

LEATHERHEAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MONDAY 6th APRIL 2009

Amended minutes

Held at the Leatherhead Institute

1. Police Report

- It was reported that there had been a slight increase in crime during the last month. Fran Davy talked us through the incidents
- Some of the members present are still concerned about the behaviour of the clientele that frequent W'spoons. The police explained that since the licence was reviewed they have been called to only four incidents. They still continue to make regular visits to monitor the situation. The public were advised to inform the police if they see any aggressive behaviour.
- One member (name unknown) lives opposite the Duke's Head Public House and he drew the police's attention to the long and noisy hours after closing time. He does not have a problem with W'spoons. The police will monitor the situation.
- Cheryl Allen (CA) requested to have reports from the North Leatherhead R.A. meetings made available so that the town could be united. Hubert Carr (HC) said that this motion will be discussed at the next committee meeting. Fran Davy (FD) assured the meeting that she will aim to co-ordinate the reports to present at the next meeting. However, both are available on the Surrey Police web page.
- A member suggested that there should be more police presence in town. FD was able to reassure us that Mole Valley crime statistics compare favourably to other areas. As community police, they are able to know their public. She emphasised that the police do need to keep the lines of communication open with the public.
- Members raised the problems of cyclists who ignore signs and members of the public who drop litter. F.D. gave assurance that anyone seen breaking these laws is given a caution but no one has been charged.
- On 2nd July 2009. there is to be a 'Safety Day' organised by the police in the Swan Centre.

2. Apologies

Dave Smith, Fran Barnby Smith

3. Minutes/Matters arising

These were unavailable although they had been posted on the LRA website blog.

4. Parking Issues

- Bridget Lewis Carr (BC) The results from the Parking Questionnaire were agreed on April 2nd with the exceptions of St. John's Road and Kingscroft. Parking in these two roads will remain unchanged.
- S.C.C. will meet 24th June, if they agree to changes there will be a 3month public consultation.
- The residents of Minchin Close will take part in a trial whereby they will have residents' parking only. To be reviewed 24th June
- Jennifer Davies (JD) requested that in future any consultations concerning Poplar Road will include all residents and not just part of the road.
- C.A queried the roads targeted. She is concerned that the parking problem in Leatherhead will just be moved on to other areas of the town.
- BC named the roads concerned. Epsom Road will have double yellow lines – awaiting SCC decision.
- Roy Allen (RA) agreed that this is an insoluble task – the high car parking charges deter commuters and local workers. The Council 'drip feeds' information – transparency is needed. The Help Shop should be used to keep the public informed.
- Caroline Brown (CB) congratulated the council for inviting residents for their opinions.
- DG suggested agreements with the offices in town – subsidised parking?
- CA concerned that the elderly residents of Windfield do not understand the repercussions of the suggested parking plan. Visitors/nurses/doctors/carers will be unable to park for longer than 1hr.

- HC stated there had been no involvement/methodology in this consultation. Where any local parties involved? LRA are here to serve residents and our aim is to ensure we are involved in the methodology of any consultations so that we can speak on behalf of the residents.
- TM the outcome must not be rushed – time must be taken in order to get it right. Park and Ride?

5. Local Groups

No representatives at meeting.

BC Area Forum 22nd April, Parish Church Hall, 7.30pm. Agenda available on SCC web site.

6. Sub-Committee Reports

6.1 Planning

- CB The Planning Committee will act only if requested. The Multi-Use Games Area at the Leisure Centre will go ahead and the residents near the site have raised no objections
- The owner of 8 The Crescent has now applied to change use of building to residential
- W'spoons have applied for permission to extend time for tables outside beyond 4.30pm. As yet no decision has been made.
- There will shortly be a new plan for the High Street
- 2 plans in Magazine Place are awaiting decisions
- Appeals:
 - Gable Cottage, Downs Lane.
 - St Andrew's derelict 6th Form site, Grange Road. Barrett have applied for planning permission to build houses.
- BC Permission for flats on Working Men's Club unused building has been passed Cherkley Court has been permitted to hold 2 trial outdoor events in July/August with pa systems.

6.2 Highways

- Considering the parking issue
- Knoll Roundabout – promised article in Advertiser not forthcoming
- Waterways/Randalls Road demolition of railway steps 'imminent' 4mths ago
- Bus stop near Windfield – SCC considering
- Road sign outside Lidl's should be moved imminently as pedestrians are forced to pass it on the road. HC will follow this up.

6.3 Membership

- Awaiting some road stewards subscriptions.
- Membership forms are available in some local shops
- 5 new road stewards
- £4000 in account - £3000 as reserve
- HC The more funds we can accrue the more legitimate we will be

7. AOB

- Hilary Porter (HP) Litter Pick Sunday 19th April. Meet outside Martins/Argos at 2.00pm
- 3 committees who represent Leatherhead Partnerships are organising an event for much needed funds: 2nd May, £10. Fish/chicken and chip supper with a 17 piece band. The Night Hostel, Mental Health and the Town's Christmas Lights will be the beneficiaries. (£5000 are needed for the lights, half the total cost)
- A resident of Magazine Place is causing concern due to his dangerous manoeuvres in his car. A crossover has been built without planning permission.

The next meeting will be held on the Monday following Bank Holiday – May 11th.

HC closed the meeting at 9.00.