Fordbank Residents Association – AGM

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**Thursday 30th January 2020**

**Didsbury Sports Ground 7.30pm**

**Present:**

**Ford Lane:** Jackie Butterworth, John Thomas, Mike Purcell, Chris Caplin.

**Fordbank Road:** Daisy and Laurence, Jean Johnston, Jenny Wynne.

**Dene Road:** Alison Bowyer, Karen and Martin Malies.

**Deneford Road:** Barbara and Joe Griffin, Alastar Jackson.

**Granville Gardens:** Rick Taylor.

**Harefield Drive:** John Llewellyn, Dan and Pippa.

**Whitehaven Gardens:** Pat and Kieran Brennan.

**Woodford Gardens:** Mike and Joyce Cunningham, Mike Broderick.

***21 resident attendees, plus Chair (TB), Secretary (RED), Treasurer (MT), Green Member (JW), Youth Member (DB), Social Secretary (SP).***

***Invited Guests: Councillor Richard Kilpatrick (RK) and Councillor John Leech (JL).***

**Apologies:** Theresa and Graham Crofts, Barbara Goodman, Trevor Gale,Moira Sykes and invited guest: Councillor Greg Stanton (GS).

1. **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising.**

TB introduced the meeting and discussed the minutes from the previous meeting as the agenda items for this meeting. These were agreed as a point of business and the actions formed the agenda for this meeting. Minutes are available on the website: <http://www.fordbankresidents.org.uk/>.

1. **List of attendees.**

RED distributed list of attendees on spreadsheet for everyone to sign. Usual practice of signing up and adding email addresses. TB led introductions from all who attended and welcome the new attendees.

1. **Election of Officers.**

In the usual practice of bring the AGM; the election of officers was conducted.

Chair – Tony Butterworth (TB) to stand down. Rachel Dalton-Woods (RED) was elected to this role.

Secretary – Sarah Purcell (SP) was elected to this role.

Treasurer – Milly Taylor (MT) was elected to continue in this role.

Green Member – John Waterton (JW) was elected to continue in this role.

Youth Member – Dan Bromley (DB) was elected to continue in this role.

Web Support – Shaun Foster to continue in this role.

The new Chair then created a new role of Senior Resident’s Officer – Tony Butterworth (TB) was elected to this role.

The residents thanked Tony for all his work, leadership and contribution to the RA over the past 5 years.

1. **Update from Treasurer - MT.**

* 2020 subscriptions now due. Only 15 households have paid in 2019.
* £1082 in the account.
* Funds paid out – Christmas Party £125.68 and website maintenance £8.39.
* Household subscriptions last from January to December and please forward 2019 to Milly.
* **ACTION FOR RESIDENTS:** Please send any subscriptions to Milly at: [ricmaxtayl@aol.com](mailto:ricmaxtayl@aol.com) or 17 Granville Gardens.

1. **Didsbury In Bloom Update.**

John Thomas provided an update on the area. The new grassy knoll posts have been erected to prevent traffic destroying the grass verge. Thank you to Mary Thomas as the main driver behind securing this work. Residents asked if the posts could be treated with fence paint – this is a possible NIF application and activity for the residents. One resident noted that there seemed to be less traffic parked opposite the grassy knoll since the posts arrived.

John has replaced all the flowers in the tubs on Ford Lane.

The lavender walk needs to be replaced this year due to the lack of sunshine. Any suggestions are welcome.

Bell flowers and bluebells are to be planted around the trees due to the lack of sunlight. Bluebells donated by the Didsbury Community Wood.

Results of Didsbury in Bloom for Ford Lane were outstanding! Congratulations to all involved.

1. **Didsbury Woodland Project Update – JW.**

1,000 bluebell bulbs have been planted in this area to maintain its wild woodland feel. Thanks to our residents who have contributed to this scheme. The area is owned by MCC and will be left as ‘wild’ as possible. Residents are encouraged to go and visit! Friends of Didsbury Community Wood will be set up and there will be a presence at Didsbury Festival. JW gave an excellent presentation to the group and has been asked to present at the next RA meeting.

A resident asked if the RA would like to hear a presentation of growing your own. This was agreed to be presented at the next meeting.

1. **Christmas Do – SP.**

SP provided a review of the Christmas Do. The event was a success at The Woodstock with a dedicated section of the pub and appropriate food and drink served. SP was thanked for all her efforts.

1. **Future Didsbury.**

A number of residents had been to see the display. This has been driven by one Didsbury resident in association with Didsbury Civic Society and the Manchester School of Architecture. It was discussed that it is very conceptual and quite unrealistic and very ambitious. There will be a further presentation in the near future at Didsbury Civic Society for residents to attend. The main proposals are to reduce traffic, increase green space and to make Didsbury more accessible. The Oxfam shop (which is the third most used shop in the UK) to become a community hub. A website is imminent. Although this exercise is only conceptual and didn’t constitute a formal consultation they have chosen to share with the public at this stage.

A positive for the estate is that the uneven pavements and dropped kerbs are part of the plans to have redeveloped to ensure that the route into the village is fully accessible.

1. **Invited Guest: Councillor Richard Kilpatrick (RK)** [cllr.r.kilpatrick@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.r.kilpatrick@manchester.gov.uk)or [contact@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:contact@manchester.gov.uk) (which is Manchester City Council).

* **Highfield House –** problems with damp in the towers and discussion is ongoing with Guinness Housing Trust.
* **Fly Tipping in the Ford Lane carpark –** this has been resolved. Residents to contact Richard regarding any future concerns.
* **Traffic Lights on Wilmslow Road opposite Didsbury Park** – the Highways Department has been out and actions are in hand.
* **Traffic at East Didsbury junction** – this has been assessed at 120% which was used as an argument against the planning application of McDonalds in this area. This was again dicussed ue to the ongoing issues in this area.
* **Biffa Lorries** – now they have reduced travelling down Ford Lane are now hurtling down FordBank Road instead. RK informed the meeting that there are currently 5 insurance claims against Biffa.
* **Speeding on Dene Road** – this is still being monitored.
* **Park Run** – the attendance has doubled for the Fletcher Moss event. Residents asked to report any traffic problems from these events.
* **New policing structure in place for the Ward** – suggestion that they are invited to the next meeting.
* **Telephone Masts** – new ones are to be installed by Didsbury Golf Club.
* **Squatters at The Limes** – this is a private prosecution. Councillors are being informed of the progress.
* **Extension of the tram to Stockport** – various options are currently being considered, including the extension of the East Didsbury line.
* **Lighting on Ford Lane** – RED to meet with the Councillors to discuss yet again.

1. **DSG.**

* **Dog waste –** this was raised again by DSG, for the incorrect use of Biffa bins for dog waste. A new bin clearly labelled for dog waste or general purpose is needed. Notices to be put up around the areas. Bins also asked for on Simon’s Bridge for the same problem.
* **Litter –** also an increasing problem. Please advise area users to use the bins.
* **Community Events –** please look at the forthcoming events that residents are welcome to attend.

1. **Update from Chair on RA forthcoming priorities for 2020 – RED.**

* RED to meet with the Councillors to apply for NIF grant and to organise a clean up day by the graasy knoll.
* RED to meet with the Councillors to discuss the lighting at the end of Ford Lane.
* A residents WhatsApp group to be set up for immediate notifications – JW has kindly agreed to be the administer.
* RED to review the subscriptions with the Committee – to raise awareness of contributing.
* DB suggested a summer street party on Harefield Drive with music, food and fun! Possibly around VE Day.

Meeting closed at 8.42pm.

**Actions for Committee Members:**

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| Collect 2020 Subscriptions | MT | To circulate minutes | RED |
| Woodland Support Work | JW | To book the venue for next meeting | SP |
| Set up WhatsApp Group | JW | To discuss and plan agenda and date for next meeting | RED/SP |
|  |  | To meet Councillors re: NIF grants and lighting | RED |