

**Whinfield Residents Association  
(Inc Friends of Beechwood)**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 at Oban Court

**Present:** A. Rudkin Chair, D.Milner V.Chair, J.Murray Treasurer, G.Foster Secretary, J. Foster, R. Fitzpatrick, P.Voss, C.Milner, D.Watson, M.Haw, G.Bake, G,Bake, T.Watson, C.Bean, C.Jackson, A. Hutchinson

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Nutt and Crombie, J.Atkinson, A Robinson

**Chairman's Report:** It is intended to form a working committee in the near future in order to take forward the work of the association. It is currently envisaged that this will be four posts in addition to the officer's.

**Treasurer's Report:** Total bank balance £742.33

**Minutes of last meeting :** The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were read and agreed to be a correct record proposed C Milner and seconded by P Voss.

**Matters arising from minutes:**

AH updated the meeting on the website and its future development.

DM told the meeting that he had attended a meeting with Darlington Borough Council regarding Community Funding and that there had been a positive response.

He also said that Darlington Borough Council was not intending to extend the double yellow lines or erect no parking signage on Sparrow Hall Drive.

GF said that the application by Darlington Golf Club to construct a driving range had been passed by Darlington Borough Council, however the Planning Committee agreed that there were road safety implications on Green Lane where pedestrians crossed from Sparrow Hall Drive onto the Springfield playing fields. As a road safety precaution a condition to provide lighting at this point was added to the granting of the Golf Club's application.

DM The roundabout on Springfield children's play area had suffered fire damage, we are awaiting a response from the Council.

GF Following the meeting held in Beech Wood with Phil Haynes in March 2015 when required work was identified, we have not yet received any indication as to when the work will be undertaken, and by whom, despite reminders being sent to the Council. In particular we have received no assurance from the Council regarding the condition of the Chestnut tree adjacent to Beech Road; neither has the Council written to residents of that area identifying their future intended actions.

**Anti-social behaviour:**

A large number of young persons, consuming alcohol, had been involved in a disturbance on Barmpton Lane, near to the entrance to Muscar House Farm, and the Police must be thanked for their prompt response and action taken. This incident would be raised at the next PACT meeting, on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

Residents are reminded to report all incidents they witness no matter how small by ringing 101.

**Asda Trolleys:**

JM informed the meeting that a positive meeting with the Management at Asda was held in order to try and address the problem of abandoned trolleys. It was agreed that a competition to design a poster to remind customers not to remove trolleys, should be held at the local schools, and that

Asda would provide prizes. In the meantime residents are reminded that abandoned trolleys can be reported to Asda or to Darlington Borough Council.

**Any Other Business:**

There was a discussion around the current association with the Friends of Beech Wood and it was agreed that it will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

AH raised the issue of public transport in the Whinfield area, in particular that since the removal of the 14b Service by Arriva, elderly persons living in the Barmpton Lane area and who visited the Doctors Surgery or Asda could only return by bus if they travelled into town and changed buses in order to return home. This matter will be raised at the next meeting with our Councillor's.

**Date of next meeting:** 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 at 7pm in Oban Court.

Meeting closed at 8pm