

Parklands Residents' Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parklands Residents' Association held in the Parklands Community Centre on Tuesday 26 September 2006 at 7.00 pm.

Present

Val Betts
Tony Bull
Brian Cooper (Chair)
Wendy Cooper
John Croft
Phil Gothard
Pauline Gothard
Beverley Harrison
Richard Harrison
Simon Hegarty
Maxine Little (Minutes)
Barbara Muddiman
John Muddiman

Tony Nuamah - Neighbourhood Warden
G.Norris
Rhett Norris
Liz Percival
Patricia Robinson
Robert Robinson
Jill Sanderson
Sylvia Shepherd
Peggy Wayman
Michael Willis
Sandra Willis
Jill Winstanley

1. Apologies

Chris Evans
Mike Hallam
Barbara Lee
Ann Livingston

John Livingston
PC Sarah Blyth – Community Beat Officer
Cllr Brandon Eldred
Peter Gancarcik – Park Ranger

ACTION

2. Minutes of the last Meeting held on Tuesday 30 May 2006

The minutes of the last meeting, having previously been circulated, were agreed as read.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Chair's Report

The Chair thanked everyone for their hard work in leafleting the estate about the planning application for Parklands Middle School. There had been an excellent turnout at the meeting to discuss the application and £175 had been donated on the night. The borough council had been contacted and advised that 234 letters of objection had been received, and in addition over 300 names on a petition. The application was due to go before the planning committee on 25 October or 22 November. Brian said that he would let everyone know the date as soon as he knew, so that we could make arrangements to have as many people as possible at the meeting.

5. Tesco's

5.1 Planning Application for Gates

The meeting was informed that the planning application submitted by Tesco to install gates in Spinney Hill Road had been refused.

5.2 Meeting with Tesco Area Manager

Brian Cooper had recently attended a meeting with the Area Manager for Tesco. He had received a follow up letter from the Area Manager which he read out to the meeting. This explained that the Tesco store on Coppice Drive now received 4 deliveries per week on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and apologised that there had been additional deliveries in the period leading up to the meeting. Tesco had carried out a risk assessment and as a result of this were unable to use the existing side entrance for lorries to pull into and unload at the rear of the store. They would be using smaller 10m long wagons rather than the standard 13m vehicles. The new delivery window would be 10.30 am – 12.30 pm, but that other suppliers' vehicles may arrive outside of that time.

Shirley Harrison reminded the meeting that the previous owners of the store had taken deliveries in through the backdoor. However Brian explained that according to the Area Manager, Tesco had carried out their own risk assessment, and felt that there was a safety risk so despite what any previous occupants of the store had done, Tesco's own health and safety policy prevented them from delivering to the rear of the store.

The meeting discussed the use of cones. It was generally felt by most people that the use of cones did alleviate some traffic congestion, however all agreed that they should not be out for too long before the expected arrival of a lorry.

In addition Brian had discussed with the Area Manager the possibility of Tesco funding a pole for a borough council CCTV camera to be installed. This would be considered by the company.

6. Report from Cllr Eldred

6.1 Surgery – 21 October

Cllr Eldred, Tony Nuamah - Neighbourhood Warden and Sarah Blyth, Community Beat Officer would be holding a joint surgery / drop in session at the Parklands Community Centre between 2.30 and 5.00 pm on 21 October.

6.2 Cynthia Spencer Hospice

Cllr Eldred thanked all Parklands Residents for their help in the campaign to keep the day hospice open. There were over 6,000 signatures collected on the petition. The Day Hospice would remain open while a review was undertaken by the PCT.

6.3 No Parking Devon Way

Cllr Eldred reported that the signs had been altered in Devon Way and that lines would follow soon.

7. Parklands Middle School Site

7.1 Meeting of Groups Opposed to Sale of School Sites

Details were given of a meeting called by Sally Keeble to be held at St Matthew's Church Hall on Thursday 5 October at 7.30 pm. It was hoped that representatives from all areas of Northampton opposed to the sale of various school sites would come together to share best practice.

7.2 Progress Report

Simon Hegarty gave an update on progress with the campaign to prevent the development of the Parklands Middle School site.

- Thanked everyone who had leafleted and written in to the council.
- NBC stated that they had received 234 letters objection but Residents' suspect more to be counted
- Objections had been sent in by MP; MEP; Cllr Eldred; Cllrs Church & Simpson; National Playing Fields association and Wildlife Trust.
- NCC had submitted the Section 77 application to the DfES for permission to sell the playing fields.
- There were two planning files, NBC and WNDC, assurance had been given that both files would be seen by WNDC.
- Everyone who had sent in a letter of objection should receive an acknowledgement letter from the Borough Council – if not received within next two weeks, advised to chase.
- Closing date given for objections 21/09/06, but have been advised they would consider objections received after this date, so urged anyone who had not already written in to do so.
- Urged everyone to dig out any information that they thought they might have restricting the use of the site, for instance in deeds etc.

All

All

All

Cllr Eldred had written in to the meeting to advise that he;

- Would write to Cllr Harker objecting to the sale of the school sites as one lot and ask them to look at Parklands Middle School separately
- Had written to NBC and WNDC
- Would fully support the resident's of Parklands in opposing the housing development
- Would speak at full council to argue the Parklands residents' case.

8. Neighbourhood Warden

The Chair welcomed Tony Nuamah, Neighbourhood warden to the meeting and Tony explained his role;

- Eyes and ears of community
- Link from community to local authority & other organisations
- Any problems seen eg litter, graffiti etc. he would report to the council
- Providing information to the police
- Dealing with anti-social behaviour
- Patrolling the streets (daytime only)

9. Neighbourhood Watch Advice

Brian and Wendy Cooper had recently attended a Neighbourhood Watch event at Wootton Hall, where they had been given advice on crime prevention from an ex-offender. Useful advice included;

- Don't leave keys in door – will take to get a copy cut. Will return the original key before you notice it was missing.
- Bonfire night - best night to burgle (lots of noise)
- Distraction burglaries – don't let them in if you don't know who they are
- 'Beware of the Dog' signs do deter burglars
- Leave a radio on when you go out
- Don't stop your mail, newspapers, milk if there is someone who can take them in – burglars will notice that you are away and royal mail put details on computer which can be obtained.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 Bradlaugh Fields

The meeting was informed that the Barn at Bradlaugh Fields, run by an extremely small team of just half a dozen, were seeking new volunteers to help out. Anyone interested could obtain further details from Brian, they would need to be prepared to take on tasks such as helping with teas or litter picking.

All

10.2 Clean Up

A letter had been received from Northampton Borough Council enquiring whether any local groups would like to arrange a clean-up in their area. Anyone interested in this was advised to contact Brian after the meeting.

All

10.3 Lorries Parking Up Overnight

The nuisance of lorries parking up on the estate overnight was raised. Richard Harrison advised that the lorries were from Round Spinney, and provided contact details. Brian Cooper agreed that he would contact the company on behalf of residents.

BC

10.4 Empty Bungalow in Devon Way

It was reported that the empty caretaker's bungalow in Devon Way was being vandalised. Residents in Devon Way had tried to call Diane Farrell at the County Council, but calls were not returned. Tony Nuamah and Brian Copper agreed to take this up with NBC and NCC respectively.

TN; BC

10.5 Noise from Industrial Estate

Liz Percival had reported a buzzing noise from the industrial estate toward Robert Horne's to the Environmental Health Department at the Borough Council. However she was concerned that they had refused to come out and advised her that she would have to find out exactly where the noise was coming from before they would do anything. This would be taken up with the council.

BC

10.6 Drains in Oulton Rise

There was still an ongoing problem with drains in the middle of Oulton Rise lifting dangerously high during periods of heavy rain. Brian would ask Cllr Eldred to take this issue back to the County Council.

BC; BE

10.7 Refuse Collection Times

Refuse collections in the morning around the estate was an ongoing problem coinciding with school dropping off times. It was recalled that this issue had been raised before and the advice from the council had been that somewhere has to be collected during the rush hour and it would be difficult to find anywhere where this was not a problem. However it was agreed to take this issue back to the council.

BC; BE

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 28 November at 7.00 pm at the Parklands Community Centre.

Distribution List

All Attendees

All Officers and Committee Members

Lindsey Ambrose

PC Sarah Blyth

Peter Gancarcik

Tony Nuamah

Parklands Tigers Football Club

Parklands Nursery School

Parklands Primary 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

Brian Canavan

Brian and Wendy Cooper

Ken Dowsett

Beverley and Richard Harrison

Simon Hegarty

Maxine Little

Rhett Norris

Sylvia Shepherd

Anita Smith

Michael Willis

Cllr Brandon Eldred

Sarah Blyth

Peter Gancarcik

Tony Nuamah

Lindsey Ambrose

Sarah Brooking

Sally Gedney

Penny Westwood