

Whinfield Residents Association
(incorporating the Friends of Beech Wood)

(website: www.whinfieldresidents.co.uk)

Minutes of the meeting of 16.03.2016 at Oban Court

Attendees: Anne Rudkin, David Milner, Judith Murray, Alan Hutchinson, Graham Foster, Jean Foster, Carol Milner, B Simpson, Pat Newton, Barrie Newton, James Eddy, Mike Haw, Dave Watson, Tom Watson, Chris Bean, John Atkinson, Roger Fitzpatrick-Odahamier, Rosemary Adams

Apologies: Cllr. Tom Nutt, Cllr. Helen Crumbie, Alan Macnab

Approval of Minutes: It was agreed to amend the minutes of 20/01/16, "Residential Developments", to state "*Highways to inform about March time about a possible Darlington northern bypass.*", making it clear that this was nothing to do with Darlington Golf Course. Carole Milner proposed and James Eddy seconded that the amended minutes then be approved, and this was agreed,

Matters arising from the Minutes

- **Trolley Competition:** Anne Rudkin updated members on the progress of the competition. Posters to be erected on the community notice board in Asda for members of the public to vote on. Anne Rudkin, David Milner, Lousie Gibson (Community Champion Asda) would make the final judging. A prize would be given to the winner from WRA along with prizes for the runners up. Anne Rudkin to update.
- **Bus Routes:** The negative response from Arriva was disappointing concerning the No.10 bus route becoming a 10a/10b, as the idea was raised to improve services. Alan Hutchinson pointed out that the consultation wording wasn't clear and he proposed that we pursue this matter as a campaign, which was agreed. He offered to draft a letter to Arriva which would go out in the WRA Secretary's name, and this was agreed.
- **Whinbush Way Traffic Lights:** David Milner had spoken to Cllr Scott re. the congestion they cause at certain times. Cllr Scott is aware of it, and will make parties aware of the situation again.

Chair's report

- David Milner commented on how popular the Asda Trolley Competition has been.
- He mentioned our success in receiving funding from our Community Funding Application.
- Re. Springfield Park anti-social behaviour, David Milner and John Atkinson are to meet with Inspector Davison and update.

Treasurer's Report

- Monies in the bank £1,118.01
- Community Funding Application had been successful as we have received £220 to be used for starting our website, and ICT equipment. Letter written to Val Rutherford by a resident asking about why our application had failed when criteria had been met.
- A Table Top Sale is to be held on 21st May at Asda.
- Banks Renewables going ahead at Moor House Farm have a fund £352,000 available over 25 years and we could apply for funding.

Beech Wood

- Rob George to meet with contractors to discuss the possibility of planting of wild flowers. The Friends of Beech Wood were not aware of this meeting. David Milner to clarify with Cllr. Crumbie.
- It was left for the Friends to decide about the planting of the wild flowers.
- David Milner to contact Cllr Crumbie re the tree situation.

Springfield Park

- John Atkinson gave an overview of his progress. He had spoken to David Hutchinson, Park Inspector, and pointed out that Springfield Park is valued by a lot of people.
- The play area is to be painted on the 28th April, all the repairs to play equipment to be done before painting commences.
- Fly tipping has been removed.

Residential Developments

Muscar House Farm: No updates

Darlington Golf Course: No updates

Website

- Alan Hutchinson reported that GoDaddy had been very helpful and the new website is now online at "www.whinfieldresidents.co.uk".
- There is a new section "News & Events" in which the Trolley Competition and Table Top Sale have been added.
- There are problems with the new email address, and the old one will be used for now. Alan Hutchinson will test and monitor "info@whinfieldresidents.co.uk".
- It was agreed that the WRA website will host Alan Hutchinson's personal website for a short while until his hosting difficulties are resolved.

PACT Meeting

- David Milner reported that the last meeting was held in a noisy corridor as the room had not been booked.
- The meeting was taken by officers from Bank Top.
- The police website information was incorrect with wrong dates for meetings,
- It was suggested that Police Officers come to our meetings occasionally.

Litter

Councillor Crumbie has organised a Litter pick with the Spring Clean Event, on 1st April 11am at Springfield Park and Green Lane.

Appleby Horse Fair

Questions were raised about what measures the council are going to take to prevent problems from happening again. David Milner to address this with Cllr Crumbie..

Any other business:

None.

Date of next meeting:

7.00pm Wednesday 18th May 2016 at Oban Court

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.