



# Ellesmere Park Residents' Association

[www.epra.freeuk.com](http://www.epra.freeuk.com)

## MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING 7th.November 2007

### 1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr.&Mrs.Manley, Dr.&Dr.Smith, Councillor Jane Murphy, PC Dave Gillin, Mr.&Mrs. Hingston.

### 2) OPENING REMARKS

David Yates welcomed to the meeting around 70 local residents plus Councillor Alan Broughton, Councillor Ann Davies, Ian Worsley (City Council Project Manager-Environmental Strategy & Development), Andrew Meadows (Community Development worker for Eccles Ward) and representatives from the Police (PCSO Tony Fletcher & PCSO Khalid Raza )

### 3) MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING 25/04/07: MATTERS ARISING

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising which were not further down today's agenda: Light Pollution: Concern was raised that all night floodlighting around Wentworth House 8 Westminster Road (a unit for the treatment of alcohol problems run by the area psychiatric service) was still causing severe problems to the environment of the five neighbouring houses. Councillor Davies agreed to take this up.

### 4) POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS

Salford is currently running a successful campaign to reduce vehicle crime and promotional items were made available at the meeting. Steering wheel locks can be purchased at a discounted price and details are available on the council's website.

PCSO Tony Fletcher works with PCSO Khalid Raza in patrolling Ellesmere Park along with Monton & Eccles.

To speak to our Community Police Officer, Dave Gillin (PC 3453) or Police Community Support Officers, Khalid Raza or Tony Fletcher (PCSO 65180) for help and advice regarding crime prevention or any other community matter, please telephone 0161 856 5317 or email the team on [salfordsouth.neighbourhood@gmp.police.uk](mailto:salfordsouth.neighbourhood@gmp.police.uk). Should an incident occur where you live, and a Police Officer needs to attend, please telephone 0161 872 5050. If you have information about a crime, please telephone Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 (you do not have to give your name and you may receive a reward). Dave Gillin's email address is [dave.gillin@gmp.police.uk](mailto:dave.gillin@gmp.police.uk)

If anyone is interested in volunteering as a Homewatch co-ordinator, then please contact Ethel Glew via the email address on our website.

#### 5) EPRA WEBSITE [www.epra.freeuk.com](http://www.epra.freeuk.com)

Terry McKnight runs the website which has been in existence for six years and has last year been re-designed with clearer links to amongst other sites, the Salford City Council website where you can report matters of concern eg: potholes. There is lots of information and all the EPRA minutes are available.

#### 6) PLANNING APPLICATIONS UPDATE

To keep up to date with planning applications, visit our website [www.epra.freeuk.com](http://www.epra.freeuk.com) and follow the link.

11-15 Sandwich Road: We made an agreement with the developers that the plans be amended to show the rear wall as brick. The local authority asked for a landscape plan which was not amended to show a brick wall, this plan was accepted without consultation and the agreement we had was then superseded. John Rabbitt wrote to Chris Findley (Head of Planning) who says that nothing can be done.

2 Victoria Road: The wall has been built partly on council land and cars regularly park on the remaining narrow pavement which means that pedestrians have to walk in the road to pass the property. The owner has been fined by Highways on 20/7/06 and ordered to remove the wall, but only one third has to date been demolished. Both Councillor Davies and Councillor Broughton agreed to take this up. Retrospective planning permission for the wall was denied following our objections and the remaining wall remains unsightly and too high.

The owner of 13 Chatsworth was present and said that he had submitted an application to build a flat rear extension and he was happy to discuss any aspect of his request.

#### 7) ROADS AND PAVEMENTS IN ELLESMERE PARK

John Gill told the meeting that he had received an email from a regular user of Victoria Road saying it was in poor condition and dangerous. John found only three potholes but considered that the road was just generally wearing out. The potholes did not seem to meet the criteria for repair.

The criteria for repairs is that potholes need to be 2 inches (50mm) deep on carriageways before being actioned for repair. In the case of dangerous situations, action will be taken within two hours.

In the case of danger of tripping on pavements, the criterion is 28mm and these must be actioned within 28 days. If a local resident makes a report, then inspectors must investigate within 2 days and action within 28 days.

Councillor Broughton said that work can still be done even if the relevant criterion has not been met and he will take the matter up.

There were problems with the reinstatement of verges on Stafford Road following the recent work installing new sewers and Councillor Davies agreed to take this up. In general, the contractors on Stafford Road were really good and there were no major problems.

Traffic calming has been installed on the top section of Cavendish Road, Welbeck Road and Bradford Road.

The proposal for a raised junction on Westminster Road/Rutland Road was assessed and road safety engineers decreed that it was not needed. Westminster Road is one of the few remaining roads without speed bumps and Councillor Broughton was asked to re-visit whether they were now needed. He was also asked to look at the problem of the rake on the speed bumps on Ellesmere Road which are considered too severe and causing damage to vehicles and possibly their contents.

If you want to report a pothole or uneven pavement, then ring 0161 909 6500 or email [city.highways@salford.gov.uk](mailto:city.highways@salford.gov.uk) and copy John Gill on [john-lynn.gill@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:john-lynn.gill@tiscali.co.uk)

You can contact John on 789 2853.

## 8) OPEN SPACES

Ian Worsley (Project Manager-Environmental Strategy & Development) told us that within Ellesmere Park and Monton, there had for some time been a deficiency of facilities for children. In response, working with Eccles Neighbourhood Management Team and local residents, the following schemes had been agreed:

- 1) **Quaker Bridge**, a play area for children ages 4-12 plus two enclosed goal units. The closest to houses will be 30 metres. The play equipment will include climbing nets, roundabouts, slides, basket swing and spring animals.
- 2) **Narbonne Gardens** (Off Portland Road), a play area for younger children with classic play equipment such as swings, roundabouts etc plus two goal units.
- 3) **Ellesmere Recreation Ground**, a ball court would be introduced.

Ian assured the meeting that all these schemes included funds available for maintenance plus all litter, glass etc would be removed on a daily basis.

In addition to the projects aimed at children, the following areas are to be enhanced:

- 1) **Three Sisters**, money to be spent to improve this site of biological interest which houses rare amphibians, water scorpions, ramshorn snails, frogbit on the ponds amongst other flora and fauna. A draft interpretation board including mention of the Roman Road was shown to the meeting and once finalised, this board will be erected at the entrance to the Three Sisters. We were told that records of the species on the site are held at the County Archives in Liverpool.  
Bruce Thompson told us that Miller Homes were contractually obliged to complete a landscaping scheme on the edge of their development and this would now be done.
- 2) **Monton Walkway** along the old railway line parallel with Cavendish Road, work would be done to remove some self-seeded sycamores and generally introduce some more natural light. The footpath will be re-surfaced and the entrance brightened up and improved.

Route 55 cycle path is now open through Ellesmere Park and is signposted and is part of the national scheme of cycleways.

## **9) NEWS FROM NEIGHBOURING COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS (SOSCA & ECCLES COMMUNITY COMMITTEE)**

Bruce Thompson is our representative on Eccles Community Committee which meets bi-monthly in Eccles and every resident, tenant or voluntary group is entitled to attend. Bruce told us that they have budgets for small highways/transport matters

Contact Bruce (707 2470) for further details about Community Committee.

SOSCA: No representative was available, but you can keep up with their campaigns via [www.swintonopenspace.co.uk](http://www.swintonopenspace.co.uk)

## **10) ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

David asked if we should be getting more interested in wider issues such as Salford West regeneration, Salford Quays and in particular, Mediacity. The suggestion was that we should look beyond our own immediate environment and there was wholesale support for inviting a speaker from Mediacity to our next open meeting.

Councillor Broughton told us that the lights on the footpath between Cavendish Road and Chatsworth Road are the responsibility of Eccles College. He had been assured by Stuart Wattam at the college that the lights would be fixed in the next week or so.

The problem of litter caused by Eccles College students was raised and it was agreed that we should ask for litter bins on all the routes taken by the students.

John Gill told us that the side of Bradford Road has an adopted verge and this needs reinstating and maintaining.

## **11) SOCIAL PROGRAMME**

Talks by invited speakers gained unanimous support. Ideas from the floor were speakers from Mediacity or regarding the congestion charges.

Other ideas included a wine tasting evening or a 'walkabout' with a wildlife expert or a tour of Ellesmere Park concentrating on architecture.

## **12) FRECCLES**

Freccles (Friends Of Eccles Station): A speaker from the floor noted the good clearing up work which has been undertaken at the station.

**To keep up to date with Freccles, visit their website [www.freccles.org.uk](http://www.freccles.org.uk) or email [freccles@btinternet.com](mailto:freccles@btinternet.com)**

### **13) TREASURER'S REPORT**

John Rabbitt said that the current balance was a very healthy £5,398.69. This was an increase on the balance as at the end of 2006/7 which was £4,707.67.

A full set of accounts is on the website.

### **14) ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

As notified at the open meeting in April, David confirmed that he was now stepping down as Chairman after completing over 5 years in the role. He asked if anyone else was interested in joining the committee although no one came forward. The committee will continue without a Chairman for the time being until a new person is elected.

Sincere thanks came from the floor for a fantastic job well done and this sentiment was received unanimously.

### **15) THEMES FOR NEXT OPEN MEETING**

The next open meeting will be scheduled for around six months time and will concentrate on a more social evening with an invited speaker.

### **16) ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business. David thanked everyone for attending and thanked in particular the staff at Monton Sports Club.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.