

HURST PARK ESTATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

at the Good Shepherd Church Hall, Mansel Way, Arbury

7.00pm on Sun 24th April 2016

Present:

Acting committee - Michael Page (acting chair), Mary Pountain (acting secretary), Richard Cushing (acting treasurer), John Beasley, Jo Tunmer, Luke Tunmer, Andrew Milbourn.

Plus 59 residents of Hurst Park Estate.

Representatives from other Residents' Associations. - Wendy Blythe (FeCRA), Barbara Taylor (MRRRA) and Liz Hodder (Ascham Road RA).

1. Introduction and Welcome

Michael Page chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone and in particular the 3 representatives from FeCRA, MRRRA and Ascham Road RA.

2. Apologies for absence

Riki McDonald, Jim Smith, Judy Watts, Anne Gaskell, Pat Bass, Chris Pountain, Lynn Hieatt, Glyn Burton, Charles Nisbet

3. Minutes of Inaugural Meeting 6th Jan 2016 – matters arising

3a The Minutes were agreed and signed.

3b There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report and accounts

Michael Page read his report – see below

The accounts were presented in printed form – see below. The balance in the HPERA account stood at £309.76 on 24.04.16.

5. Adoption of draft Constitution

Proposal – Irene Page - to adopt the draft Constitution

Seconded – Andrew Milbourn

The meeting voted unanimously to adopt the draft Constitution

6. Election of committee for 2016/17

Proposal – John Latham - To elect the entire acting committee

Seconded – Lorna Cox

The meeting voted unanimously to elect the entire acting committee as listed above.

6. Forthcoming events

Michael reminded the meeting of the following events:

6a. *Local Election Hustings 28th April, organised by HPERA and MRRRA*

6b. *Petition on Parking Controls closes 31st May* – a petition was available to sign at the meeting, or it can be accessed via the Smarter Cambridge Transport website - <http://www.smartertransport.uk/>

6c. *City Deal Joint Assembly 2nd June*

The report by the City Deal will be released and will be available online on 26th May. We were encouraged to look carefully at it and be prepared to respond at the City Deal Joint Assembly meeting on 2nd June

6d. *Street Party 11th June*

This is being organised by Karrie Fuller and Tim Gillett. Donations towards this event were welcomed and a collection tin was available for those wishing to contribute. It was made clear that whilst HPERA supports this community event, no donations made to HPERA would be used for this event.

6e. *City Deal Executive Board 16th June*

We are all encouraged to attend this meeting which will be where the important City Deal decisions, based on the Joint Assembly's meeting, will take place.

6f. *Speedwatch next date in the autumn*

Michael thanked Riki McDonald for setting this up and thanked those who took part. The results from the Speedwatch that took place on 21st April were displayed at the meeting (see below for details) and a request was made for more volunteers to become trained to do another Speedwatch in the autumn.

7. Future role of HPERA

A board was in place and those present were asked to put up ideas for the future role of HPERA and to speak to members of the committee.

8. Any other business

8a. Jo Tunmer urgently needs some volunteers to help with the website content and social media. She will be happy to work with them and to train people up. Luke will continue to run the back-office administration for the website.

8b. Wendy Blythe of FeCRA talked about the Smarter Cambridge Transport Parking petition, and suggested asking local businesses if they would display it. The proposal is to tailor the parking schemes to suit the community and it is important to engage with local shops.

8c. Richard Cushing reminded us that on 26th May there will be a number of reports being published by the City Deal, including the Cambridge Access Report, and so it will be important to be ready to react to these. **ACTION:** Send a reminder to HPE residents.

8d. Rosie Lass asked if it is possible to respond to the reports. Michael suggested that anyone wishing to respond does so, but also sends their comments to the HPERA committee. Questions are crucial and can be asked at the City Deal Joint Assembly meeting on 2nd June. They need to be submitted in advance and the time allowed per question will be limited. Sue Morris said that if there were a number of questions on the same topic, just one would be chosen. The meeting will be filmed and accessible afterwards online.

- 8e. It was mentioned that at the Executive Board meeting regarding Madingley Road only favourable comments were selected, but that in response it was pointed out by Lewis Herbert that there were also a lot of negative comments.
- 8f. Wendy Blythe reiterated her plea for people to attend the meetings.
- 8g. David Robinson asked about the officers who would take the scheme forward.
- 8h. Sue Morris asked if the parking petition could only be signed by local residents. It was agreed that there is no residential restriction.

9. **Close of AGM**

Michael Page closed the meeting at 7.50pm.

Date of Next AGM – to be decided

The meeting was followed by a pudding and wine social evening.

Chairman's Report

Our Association was set up in January of this year in response to the so-called consultation on the City Deal's plans for Milton Road. Feelings ran so high that we had an estimated turnout of 180 people at the inaugural meeting. Thanks to input and efforts from countless residents we were able to put together a 43-page submission in rebuttal of the plans but also proposing alternatives, because we would all like to see an investment made to improve the traffic management and streetscape along Milton Road.

During the last four months we have held six full committee meetings, distributed four newsletters and carried out six mailings via our email database. I would like to stress that this database is kept strictly confidential and will not be divulged to any other individuals or organisations.

Committee members have also attended, and asked questions at, meetings of the City Deal executive board and assembly, the City North Area Committee, the Cambridge Joint Area Committee for transport and parking, the City RA Forum and had separate meetings with council officers and the Managing Director of Stagecoach East. We attended meetings of the Cambridge Cycling Campaign and also Cambridge-Connect which has published an alternative and exciting vision for the future of transport in and around Cambridge. We also walked the length of Milton Road with colleagues from Milton Road Residents' Association and representatives from Cambridge Smarter Transport when trying to formulate alternative ideas. Through this process we have learned that we can achieve more if we can collaborate with other residents' associations and, thanks to Wendy, Tania, Lynn and Barbara from the Federation of Cambridge Residents' Associations (FeCRA), we are making common cause with others who are facing similar threats to their urban environment. The FeCRA AGM on April 18th brought together residents from across the city to hear a presentation and panel discussion about getting our voices heard in the midst of an avalanche of planning applications and transport developments.

The council elections on 5th May have given us an opportunity to ensure that candidates in our local wards are alert to our concerns, so we sent out a questionnaire to all of them and we will display their responses on our website. This is a prelude to a hustings event organised together with MRRA and Friends of Mitchams Corner planned for next Thursday 28th April 7.00pm at Chesterton Community College. Please get along there if you can.

Finally, a word about parking. We've all heard that 'something needs to be done' – but yellow lines at the bottom of Hurst Park Avenue are in a lengthening queue of requests to a council with no spare cash. We like the idea put forward by Smarter Cambridge Transport to put pressure on City Deal to spend a small fraction of their millions on a trial of parking controls across the city. These could be light-touch schemes (including yellow lines) tailored to the needs of individual communities to dis-incentivise commuter parking without the heavy-handed approach of typical residents' parking schemes. We urge you to read their proposal and sign the petition for a 6-month trial – it's the only way to find out if the system will work and to measure if there would be a positive impact on congestion and perhaps reduce the need for dedicated bus-lanes.

Accounts

The inaugural meeting of the Association held on 6th January 2016 received generous donations which established a solid working fund. Subsequent donations of money and resources, such as paper, ink and printing services, have ensured that a sound financial footing has been maintained. Abbreviated interim accounts for the first three months of the year are presented below:

1 January – 31 March 2016 Income & Expenditure		
Income	£	£
Donations	381.55	
Total Income		381.55
Expenditure		
Room Hire	20.00	
Printing & Stationery	51.79	
Total Expenditure		(71.79)
Balance Carried Forward		309.76

The Association has no membership fee, and relies upon donations for income. Following this AGM it is intended to open a current account with Barclays, Chesterton Road, with expenditures authorised by any two of the three officers on the committee who will be signatories on the account. No overdraft facility will be sought.

*Prepared by Richard Cushing as Interim Treasurer
19th April 2016*

Speedwatch

A Speedwatch campaign was held in Orchard Avenue on Thursday April 21st, with the help of six volunteer local residents, under the administration of the local police. It was held outside 20 Orchard Avenue in the morning to assess eastbound vehicles, and outside number 35 in late afternoon to assess westbound traffic.

Morning period 7.30 to 9.00 am Eastbound

97 vehicles passed of which 34 were "speeding"

For the first half of the period from 7am to 8.15 am there were 49 vehicles of which 25 were speeding, making a speeding percentage of 50% of all vehicles. For the second half of the period traffic numbers increased but the percentage of those speeding dropped to 20%, probably due to:

1. Increased traffic during the school run causing vehicles to slow down behind other vehicles
2. More oncoming traffic (east to west)
3. More "local traffic" i.e. from Leys Avenue and Orchard Avenue
4. More bicycles
5. A delivery van parking opposite a parked car and narrowing the width of the road

Afternoon period 4.30 to 6.00 pm Westbound

47 vehicles passed (west to east) of which 13 were "speeding". Traffic flow was much lighter presumably because it did not cover the school run, and workers may return home over a wider spread of time. The overall percentage of those speeding was 27%.

Bicycles

As the HPE roads are recommended cycle routes the number of bicycles were noted (none of which were over the speed limit!) 31 bicycles passed west to east in the morning period, particularly in the 8.15 to 9.00 time. Cyclists were of all ages and sexes, but there were a large number of children during the school-run period. In the afternoon period only 13 bicycles passed, presumably because many cyclists are schoolchildren who would already be home.

Results

1. Speeding is a problem
2. The sight of the Speedwatch equipment, signs and volunteer was definitely a deterrent to drivers who nearly all slowed down.
3. The details of those driving over 24 mph have been passed on to the police who will send them warning letters.

The police recommend regular Speedwatches to continue to deter speeders. A second Speedwatch could be held in early autumn if residents feel it would be worthwhile. At present we have five trained volunteers, but more would be both welcome and necessary if we are to continue. Please contact Riki McDonald, of 9 Orchard Avenue on eam21@cam.ac.uk if you are interested.