



Ellesmere Park Residents' Association

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MINUTES OF MEETING 12/04/05

Present

David Yates, John Rabbitt, Bruce Thompson, Bob Berry, June Redhead, Ethel Glew, Claire Sinclair.

Apologies for absence

Received from Terry McKnight and Joe Murphy

School Arts Festival

A manager has been appointed to oversee the arrangements. Both schools will be open throughout the festival to be held 15th To 29th June and activities are planned for throughout the school day. Details will be finalised at a meeting scheduled for 13th.April.

We still need to look out for local residents with artistic flare to work with the schools and June will get back to Bob with some 'copy' that we can include in our next newsletter and also on the website.

Bob mentioned that he knew of a local young talented guitarist who had teamed up with a girl singer and they may be agreeable to appear for a small fee. Contact details will be passed onto June.

Car parking is still an issue and David suggested that it would be a good idea to ask someone from Eccles College to come along to our next meeting. June agreed to ask Christine Tyler in this regard.

The Big Roman Dig

Thanks to John for doing a tremendous job on this. Channel Four's Time Team are scheduled to do a series of live broadcasts across 26th.June to 16th.July. Notwithstanding whether Three Sisters will feature, there is enough local interest from schools and the local authority that we can proceed with our own dig with the help of Wigan Archaeological Group.

Part of the roman road was excavated in 1972, so we are sure that it is there and 'WAG' will bring their own geophys equipment this Sunday to hopefully map it out. The road is believed to go through Monton Green School playing field and also Wentworth High's field. Monton Green are keen to get involved although John has had no responses from Wentworth despite several attempts at contact.

John is setting up a program to dig in a structured way and involve various schools. Bruce is seeking funding and John has approached B&Q for donations of equipment.

John is to draft a risk assessment document and will check that insurance is in place.

Discussion was held regarding the nearby knotweed and whether any pesticides could be harmful. Bob will check with Environmental Services and report back to John.

Speed Management Measures –Monton Road

Public meeting to be held Tuesday 26th April at 7pm Monton House Hotel.

David will attend and suggestions covered:

- 1) Signage eg This is a 30 mile per hour zone, Monton welcomes careful drivers, Watch your Speed or an electronic sign which lit up when drivers were speeding.
- 2) Bicycle lanes
- 3) Moving the roundabout at the end of Stafford Road into the middle of the road, which would also help with traffic coming from the new large development Rutland Park.
- 4) Bus lay-bys
- 5) Moving the bus stop opposite Nutkins Nursery as cars overtaking stationary buses did so just before a bend and risked a head on collision.

Mobile Phone Mast Proposal Monton Sports Club

The groundswell of opinion is one of opposition and local resident Dr.Cyril Smith has emailed us details of the investigations into the health risks of living near such masts. David will write to David Jolley, Council Officer, to seek clarification on any application and make our position clear. David will CC Joe Murphy.

Homewatch

Ethel had made contact with Fiona James (Home Watch Co-ordinator). Fiona has agreed to come to our next open meeting and Ethel will now get back to her with suggested dates of 26th.May, 2nd,June or 8th.June.

Local MP Hazel Blears has stepped in and arranged for Home Watch signs now to be supplied free of charge if we need any.

John Rabbitt has drawn up new Home Watch areas and Ethel will now start ringing round to find new co-ordinators for each area. We will seek to fill any remaining vacancies at the next open meeting.

Local Development Sheme

A couple of additions to the draft suggested by Claire regarding tree preservation, David re pedestrian accesses/gates and Bruce on criteria for demolition will now be incorporated and Bob will email Chris Findley. A copy of our suggestions for the LDS is attached.

Greenwood Site

Miller Homes (developers of EllesmereHouse) have won the tender and will be holding a site meeting on 13th.April to show local residents their plans which will shortly be submitted.

Sustained campaigning and numerous meetings with council officers has resulted in a high quality development of 37 houses at a density of just 25 per hectare which is substantially less even than the minimum density of 30 prescribed by government. Half the playing field has been saved from development and will be incorporated into Three Sisters at the expense of the developer.

Voluntary Code of Good Behaviour for Builders

The proposal is that any group which has planning permission approved should be given the opportunity of signing up to a voluntary code of conduct covering such things as noise levels, parking, re-instatement of verges and kerbs, delivery times, lighting etc. David will come up with suggested draft guidelines to be called 'Considerate Constructors'.

Gate at bottom of Stafford Road and Victoria Road

We have a very good designer lined up and David will again press council officers for an answer as to our suggestions and funding request.

Cycle Route

Proposal is still ongoing. There is some funding available and the route would come across Quaker Bridge.

Treasurer's Report

Balance £2,525.10 credit. John is chasing up the few people who still haven't up-dated their annual standing order payment from £2 to £5.

Planning Applications

13A Victoria Crescent: demolish two small garages and build a small detached house. David will have a word with one of the neighbours but otherwise it was felt that we should not object.

14 Victoria Road: new car parking provision. David will contact Clive Fisher to ascertain local feeling.

12B Victoria Road: installation of a vent pipe. No objection.

53 Cavendish Road: amended plans submitted to build a house in the garden. There is local opposition and removal of parking provision to existing property goes against the Local Development Plan. Garden in-fill is also against EPRA policy. David will look at amended plans and object.

Lodge at bottom of Stafford Road: building wall has been changed and now considered acceptable.

Lodge 2 Victoria Road: No feedback yet from the council regarding the wall which has partly been built on the footpath and looks out of character. David will chase up.

AOB

SOS is holding a second fun day on Sunday 17th July and we are supporting. Funding has been applied for and Bruce will ask June if she wants her School to get involved.

Improving the path through to the playing field that is being upgraded as part of the removal of the playing field at the former Greenwood School has been costed. This should include reinforcing the banking to the stream and would be expensive. We feel that the council has an obligation to do the work particularly as the playing field was a quid pro quo for planning on Greenwood to be approved. Bruce will pursue.

Bike week will be a national event from 11th to 19th June. We plan to arrange a 'pedalling picnic' on either Sunday 12th or 19th with several routes of varying difficulty all ending up at Beesley Green Cricket Club, Roe Green where a bar will be available. Bob will try to get Barclays to donate some cuddly toys as children's prizes for the day.

Discussion was held regarding the path at the end of Ellesmere Road and we fully supported efforts to re-instate this.

