

Parklands Residents' Association

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parklands Residents' Association held in the Parklands Community Centre on Tuesday 27 March 2007 at 7.00 pm.

Present

Tony Bull	Rhett Norris
Brian Canavan	Liz Percival
Brian Cooper (Chair)	Mr and Mrs Robinson
Wendy Cooper	Jill Sanderson
John Croft	Sylvia Shepherd
Chris Evans	Mike Swift
Richard Harrison	Janet Swift
Simon Hegarty	Ray Walters
Barbara Lee	Sylvia Walters
Maxine Little (Minutes)	Mr and Mrs Wallington
Ann Livingston	Peggy Wayman
John Livingston	Mick Willis
Barbara Muddiman	Sandra Willis
John Muddiman	Cllr Brandon Eldred
Ged Norris	Tony Nuamah (Neighbourhood Warden)

1. Apologies

Jill Winstanley
Sheila Bull

ACTION

2. Minutes of the last Meeting held on Tuesday 30 January 2007

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

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Tesco

Recent video footage taken by Tesco had been sent to Thomas Beckett School to show the Headteacher the typical behaviour of some of its pupils at the Coppice Drive shops. There were also increased police patrols at the shops due to the nuisance. However it was unfortunate that the Post Office had now put back their opening to 9 am because of the nuisance from the school children.

3.2 Devon Way Parking

Parking restrictions in Devon Way were now in place. These restrictions would be enforced through the TOPPs scheme, and initially offenders issued with a 'yellow card' for a first infringement. Now that TOPPs had been taken over by the County Council, out of hours contact was difficult, no evening and weekend numbers appeared to have been published.

3.3 Drains in Oulton Rise

It was confirmed that the photographs of the lifted drains in Oulton Rise had been sent to the Council.

3.4 Mosquito Alarm at Coppice Drive Shops

Discussions were still ongoing.

3.5 Poor Parking Around the Estate

Dangerous parking in Goodwood Avenue by Nationwide workers was still a problem, there had been a car badly damaged in an accident the previous week. Tony Nuamah outlined an option for parking restrictions in Goodwood Avenue that had been proposed by the County Council, but this would be subject to consultation. It was suggested that a peak hours restriction would be sufficient to stop workers.

Several residents reported that they had seen fire engines around the estate and it was hoped that this was part of the initiative to check access through parked cars.

The issue of parking congestion during events at Northampton School for Girls was still unresolved. Simon Hegarty had contacted Penny Westwood, Head of NSG, and she had initially been very supportive saying that she would raise the issue of opening the overflow car park with their contractors. Later she had come back advising that due to noise restrictions after 6pm, imposed by Borough Council Planners, opening the contractor's car park in the evening was not possible. She had explained that the generators to power the lights would breach the noise regulations and residents would complain. Cllr Eldred had agreed to take up this issue with the Council.

BE

Parking by contractors on zig-zag lines outside the Primary School was raised as a concern. Residents were advised to report any such issues of dangerous parking to the police, and reminded to obtain a reference number.

All

Rhett Norris reminded the meeting that poor parking at the junction of Spinney Hill Road and Oulton Rise was still an issue, with cars parked too close to the T-junction blocking visibility to drivers turning left out of Oulton Rise.

3.6 Police Community Support Officers

The meeting was advised that Parklands would be getting their own Police Community Support Officer. Also, that the Beat Officer, who had been assigned to another area, was now back in Parklands. Recent nuisance from youths with footballs in Oulton Rise and Goodwood Avenue had been reported to police by Brian Cooper, in his capacity of Chair of the Residents' Association.

3.7 Road Safety

Penny Westwood had picked up the concerns about road safety from the minutes of the last meeting and had contacted the Resident's Association to say that they would raise residents' concerns next time they spoke to students about road safety.

5. Parklands Middle School Site

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 report for the middle school site was finally heard by the borough planning committee on 6 February 2007, Cllr Eldred, Brian Cooper and Simon Hegarty all spoke to oppose the plan. It was agreed at the meeting that a decision be deferred until Sort England had submitted their report. However when the minutes of the meeting were published the decision was recorded that the plans had been sent to WNDC with no objections from the Borough Council. Simon advised that he would be taking this up with the Borough Council Planners.

SH

- The plans would now be going before WNDC. This was now provisionally scheduled for 17 April, but looking very unlikely, and would be confirmed the following day. If the meeting did go ahead everyone would be contacted to ensure good attendance at the meeting to show the strength of feeling locally about the plans.
- Simon thanked everyone who delivered leaflets to support a village green application. He explained the process and also that the County Council would make the decision about whether the site be designated a village green therefore it was highly likely that they would reject the application. Since village green was about demonstrating prolonged access 'as of right' and we could clearly show this, we would then need take our case to court to appeal against any refusal by NCC. Therefore if anyone would qualify for legal aid and would be happy to help they were asked to speak to Brian or Simon, initially, in confidence. All
- Simon noted that many village green forms had mentioned community use of the area by football club and scouts. He was already aware of Parklands Tigers use but asked if anyone knew anymore about use by the scouts. Janet and Mike Swift said that they were involved in the Scout Group and explained that the Eastern District Scouts had all assembled on the land for St George's day marches and they had also regularly used the area for other activities.
- Tony Bull informed the meeting that he had an arrangement with the school to use the field for access to his caravan. He added that he had letters and would provide copies of these to Simon. Other people also said that there were several properties bordering the school that had rear access and it was understood that access was recorded in their deeds. TB

5.2 Siting of Changing Rooms and Junior Pitch

Sport England had now recommended that one junior pitch be retained on the Parklands Middle School site. There would also be Section 106 money available for changing facilities and Simon Hegarty had been invited to meet with Adrian Arnold of WNDC to discuss where residents would prefer the pitch and changing facilities to be sited. Anyone interested was asked to stay behind after the meeting for a discussion. The consensus of opinion would then be reported to WNDC. SH

Residents were more concerned with the site of the changing rooms, than the facilities provided, so WNDC would be advised to consult with Parklands Tigers about the actual changing facilities.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be a committee meeting and would be held on Tuesday 29 May 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