Fordbank Residents Association – Fourth Meeting

**15th January 2015**

**Didsbury Sports Ground 7pm**

**Present:**

**Ford Lane:** Apostolos Antonacopoulos (16), Andrew and Katya (32), Mary and John Thomas (36), Isabel Kennedy (44), Rachel and Lee Woods (46), Norma Fletcher and David Hellier (56), Tony Butterworth (62).

**Fordbank Road:** Stan and Ann Pritchard (20).

**Dene Road:** Jennifer Ford (33), Rachel Pattinson and Sarala Gunawardena (40), Karen Martin-Malies (44), Roger Platford (59), Ciara Cullen (74), Amjad Husein (78), Shaun Foster (81).

**Highfield (Dene Road):** Stefan Bielecki (F13)

**Granville Gardens:** Dave and Valerie Kramer (10),Milly Taylor and Rick Taylor (17), Lucy Holden (22).

**Harefield Drive:** Roger Allsup and Kate Dean (19).

**Westmorland Road:** Chris and Ruth Mullin (10).

**Whitehaven:** Mike Clarke (20).

**Woodford Gardens:** John and Ruth Waterton (1).

***29 resident attendees, plus Chair (TB) and Secretary (RED).***

***Invited Guests: Councillor Carl Ollerhead (CO) and Councillor David Ellison (DE); Mickayla Simmons (PSO) and John Leech MP.***

**Apologies: Trevor Gale, Mike and Joyce Cunningham, Alexandre Borovik, Barbara Goodman and Jane McLaughlin.**

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

TB introduced the meeting and discussed the minutes from the previous meeting. TB thanked everyone for their patience during the delay to the start of the meeting! TB described action completed following last meeting.

1. **List of attendees.**

RED distributed list of attendees on spreadsheet for everyone to sign. Lee Woods kindly assisted with this. Usual practice of signing up and adding email addresses.

1. **Update from Treasurer.**

Currently £240 in the bank. £65 given to the Christmas Carols Event.

Start of the new year = new subscription of £5 per household. MT requested that if you pay by Direct Debit to also include the address for her records. Details attached to minutes as Appendix 1.

1. **Didsbury in Bloom.**

Mary and John Thomas (36 Ford Lane) updated on progress. Gold Award achieved this year for planters and displays. Didsbury Village now in Bloom Final following this accolade. This includes Didsbury Village itself and the roads just off the village. Any volunteers kindly received to contact Mary Thomas at mthomasuk2000@yahoo.co.uk to assist with preparation for end of May. There are now some local schools on board too and plans for herbs to be planted on Ford Lane grassy area, which residents can help themselves too. A further request was made to assist with watering the plants along Ford Lane in the summer and if residents could water the ones outside their own homes; it would assist Mary and John tremendously.

Didsbury Gardens Open Day will be 14th June 2015 which is run by Didsbury Civic Society <http://didsburycivicsociety.org.uk/>.

1. **Social Event.**

RED expressed her sincere thanks to everyone involved in the Family Carol Sing – A – long held in December where approximately 45-50 residents attended. Special mention to Dan Bromley for his idea, Ruth Bradshaw (RB) for catering and making mulled wine, Jane McLaughlin for photos (available on the website) and especially Dave Kramer, his singer and his grandson for supplying the music.

1. **Didsbury Festival - SATURDAY 13th June 2015.**

CONTACT JAYNE CRAWSHAW TO CONFIRM YOUR THEME so there are no double themes as soon as possible. <http://didsburyfestival.webs.com/didsburyfestival2013.htm>.

The Festival will start with the PROCESSION leaving from St. Catherine's RC Primary School on School Lane, DIDSBURY @ 11.00 am.

Groups will need to arrive for 10.30 am.

The Procession will walk down School Lane onto Wilmslow Road and arrive at Didsbury Park for 12 noon.

Please forward any suggestions of how we could be involved with this year’s event to Ruth Bradshaw at ruth@ruthbradshaw.co.uk.

1. **Update from Chair, Tony Butterworth.**

TB has been successful in obtaining a cash grant for creating and maintaining the FordBank RA website <http://www.fordbankresidents.org.uk/>. RED has discussed this in private with Shaun. Any suggestions of how we can improve the website please forward to TB or RED.

1. **Future Ways Forward.**

TB and RED are keen for the RA to move to a more development stage from administration and grumbles to a more supportive and cohesive local neighbourhood.

TB has expressed a clear interest in looking after the health of local residents to include visiting the elderly, offering lifts and support to housebound residents, childhood obesity to complement existing services. The RA residents were agreement for this action and a number offered their support where they can. CO stated that Didsbury Good Neighbours already offer services and therefore can we join together <http://www.didsburygoodneighbours.org.uk/index.php?id=friendly-support>.

1. **International Neighbour Day.**

One resident brought this idea to see if this could be an opportunity for a social event and if possible cash grant available. DSG has also offered to sponsor this event. CO will check for the opportunity for a cash grant for this. DE also mentioned that Southway Housing have monies available for events. June may be a possible date.

1. **Running Routes.**

One resident brought up the running route along the River Mersey – this is the link that residents may find useful [www.manchester.gov.uk/.../trans\_pennine\_**trail**\_national\_cycle\_**route**\_6](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/.../trans_pennine_trail_national_cycle_route_6).

1. **Invited Guest: John Leech.**

John invited residents to discuss any national Government issues. One resident raised the concern in the state of repair of the Royal Mail boxes in the area.

1. **Invited Guest: Mickalya Simmons (MS).**

Mickalya updated the residents on recent crime figures. There were 2 burglaries on Fordbank Road on 8th and 18th October where residents left keys on the door and a window open. A reminder to be more vigilant. Following the last residents meeting Mickalya had conducted a traffic survey one morning and only one car was stopped during this time. She stated she could out a wire across the road to monitor speeding and they can email her at this address *Mickayla.Simmons@gmp.police.uk**.*

CO thanked her for all her hardwork for the reduction in crime.

1. **Invited Guests: Councillors Carl Ollerhead (CO) and David Ellison (DE).**

HS2 – CO brought excellent detailed maps of the new HS2 route. A discussion was held on its effects on the RA houses. This was thought not to be an issue as the drilling is at least 30 metres below ground level. The vent shaft at the Green Finch pub was objected too by West Didsbury RA and this has moved to Withington Golf Club. Further discussion was held on the use of HS2 and HS3. The Councillors explained the benefits of the increased capacity this will bring rather than time reductions for travelling around the UK and into Europe. This has also joined the networks across Manchester to reduce the number of cars on the road. Manchester will be used as the centre for Northern England. Freight will also use HS2 more efficiently.

Roads – Ford Lane is definitely on the resurfacing schedule for April 2015- April 2016.

Drains – please report drains to Manchester City Council – there is a 12 week schedule for this action.

Dene Road – many residents thanked the Councillors for repairing the kerbs stones on Dene Road following the last meeting when this was raised.

Schools – the new school will be on the MMU accommodation site will be a two form entry expansion for Beaver Road. The CoE Didsbury School will expand onto the old Ewing School site.

Housing – the new MMU site will have converted flats and new houses. No social housing will be on this site, which is disappointing to the Councillors.

1. **Election of Officers.**

The residents agreed to carry on with the same focus for this calendar year, with a number of scheduled meetings and the introduction of more social events.

Elected Officers:

Chair – Tony Butterworth (62 Ford Lane) TB unopposed.

Secretary – Rachel Dalton-Woods (46 Ford Lane) RED unopposed.

Treasurer – Milly Taylor (17 Granville Gardens) MT unopposed.

Social Secretary – new member – Ruth Bradshaw (10 Westmorland Road).

Social Media Secretary – not filled – any volunteers please email Tony or Rachel via the website.

1. **Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting **19th March 2015** to be held at Didsbury Sports Ground, 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.

**Actions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Health of RA investigation | TB  |
| Contact CO re: International Neighbours Day | RED |
| To contact remaining residents for subscription fees | MT |
| Social Events and link to Didsbury Festival  | RB |
| To circulate minutes to all households in the area | RED |
| To book the venue for next meeting | TB |
| Contact CO re: Richard and Ford Lane Carpark  | RED |
| Contact CO re: lighting at end of Ford Lane | RED |
| To work with the PSO(Mickayla) in creating a ‘no cold call’ area | TB/RED post stickers with minutes.  |
| To discuss and plan agenda and date for next meeting | TB/RED |

*Appendix 1*

**Ford Bank Residents Association**

**Next meeting: Thursday 15th March 2015 7pm**

**Didsbury Sports Ground**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay £5 annual household subscription to the Fordbank Residents Association.

Option 1:

Transfer to the account via BACS.

Account Name: Ford Bank Residents Association

Account Number: 53755460

Sort Code: 20-26-20

Option 2:

I enclose £5 cheque made payable to Ford Bank Residents Association and will deliver to Milly Taylor (Treasurer) at 17 Granville Gardens.

Option 3:

I enclose £5 cash and will deliver to Milly Taylor (Treasurer) at 17 Granville Gardens.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_