

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th May 2006
at Richings Park Sports Club

PRESENT: Wendy Morris, Alan Oxley, Margaret Wilkins, David Coppen, Maureen Atkinson, Maureen Worrall, Eddie Wood, Alan Barrett, Tony Connolly, Paul Lake, Susie Davies.

APOLOGIES: Graham Young, Brian Phillips, Matthew McEvoy

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: were agreed and signed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Wendy Morris was elected to post of chair, Graham Young to post of treasurer and Susie Davies to secretary. The previous incumbents were thanked by Wendy.

MATTERS ARISING:

Railway land – it was agreed that we would put up signs on the land to show that Richings Park Residents association has an interest in the land but is not liable. Then in perhaps ten years, we could go for adverse possession of the land. Alan to contact Hines associates to let them know our decision. **(ACTION AO)**

North Park pavements and gutters – After repeated requests and complaints, a private landscaping company came and cleaned. They then came back again as it had not been done properly and BIFFA came on the same day. However, despite this they are back to a poor condition again. The PA to Eric Redford was thanked for her attention to the matter.

106 Thorney Mill Road – Alan has asked for the fences to be delivered to Alan. The grass has been cut voluntarily by Mr Butler (who had offered to do the first couple of cuts until we had someone/something in place) and looks very nice. A couple of trees look as though they are dead, they can be replaced as part of the contract.

Street Lighting on the corner of Old Slade Lane and The Poynings – It is actually brambles that are obstructing the access from the road. The residents of Poynings have offered to clear it and then the Parish can be contacted. **(ACTION WM)**

Garage at Richings Way – This will be dealt with by Alan Oxley. **(ACTION AO)**

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS: It was suggested that we have a regular meeting time, the third Wednesday of every month. The next meetings will therefore be 21st June and 19th July at Richings Park Sports Club 8pm. **NB unfortunately, plan has had to be altered due to previous booking at Sports Club. NEXT MEETING = THURSDAY 22nd JUNE**

PLANNING:

56 Syke Cluan – This was raised at the AGM and Alan has written an objection on the grounds that it is out of keeping with the surrounding houses.

73, Wellesley Ave - Full permission given.

76 Syke Ings - Full permission given.

62 Syke Ings - Full permission given.

6 Bathurst Walk - Full permission given.

78 Bathurst Walk - Full permission given.

33 Wellesley Avenue - Planning permission refused.

99 Bathurst Walk – replacement front porch – OK.

30 North Park – Part 2/s, part 1st floor side ext. and attached double garage – OK.

3 Richings Way – 2 front dormers – OK.

16 – 18 Thorney Lane South – New shop front – OK.

Thorney Mead – replacement dwelling and garage – OK.

FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY POLICING MEETING:

At the Richings Park meeting, the police seemed to be ill-informed about the area. There were three meetings in total. A NAG (Neighbourhood Action Group) will be formed with volunteers from all three areas and they will focus on tackling three key areas.

FEEDBACK FROM LIBRARY TASK FORCE:

There have been several meetings and a business plan to Dec 2009 is almost complete. They are working as a combined group from Richings Park and Iver. They are seeking funding from the Big Lottery. Press releases are being drawn up; they are looking for alternative sources of funding and advertising for a librarian. Iver Library will have a focus on children, Richings Park on the elderly with money coming from various charities and trusts. Richings Park Library will be at Cornerstones while Iver will rent the current building from the Council. This could be at a commercial rate of £10,000 pa or community rate of £3,000. Alan is working on the latter. **(ACTION AO)**

Paul Lake suggested that funding could also be sought from the police fund. He also volunteered his services as a surveyor free of charge.

Donations of books should be taken to Cornerstones.

REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILS:

County – the capital projects free interest scheme is suddenly chargeable, so new roads and three new schools are all on hold. This could cause problems with highways work. Alan is bringing Mr Schwier from highways to look at area issues. If you have any other issues, let him know. **(ACTION – ALL MEMBERS)**

District – later this year, they are going out for tender for waste disposals. It will probably all go to wheelie bins. The new speed restrictions are promised for late summer. On the A412, they intend to block up the Billet Lane crossover hopefully this year, which should make it safer.

REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL:

Now pay for half the salary of the youth worker and half of the PCSO. They are settling in well and being very proactive.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM AGM:

Alan Oxley to get highways down to look at Richings Way rubbish. **(ACTION AO)**

FUTURE FOCUS OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

Wendy suggested that we needed to be more proactive as a committee and asked members to think about what we should focus on and bring ideas to the next meeting. Some suggestions were made straight away – the overgrown state of Richings Park and the possibility of creating a design guide for Richings Park to give to Parish that would help control planning in the area. **(ACTION – ALL MEMBERS)**

AOB:

Eddie – Raised a query about the increase in flying insects. Could it be due to the landfill/treatment works? We should keep an eye on it and see if it improves. Also contact the treatment works about the smell. **(ACTION WM)**

Paul – noted that he had seen a concrete lorry filling up from the fire hydrant opposite Curry Paradise.

Alan B. – The grass verge by 106 TMR is c. 2 foot high. Alan Oxley will take highways down to see it. Also, Bardons have sent their road sweeper out. It had no water, just throws up the dust and lets it settle again. They are contractors. Alan Oxley will talk with Bardons. **(ACTION AO)**

Alan Oxley – Bardons are thinking of rebuilding and modernising their plant. What does the committee feel about it being higher? The new equipment would mean that the smoke/smell etc would be to 2006 standards.

David – Commented that he saw six youths on Old Slade Farm vandalising the barns with air rifles. He called 999, but there was no patrol car until half an hour later. By then the youths had gone.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm