

MINUTES OF THE RIVERSIDE AVENUE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 27th March 2012

Apologies:

Steve Foreman, Mina West, Carol Fitzsimmons, Nikki Ellis, Sandra Callear, Rob Urwin.

Present:

Dave Hughes, Phil Summerlin, Darren Payne, Elka Bhatt, Linda Payne, Mick Dunsden, Rada Juric, Doug Ball, Kay Mingay

Bank Account and signatories:

Dave finally managed to get the RaRa account set up with himself Linda Payne and Phil Summerlin as signatories. It was noted that there are two accounts, one is an interest account which holds the majority of the funds and also a cheque account which money need to be transferred into to be able to make payments. The mechanism for doing this needs to be explored and Linda was willing to contact the bank to discover how we manage this.

Action: Linda Payne

Access to river and Trustees:

The committee invited Douglas Ball (Boyscote) to the meeting because of the amount of research he has completed into this subject and he graciously accepted. Furthermore, it was felt that because of his historical knowledge of the Avenue, he would be a great asset to the committee. He was invited to become a member and we were all delighted with his acceptance. Doug reported that he had discovered that there were 4 trustees of the access to the river and of these, one is deceased, two have moved away and one (Terry Hardy) is in St. Margaret's Hospital suffering from severe Alzheimer's . Which only really leaves his wife as trustee by default?

The issues with the access are manifold and very complicated. It is overgrown and unusable at the moment and there seems little enthusiasm to clear it, bearing in mind the small amount of use it would probably get. There is also the issue of the trustees being liable for claim liability for any injury sustained by people using it. Simply putting up signs to the effect that the trustees are not responsible for any damage sustained etc. are not likely to be legally enforceable bearing in mind the litigious society we find ourselves in nowadays. It was also noted that the land is not just in trust for the residents of Riverside Avenue, but the whole of Keyzers estate including Old Nazeing Road from the Crown PH to The Chimes industrial estate. Linda will ask one of her solicitor colleagues for some informed advice and report back next meeting.

Problems with Pumps at the Thames Water pumping station:

It was reported by Phil that there have been many failures of the sewage pumps at the junction of Riverside Avenue and the gravel road to Great Meadow and some blame for the problems is alleged to have originated from the building works nearby. Thames Water have not pointed the finger at any party, but it was felt that a paragraph in the newsletter reminding people what they should not put down the drains was in order.

Action: Phil

Gravel Path:

Phil proposed a working party to clear the excess vegetation and brambles from the path to Great Meadow. This was seconded by Linda and a date of Sunday 15th April 2012 at 10:30 was fixed for these works. A sign at the beginning of the road to ask for volunteers was felt necessary, Phil to organise.

Action: Phil

Raising money:

It was felt that it was time to broach the sensitive subject of collecting money and Linda proposed that the amount should be £60.00 per annum to be collected in bi-annual payments of £30.00. All agreed that this was the correct mix of a useful amount for the funds and affordability for residents. The motion was seconded By Mick and carried. Linda to draught letter to send out to residents.

Action: Linda

Petty Crime and what to do:

Phil circulated a memo regarding proposed solutions to petty crime in our avenue however, it was felt by the majority of the committee that most problems seem to stem from the building works in the road which appear to be a magnet for pilfering undesirables. It was further felt that once the works were finished the problem would be much improved. Phil to put a piece in the newsletter asking residents to be extra vigilant and note registration numbers of suspicious vehicles etc.

Action: Phil

Map of houses at entrance to road:

Phil obtained a quotation to erect a sign at the entrance of the road showing all the house names and their location. The costs were £136.00 Inc. VAT for the complete 2' X3' sign with posts and £92.28 without posts. It was felt that although the sign would doubtless prove useful for delivery drivers and suchlike, the majority felt that it would tend to give the road an 'industrial estate' feel. Furthermore, it was even suggested that some people may object to the location of their house being published in this way and the onus should be on the individual householder to describe to prospective delivery companies where their house was located. A vote was taken and the motion was rejected.

Speeding

The perennial subject of what to do about speeding was discussed again and solutions were discussed. No real answer to the problem was found, but it was suggested that we consider some kind of 'Name and shame' policy. We intend to discuss again at the next meeting

Street Party

It was felt that we should consider a street party for the Queens Jubilee and the date of June 4th was suggested. All felt that it was a good idea and we will need to discuss further at the next meeting.

Date for next meeting: To Be Confirmed

Minutes Approved by.....

Signature.....

Date.....

Any outstanding points.....

To carry over?