

Norton Lees Residents' Association
Minutes for General Meeting
22 October 2009 at St Paul's Church Centre



Present

Chair - Richard May (**RM**), Temporary Secretary - Rachel Nicholas (**RN**), Treasurer - Pat Bradshaw (**PB**), Editor - Nick Robinson (**NR**), John Brown (**JB**), Andrew Hogan (**AH**)
Graves Park Ward Councillors :- Ian Auckland (**IA**), Bob McCann (**BM**), Peter Moore (**PM**)
Gleadless Valley Ward Councillor Denise Reaney (**DR**).
Neighbourhood Watch - Wendy A Zealand (**WZ**)

Local residents and interested members of the public

Apologies

Ken Bower (KB), Lyn Bower (LB), PCSO-8301 Rachael Graham (**RG**), Cate McDonald

Minutes from the previous meeting were distributed and comments invited.

Welcome

Richard May (**RM**) welcomed everyone and apologised for the disorganised publicity for the meeting, due partly to the sudden departure of Dave Holt, NoLRA secretary, who now has work commitments in Leeds. He thanked Dave for his hard work and dedication to NoLRA and passed on his best wishes for the future.

Appeals were made for replacement secretary and other committee members.

Rachel Nicholas was introduced as the secretary for the time being.

Crime in the Community

Very few crimes were reported this quarter. Shop lifting and petty crime levels were low.

Three day-time burglaries on Lees Hall Road were reported and one at St Pauls Church – no further details at present.

Pat Bradshaw brought a BBC publication to the attention of the residents, showing that Heeley and Norton were fifth on the list of National hotspots for crime.

Litter - Street Force have been looking into sites for more litter bins. Some residents have complained about the possibility of the bins being placed outside their properties, which has caused delays in placement. Proposed sites have included the corner of Lees Hall Ave and Lees Hall Road and the corner of Hollythorpe Rise and Norton Lees Lane

Dog waste Bins - positioning of another waste bin at the entrance to Meersbrook Park is being investigated.

Street Lights - street lights on Lees Hall Ave, Lees Hall Road and Hollythorpe Road have gone out. Residents need to report these failures as soon as possible by calling 2736530 as there is usually a three week wait for repair.

Funds

Special thanks to Pat Bradshaw for accounting. Account stands at £625.58

Guest Speaker

Ian Auckland (**IA**) Lib Dem Councillor, responsible for transport and highways, including Street Force gave a report. The following were covered briefly:-

Traffic improvements for Woodseats.

Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) planning a £646 million scheme to manage improvements locally for roads, trees, verges, street lamps etc starting late 2011 to 2017. Three private contractors are bidding to maintain these improvements over the next 25 years.

Four new trams for Sheffield are proposed and a park and ride site is being sought for the South of Sheffield.

Community assemblies have been given money for local projects. "You choose" allows local groups to bid for £250 for projects. There will also be a Road Show Event where groups can come and present their ideas for a share of £7000 for local projects.

Also available is a "green pot" of money for local groups to bid for green projects in their area.

Details for Community projects available on our website. Venue for Road Show not as yet decided.

Open Questions to IA included the ongoing problem of trees and root damage caused by them. Concerned residents are encouraged to firstly seek advice from their Councillor and if no result there, to perhaps report to Star newspaper/media to draw attention to problem.

Editor's Report

Nick Robinson (NR) encouraged people to volunteer for committee posts. Newsletter articles needed as an issue is planned before Christmas.

Think about ideas for community projects. Suggestions were discussed – recycling point next to Coop, OAP's dance function, lunch/tea parties for the elderly.

Beryl's poetry book was advertised, copies available at Post Office.

Cllr Denise Reaney drew the Raffle Prizes

Neighbourhood Watch - Wendy A Zealand - Wendy encouraged people to join NHW and advertised the meetings now held regularly at St Paul's.

David Holt has produced some leaflets with dates of meetings and information. Meetings are there to encourage people to support each other and share ideas/problems.

AOB

Peter Moore announced that our local PCSO, Rachael Graham, has won PCSO of the year and has been nominated for a further national award.

Next meeting: Date to be announced.