

# Whinfield Residents Association & Friends of Beech Wood

## Meeting - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2012, 6.30pm

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

- Apologies were received from: G Foster, J Foster, C McEwan, A Macnab, H Crumbie, T Nutt and C Jackson.
- Attendees: E Shepherd (Chair), R Sherwood-Parkin (Secretary), D Harris, K Fridd, Cllr B Hutchinson, J Upton, M Haw, P Newton, A Rudkin, Cllr D Lyonette, Cllr A Scott.

### 2. Minutes from Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October (below) & Matters Arising

- Minutes from the last meeting agreed as accurate.
- Cllr Hutchinson reported that the best way to get into Oban Court for the meeting is to press zero on the control panel outside.
- Cllr Hutchinson reported that she is talking to Asda about the trolley situation and the Police are happy to be start prosecuting people. A Rudkin raised the issue of trolleys being left in the trolley stations in Asda on a night time and Cllr Hutchinson is to look into this further.

### 3. Beech Wood

- The Group agreed that the questionnaire of all local residents, asking about their priorities for the Wood, should be delayed until after Christmas to maximise the number of responses. M Haw said he was happy to help deliver some.
- The formation of a separate Friends of Beech Wood meeting was discussed, with M Haw stating that a separate meeting would generate more interest. However, Cllrs Scott and Hutchinson pointed out the need for individuals to drive such a group and that the costs could be prohibitive. E Shepherd reported that she had been asked to incorporate Friends of Beech Wood into the WRA by Cllr Nutt as it was struggling for attendees.
- It was agreed that the issue would be looked at again once responses had been received back from the questionnaire (residents will be able to drop them off at Asda, Whinfield Surgery, Whinfield School and the Shuttle & Loom).
- **Action 1: Beech Wood questionnaire to be delivered in January; any volunteers please email [roly.sherwood.parkin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:roly.sherwood.parkin@yahoo.co.uk).**

### 4. Springfield Park

- A Rudkin reported that the hole in the road on Green Lane had been filled in and that the litter problems had reduced. However, there were still issues with horses using the park. Cllr Scott said that the 'No Riding' sign had been turned round to face the right way.

### 5. WRA Website

- R Sherwood-Parkin explained that the website was up and running and circulated a draft of the home page, with key pages on Beech Wood, Springfield Park and for residents to have their say. M Haw suggested amending the title of the website to reflect that it covers WRA and the Friends of Beech Wood.
- **Action 2: RSP to amend website to add re Friends of Beech Wood**

## 6. Any Other Business

- A Rudkin mentioned about bus stops being vandalised and Cllr Hutchinson advised that Cllr McEwan had reported the issue.

## 7. PACT Meeting & Re-worked PACT

- Only one PACT priority was highlighted this month due to the proposed changes to the PACT format (see below). This is a focus upon Jesmond Road and the issues of speeding cars and car parking at school times. Cllr Hutchinson and E Shepherd raising the issue and called for the Police to look at the matter as a priority,
- The PCSOs reported upon planned changes for the PACT. Although still at draft stage and Police would appreciate feedback, they are proposed to be:
  - Maintain bi-monthly attendance at PACT meetings. However, want to widen who they get to see, meet victims of crime in particular and ensure they are visible to the public.
  - Therefore, are proposing to hold monthly satellite street surgeries held to meet members of the public, such as in Asda or particular areas experiencing problems (with the possibility of using floodlight surgeries on particular streets),
  - Also proposing a PACT meeting to cover all three Haughton wards (East, North and West, so taking in Whinfield, Haughton, Springfield and Red Hall) which would be held at The Education Village.
  - The whole Beat Team of 5 officers (2 beat offices and 3 PCSOs) would be there, crime trends discussed and priorities for the whole area chosen. These would be flexible to ensure coverage of issues across the three areas.
- Although concern was expressed about promoting the new system and whether residents would travel to The Education Village, residents and councillors expressed their support for the proposed new system, particularly the idea of street surgeries and more regular walkabouts. The new system is to be in place in the New Year with more details to follow.

## 8. Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting (AGM) agreed as **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm at Oban Court**

**The Chair and Secretary wished all residents and their families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.**

