

Parklands Residents' Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parklands Residents' Association held in the Parklands Community Centre on Tuesday 15 March 2005 at 7.00 pm.

Present

Ken Dowsett (Chair)	Barbara Lee
Linda Ashton	Maxine Little (Minutes)
Peter Ashton	Ann Livingston
Brian Canavan	Barbara Muddiman
Brian Cooper	John Muddiman
Wendy Cooper	Liz Percival
John Croft	Jill Sanderson
Christine Dowsett	Anita Smith
Ann Edwards	Peggy Wayman
Steve Edwards	Audrey White
Christine Evans	Michael Willis
Simon Hegarty	Jill Winstanley
Beverley Harrison	Andy Young (Local Beat Officer)
Richard Harrison	

Apologies

Marion Baker	Rhett Norris
Gill Coombs	Sylvia Shepherd
Mike Hallam	
John Livingston	Cllr Brandon Eldred

ACTION

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which would also include the Association's first AGM.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2005

The minutes of the last meeting, circulated at the meeting, were read and agreed.

3. Matters Arising

(1) Address from Penny Westwood (Head of Northampton School for Girls)

It was confirmed that the proposed school crossing would not be a raised crossing, this was due to funding and lack of other traffic calming nearby.

It was clarified that there is currently only a lollipop lady in the mornings and despite advertising the school had been unable to recruit anyone for the afternoons.

Richard Harrison queried about the possibility of a 20 mph zone. The situation was still as reported in November, that Parklands Ward was 198th on the list for Safer Routes to Schools. The list being based on numbers of accidents and deprivation.

(2) Update from Cllr Eldred

2.1 Traffic Light Timings

It was reported that Traffic Light Timings had definitely changed since it was now easier to get off the estate.

Liz Percival reported that there was still no filter for cars heading out of town along Kettering Road to turn right into the Hospital site and that this was dangerous. It also made it more difficult for any pedestrians who were crossing at the lights. It was agreed that a representative from Highways would be invited to the next meeting.

KD, WC

Simon Hegarty offered to draw up a summary of information to put to Highways at the next meeting.

SH

2.2 Tesco

It was reported to the meeting that Paula Stenning, Tesco Store Manager, had attended the Area Partnership Meeting in February. Tesco Area Manager had also attended and they had explained that the company would be purchasing a fleet of smaller vehicles that could access the delivery yard, and in the meantime they would stop receiving deliveries at school times and would turn vehicles away if they turned up at these times. Many Residents reported various incidents of continued congestion and delays that had occurred since that meeting. It was also reported that Contractors from the building site had also started parking in the bays outside the shops again.

Brian Cooper informed the meeting that TOPPS had visited the area and photographs had been taken. Brian would be meeting with the Council at the Coppice drive shops to discuss the problem further. It was agreed that the item be brought back to the next meeting, when the results of this meeting would be known.

BC, WC

2.3 PC Young

Concern had been expressed at the last meeting that PC Young was difficult to contact and was only ever seen on his motorbike. Andy Young responded that he used a motorbike to get around, so that is how he would often be seen. He clarified that he could be contacted via Weston Favell Police Station or via e-mail or mobile phone (Ken Dowsett, Brian Cooper and Cllr Eldred had these details if they were needed). Shift patterns were 3 days (10 am – 7 pm); 3 lates (3 pm – 12 pm) then 3 days off . It was explained that there was no specific cover on his rest days, but if there was an incident on his days off then another Officer could be deployed.

Beverly Harrison asked PC Young if he ever patrolled Woodcote Avenue, to which he replied that he had been along Woodcote that day.

Andy Young explained about his work and that in addition to patrolling his area he also had to work with other teams to cover other work, for instance curfew checks and covering dispersal orders at Kingsley and Bellinge.

Andy Young reported that he would try to attend as many meetings as possible, however the Area Superintendent did not want Officers to attend too many meetings taking them away from their main work. He requested that he receive minutes and agendas of all meetings, and would try to attend the more relevant ones. He explained that it was more likely that he would attend Area Partnership meetings since these included residents from more of his areas.

Barbara Muddiman reported a recent incident in Devon way when a large group of youths had climbed into gardens and frightened neighbours. There were concerns about telephone numbers to use to report such incidents of juvenile nuisance. The 0845 number went through to the Council refuse department out of hours. It was suggested that 233500 was still in operation and was the best number to use.

The Chair thanked PC Young for his contribution to the meeting.

2.4 TOPPS

At the last meeting members had requested clarification about TOPPS involvement in parking issues at Coppice Road Shops. It was agreed that this item should be brought back to the next meeting following Brian Cooper's meeting with the Council at the shops.

BC, WC

4 Chairman's Report – Play Area

Since the last meeting, the Play Area was due to be officially opened on Saturday 19th March between 10 am and 12 pm. All were invited to attend. The Play Area was looking wonderful and thanks were extended to all who had been involved in helping. Formal thanks were offered to the Community Association for all their efforts.

8 Neighbourhood Watch

It was felt that it would not have been appropriate to discuss Neighbourhood Watch at this meeting, due to the inclusion of the AGM. Barbara Lee would therefore invite the Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator to the next meeting.

BL, WC

4. AGM

See separate minutes

5. Any Other Business

5.1 Mast

Ken Dowsett summarised further discussions about the mast that took place at the Area Partnership Meeting in February. The issues about late notification and lack of consultation had still not been satisfactorily responded to by the Council. Ken Dowsett informed the meeting that he had therefore requested at the Partnership Meeting that we appeal in some way about the decision. Cllr Eldred would take this to the Borough Council.

BE

5.2 Potholes

There were ongoing issues with potholes. Several had been identified and marked out with paint apparently for filling, but then there were lengthy delays before they were filled.

It was also reported that repairs carried out near Stowe Walk were sinking again. It was felt that the Council should be going back to the Contractor on this issue.

Cllr Eldred would be invited to the next meeting. He would be asked to find out expected dates of repair to bring to the meeting.

KD, BE

5.3 County Councillor

It was noted that several of the incidents raised came under the County Council and yet the County Councillor for the ward, Cllr Massey had never attended any Residents' Association Meetings, and had stopped attending Area Partnership Meetings. Ken Dowsett and Wendy Copper confirmed to the group that Cllr Massey was invited to all Residents' Meetings.

5.4 Parking on Grass Verges

Several members reported problems with vehicles parking on grass verges. PC Young explained that it was a Council issue and only became a police issue if the vehicle was causing an obstruction. Generally it would be considered an obstruction if someone in a wheelchair or pushing a double buggy could not get through. In these instances Residents should ring the police to report it and someone should come out. It was asked whether a photograph would be considered by the police and Andy young confirmed that this would be considered by them, although it was better if they could come out and see the obstruction for themselves. He added that for a serious obstruction the vehicle would be towed away. An incident with a van in Spinney Hill Road was reported, and PC Young advised that any vehicle over 7.5 tonnes was not permitted to park in a residential area.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting would be held on Tuesday 10 May 2005 at 7.00 pm

The next General Meeting would be held on Tuesday 13 September at 7.00 pm

Both meetings to be held at Parklands Community Centre.

Distribution List

All Attendees

All Officers and Committee Members

John Delahunty

Cllr Brandon Eldred

Mike Hallam

Parklands Primary School

Parklands Nursery School

Northampton School for Girls

All Shops on Oulton Rise and Coppice Drive

Copy to be displayed at The Barn

Copy to be displayed at Community Centre

Distributed via e-mail

Jean and Roger Bradshaw

Brian Canavan

Brian and Wendy Cooper

Ken Dowsett

Simon Hegarty

Mike Hallam

Maxine Little

Rhett Norris

Sylvia Shepherd

Anita Smith

Michael Willis

Cllr Brandon Eldred

John Delahunty

Sally Gedney

Penny Westwood

