

# Parklands Residents' Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parklands Residents' Association held in the Parklands Community Centre on Tuesday 30 January 2007 at 7.00 pm.

## Present

Tony Bull  
Brian Canavan  
Brian Cooper (Chair)  
Wendy Cooper  
John Croft  
Chris Evans  
Simon Hegarty  
Barbara Lee  
Maxine Little (Minutes)  
Ann Livingston  
John Livingston

Barbara Muddiman  
Ged Norris  
Liz Percival  
Jill Sanderson  
Sylvia Shepherd  
Peggy Wayman  
Jill Winstanley  
Tony Nuamah  
(Neighbourhood Warden)  
PSCO Craig Matthews  
PSCO Sam Robinson

## 1. Apologies

John Muddiman  
Rhett Norris  
Michael Willis

Sandra Willis  
Cllr Brandon Eldred

## ACTION

## 2. Minutes of the last Meeting held on Tuesday 28 November 2006

The minutes of the last meeting, having previously been circulated, were considered for accuracy. There was one amendment. The previous meeting had taken place on 28 November and not 11 November as recorded in the minutes. The minutes were agreed subject to the change of date.

## 3. Matters Arising

### 3.1 Tesco

Cllr Eldred had e-mailed the manager of Tesco about the vehicles that were still unloading in front of the store and then reversing out onto Spinney Hill Road instead of the new arrangement to use the loading yard at the rear of the store. At the time of the meeting the effect of this had not been seen, and it was reported that vehicles were still persisting with dropping at the front of the shop.

### 3.2 Devon Way Parking

Cllr Eldred's note advised that the 'no parking' signs should now have been installed in Devon Way. Residents of Devon Way advised that this was still not so. Brian Cooper would let Cllr Eldred know and ask him to chase this up again.

**BC, BE**

### 3.3 Empty Bungalow in Devon Way

The empty bungalow had now been secured. Neighbours in Devon Way told the meeting about an incident on Christmas Eve where police had provided a fast response and apprehended intruders who had first tried to break in to the community centre and then moved to the bungalow.

### 3.4 Drains in Oulton Rise

Some photographs of the lifted drains in Oulton Rise had been provided and Brandon Eldred had advised that he would forward these to the Council.

**BE**

### **3.5 Refuse Collection Times**

Sally Gedney, Headteacher of Parklands Primary School had contacted the Association to offer her support to efforts to change the refuse collection times. It was noted that timings had improved, but residents would monitor the situation.

### **3.6 Councillor's Surgery**

Further surgeries were still being arranged, everyone would be advised of the dates as soon as these were available.

### **3.7 CCTV & Mosquito Alarm at Coppice Drive Shops**

These were still in the planning stage, the association would be kept informed of progress. In the meantime, following several incidents, Tesco had installed their own CCTV in front of their premises. It was not clear yet whether this would mean that they would not now contribute to the Council CCTV.

### **3.8 Poor Parking Around the Estate**

Staff from Nationwide were still leaving vehicles parked dangerously in Goodwood Avenue whilst they worked. Tony Nuamah would look into what could be done. TN

Brian Cooper recalled a feature on Anglia News where a fire engine had been driven around an estate with parking problems and cars ticketed where the engine could not get through. He would speak to the fire service about whether a similar exercise could be undertaken in Parklands. BC

## **4. Police Community Support Officers**

Craig Matthews and Sam Robinson were welcomed to the meeting. It was explained that they were Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) employed to support the police. They said that they would be patrolling in the area, but residents expressed concern about how much time they would actually spend in Parklands and how often they would end up called away to support in other wards. In the past Liz Percival had written to the Police Commanders about trying to retain designated community officers, however this had not had any effect. Brian agreed that he would speak to the Inspector for the area. It was explained that a programme of 'Safer Community Teams' was being rolled out across Northampton. This team would comprise a Police Sergeant, Police Officers, PCSOs and a Neighbourhood Warden for each area, however Parklands did not have this yet. BC

Residents were concerned following reports in the newspaper of the mugging of a man on Bradlaugh Fields during that week. The PCSOs explained that routine patrols in the area were being increased. Individuals were urged to report any suspicious behaviour to police and always to obtain an incident number.

## **5. Parklands School Sites**

### **5.1 Middle School Progress Report**

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

- The planning application had now been withdrawn from two meetings of Northampton Borough Council's Planning Committee at short notice. Firstly in November and then again in January. The second withdrawal was as a direct result of complaints by the Residents' Association about inadequate timing between publication of the papers and the meeting being held.

- A third version of the planning report for the middle school site was now due to go before the borough planning committee on 6 February 2007, Cllr Eldred, Brian Cooper and Simon Hegarty had registered to speak to oppose the plan.
- Following the borough planning committee, the plans would go before WNDC. This was provisionally scheduled for 13 March, but was still to be confirmed. As previously advised, it would be important to get lots of people to the WNDC meeting, to demonstrate the strength of feeling locally about the plans. Once the date was confirmed, volunteers would be required to leaflet the estate.

## **5.2 Northampton School for Girls Main Site**

Simon had received a reply from Penny Westwood advising that she would speak to contractors about opening the contractors car park for overspill parking when events were taking place at the school. With regard to use of the back gate in Highlands Avenue, this would continue to be used, but only as an exit gate.

## **6. Any Other Business**

### **6.1 Traffic Census**

Several people had seen a traffic census being carried out at the top of Spinney Hill Road. The people carrying out the survey had been unable to advise what it was for. Brian and Simon advised that further surveys had been requested by the planning officers for the Middle School planning application, so it was probably for that.

### **6.2 Road Safety**

Liz Percival expressed her concerns about the carelessness of some of the NSG girls when walking to and from school, stepping out in front of vehicles, because they were preoccupied. She was anxious to point out that the girls were generally well-behaved and this was pure carelessness and not malicious behaviour. Other residents agreed that from time to time there had been an occasional incident, but that this was to be expected from teenage girls, and that in general motorists all took extra care around the estate at school times. After discussion it was agreed that it was not enough of an issue to warrant contacting the school at this stage.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be the Annual General Meeting and would be held on Tuesday 27 March at 7.00 pm at the Parklands Community Centre.

### **Distribution List**

**All Attendees**  
**All Officers and Committee Members**  
**Lindsey Ambrose**  
**Cllr Brandon Eldred**  
**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  
 Mike Hallam  
 Simon Hegarty  
 Maxine Little  
 Rhett Norris  
 Sylvia Shepherd  
 Anita Smith  
 Michael Willis  
 Cllr Brandon Eldred  
 Council Officers  
 School Heads