout of Salford City Council's brown and blue re-cycling bins. The main concern was that households now have up to FOUR large bins to manoeuvre around sometimes small access points to and from the collection points. Comment was also made about the large number of bins left hanging around in the street/alleyways which have not yet claimed or have been abandoned by residents.

It was established that:-

- (b) Residents don't have to have the new recycling bins. However, the bins cannot be returned to the council without having an interview as on the reasons why, first.
- (c) Residents can apply to share the re-cycling bins or they can elect to go back to the old Breen box and bag system if they wish.
- (d) Any queries should be directed to the Senior Waste Awareness Officer at Salford City Council on 0161 909 6500.

Item 13: Treasurer's report.

- (a) The accounts stand at £3,711.65 in the current account and £2368.15 in the Deposit account. These amounts sound impressive but please remember that £3,500 of this total amount is earmarked for the Height in bloom project.
- (b) The Treasurer informed the meeting that over the past year the CCA have received a £440 grant from the Claremont and Weaste Community Committee and that another such grant will be applied for.
- (c) Ongoing costs included £180 for the hire of the large hall at the Height Methodist Hall, King Street to use for the meetings. £110 per year for Public liability insurance
- (d) Haydn wanted to point out that donations taken at the end of each meeting help a great deal to keep the Association running.

AOB:**(a) Beryl Patten.**

It was agreed to hold a collection in order purchase some flowers for Beryl who is convalescing at home after a recent operation.

(b) Dog mess.

There has been a marked increase in the instance of dog poo on roads leading to and from Light Oaks Park.

(c) LOPRA

It was noted that the residents Association have not had a meeting in months. Several of its members attending this meeting had discussed folding the group. Other expressed a merger with the CCA. It was agreed that this could be problematic as the CCA was registered charity and LOPRA was now. It was resolved that an item to discuss this item would be added to the Agenda of the June meeting.

(d) Swishing Party

An outstanding £400 was raised at the recently held swishing party ("*The art of Swishing involves getting your friends to swap gorgeous clothes and party at the same time.*" Their words, not mine). Great fun was had by all and another event is to be organised in the near future

The meeting closed at 9 pm

Next meeting is the AGM and will take place on Wednesday 3 June 2009 at 7.30 pm Height Methodist Hall, King Street, Irlams O'th Height, Salford 6