Fordbank Residents Association – Fourteenth Meeting

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**Thursday 26th April 2018**

**Didsbury Sports Ground 7.00pm**

**Present:**

**Ford Lane:** Apostolos Antonacopoulos,John Thomas, Lee Woods, Chris Caplin, Jackie Butterworth.

**Fordbank Road:** Jean Johnston.

**Dene Road:** Karen and Martin Malies, Una Kirwan, Ciara Cullen, Alison Bowyer.

**Deneford Road:** Alastar Jackson.

**Granville Gardens:** Rick Taylor.

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

**Whitehaven Gardens:** Richard and Christina Gee.

***17 resident attendees, plus Chair (TB), Secretary (RED), Treasurer (MT), Youth Member (DB).***

***Invited Guests: Councillor David Ellison (DE) and Councillor John Leech (JL).***

**Apologies:** Trevor Gale, Roger Platford, John Waterton and invited guests: Craig Boswell and Russell Hoyte.

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.

1. **Neighbourhood Watch.**

Unfortunately Craig Boswell could not attend the meeting. Anyone who wishes to be charge of Neighbourhood Watch for their street to contact him directly at [craig.boswell@gmp.police.uk](mailto:craig.boswell@gmp.police.uk).

There is a plan of joining up local Didsbury neighbourhood watch groups which Craig is dealing with.

Police officers also available in Didsbury Library on the 4th Friday between 12-3pm (list of dates in Library foyer) and also Didsbury Mosque.

1. **Invited Guest: Councillor John Leech (JL) update on local issues.** [cllr.j.leech@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.j.leech@manchester.gov.uk)

* John updated us on the McDonalds application which will be sent to planning after the May elections.
* The road surfacing plan for this area has only highlighted Wilmslow Road from School Lane to Dene Road (currently being done) and Burton Road. No pavements identified. JL has put pressure on the Highways Agency for the holes at the top of Ford Lane to be filled in and thinks the developers at the old MMU site should contribute to the replacing the road near the Towers Business Park. Further damage may occur when the existing Southway site will be developed into housing.
* He also stated that the quality of the workmanship was of concern and this has been raised too.
* There are some 90 spare school places due to the Beaver Road expansion.
* One resident asked about the council’s response to a terrorist attack/ cyber security/ water attack.

1. **Invited Guest: Councillor David Ellison (DE) update on local issues.** [cllr.d.ellison@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.d.ellison@manchester.gov.uk) or [contact@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:contact@manchester.gov.uk) (which is Manchester City Council).

* Beaver Road School. Places for Beaver Road are currently only given to those people who live with 0.3 or 0.4 of a mile. So this is an expansion for the existing school. The new site will have the older pupils attending. The school area will be monitored for traffic.
* DE is pushing for Westmorland Road and Harefield Drive pavements are on the resurfacing schedule for this year. Additionally, he is pushing for Wilmslow Road to be resurfaced all the way up to East Didsbury.
* New secondary school coming due to the baby boom! Didsbury School will be set up by the Laurus Trust.

1. **Joint Presentation from Chair and Secretary on RA priorities for the forthcoming year.**

* Didsbury Festival Stall – Saturday 16th June. We would like to sell plants and cakes. All donations welcome to 62 Ford Lane. Any volunteers for the day? Any suggestions for a topic to promote?
* Litter Picking Date – Saturday 2nd June at 10am. Meet at DSG.
* Didsbury Woodland project. The RA will support this by funding some bulbs for this project. John Waterton is our Green Officer and attends meeting on our behalf. Clearance work on the woodland path will continue after the birds have nested and larger trees have been made safe’.
* DSG has applied to install a bike rack on their grounds to look at reducing people arriving by car.
* Fletcher Moss has applied to be a host for the weekly park run and DSG will be supporting this by providing parking spaces.
* DSG has had a quote to install low level lighting along the wall on the slope down to the club. They will provide the electricity for them. They are gaining permission from Manchester University to use the wall. The quote is £3500. Once all has been finalised for the go ahead there will be a fundraising activity to include Didsbury Runners, Bradley Fold Allotments, DSG and FBRA.
* Ford Lane car park – this has been resurfaced by the Environmental Agency who has worked on strengthening the river bank in this area.
* **ACTION FOR RESIDENTS:** Please email Rachel at [RACHEL.DALTON-WOODS@Sky.com](mailto:RACHEL.DALTON-WOODS@Sky.com) for assisting with the litter pick and Didsbury Festival Stall.

1. **Youth Officer: DB.**

DB discussed that Sandhurst Lane has been cleared to house a new poppy trial in memorial to the First World War, if you are fit and able to volunteer to physical work, please check out this link: <http://www.friendsofdidsburypark.com/>.

He also stated that the section 106 money from the developers of the old MMU site has not been fully spent and that not all the new equipment in Didsbury Park has not appeared. The Freedom of Information Act has been requested on this.

He also asked residents to be mindful with small children playing out in the summer months with their driving.

* **ACTION FOR RESIDENTS: email any concerns to** [**cllr.d.ellison@manchester.gov.uk**](mailto:cllr.d.ellison@manchester.gov.uk) **or** [**contact@manchester.gov.uk**](mailto:contact@manchester.gov.uk)**.**

1. **Officers.**

Any volunteers to help with any position would be greatly appreciated.

1. **Update from Treasurer: MT.**

* £1028 in the account.
* Household subscriptions last from January to December and please forward 2018 to Milly. 26 already paid.
* **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.**

Mr Thomas discussed that Ford Lane was awarded Gold last year and Didsbury has now decided to join 5/6 areas together around Didsbury to combine competing for Britain in Bloom. Any volunteers kindly received at [jthomasuk2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jthomasuk2000@yahoo.co.uk). He has planted 1-2 kilos of poppy seeds ion the grassy knoll. The number of baskets on the wall behind the grassy knoll will be increased (the RA gave some funding for the original ones). Volunteers needed to help plant the Ford Lane lampposts areas when Janet moves away. The themes for this year are Suffragettes and end of WWI. There is a BBC2 programme currently following the RHS judging. Ford Lane will be judged in the first 2 weeks of August.

1. **Didsbury Age Friendly Meeting.**

One resident kindly volunteered to attend on Friday 11th May on behalf of the RA.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

**Actions for Committee Members:**

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| Collect 2018 Subscriptions | MT |
| Help with Litter picking 2nd June 2018 | TB/DSG |
| Help at Didsbury Festival | RED |
| Donations for Didsbury Festival | TB |
| Details for woodland area development | JW |
| Volunteers for Ford Lane Planting | JT |
| NIF Grant Applications | TB/RED |
| To circulate minutes | RED |
| To book the venue for next meeting | RED |
| To discuss and plan agenda and date for next meeting | TB/RED |
| Nominations for Officer positions to TB in preparation for next meeting | TB |