



Minutes of MIDDLEMORE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING held 19th May 2015 @ 7:30pm

Present: Sam Sullivan, Christine Frost, Karen Tweedale, Mr & Mrs Peasland, Mr & Mrs Brown, Mr & Mrs Gosling, Mrs Midson, Mrs Chapman, NCC Councillor Longley, DDC Councillors Chris Long, David James & Nigel Carr

Apologies: Nathan Chettle

1. Presentation from NCC Councillor Malcolm Longley & Khaled Razaq regarding outcome of parking consultation & other road issues

Councillor Longley shared information with us regarding the County Councillors empowerment fund. Last year the budget was £10,000 and has this year been reduced to £7,000.

Middlemore Residents Association submitted an application to British Heart Foundation for defibrillator funding. Funding has been granted for a period of 12 months from date of grant – we need to contribute £400 towards the equipment. Councillor Longley invited us to submit an application to him for the funds. (MRA first need to open a bank account to be able to apply for grants) **ACTION**

Councillor Longley also shared press releases regarding road works due to take place across the county and a press release regarding England's Economic Heartland – seeking to devolve powers and form an alliance between Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire.

<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/news/Newsreleases/Pages/Extensive-road-repair-programme-gets-underway-in-Northamptonshire.aspx>

<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/news/Newsreleases/Pages/England's-Economic-Heartland-counties-working-together-for-prosperity.aspx>

Parking Consultation outcome:

The outcome of the parking consultation has been reviewed and meetings have been held between DDC and NCC Highways. The response rate to the consultation survey was very low (156 out of 700 letters sent). It is strongly considered that yellow lining areas will cause displacement of cars and compound parking problems that already exist in side other areas of the estate that aren't included within the consultation. The overall decision is not to progress yellow lining parking restrictions any further.



Instead there will be white lines painted where there are dropped kerbs for pedestrian crossings. It is hoped that these will act as a deterrent to people who currently park inconsiderately or dangerously. The white lines will designate areas where safety is especially important.

Questions asked:-

Q/ Where else will they be? A/They can only be done where there are dropped kerbs. Cannot be used on roundabouts

Q/ Are yellow lines going to be abandoned? A/ Yes because the yellow lining would cause displacement of cars

Further actions - KR and CL to look into possible funding from Daventry Safety Partnership to help cost funding of leaflets and help promote considerate parking. **Action KR, CL**

KT will also make enquiries in her role as Town Councillor for Abbey North. **ACTION**

Progress re road surfacing and adoption of roads

Further to complaints about road surfacing on Claydon Road and Hidcote Way it was advised that DDC are not in a position to surface dress these roads as yet. This is will be reviewed in due course once building works have been completed on the remaining sites.

KR advised that he recently met with NCC and highways regarding adoptions of roads. When NCC adopt the roads the process involves not only adopting the roads themselves but also the sewerage, drainage and other facilities that may run underneath them.

Once the spine roads are adopted they will belong to Highways at Northamptonshire County Council - Farnborough Drive, Hidcote Way and Claydon Road. Other individual developer sites will be adopted separately.

The roads are being adopted in phases, (Claydon Road and Hidcote Way) will be looked at in the next phase).

Middlemore Residents Association have been given assurances that DDC are doing everything in their power to move the scheme forward. There are many legalities that have to be gone through to move things forward including things such as bonds from contractors etc.

Questions asked included whether a forced completion date could be made. A/ KR explained that – bonds will be held to force the contractors to complete the roads to exacting standards.



Barrier & exit onto Heartlands estate

There have been many enquiries requesting that the barrier at the top of Farnborough Drive / Claydon Road be removed. It is felt that consequences of construction traffic would increase risk to residents and damage to the highway infrastructure, which is currently being progressed towards adoption. This can be reviewed once the remaining sites 8E and 7 have been developed.

Another query raised is the fact that much traffic is leaving the estate via Heartlands Business estate exit. KR explained that the original plans were to have a raised barrier to allow buses to come and go into the estate from Newnham Drive. Due to installation costs and the fact that NCC don't like to adopt them due to high maintenance costs and possibility of them breaking down NCC don't like to adopt roads with them on. Another idea being considered is to have raised kerbs so that only buses can get through and designed as such that impossible for cars to drive through.

Bridleway – nothing further heard re works to limit

HGV's

KT to send information with evidence of HGV's that keep trying to get to Heartlands Business Park via Middlemore estate. KR to contact Highways to investigate signage options to deter HGV's from entering estate.

Buses

Following complaints from some residents about the buses getting 'stuck' along Hidcote Way and whether it is possible to alter the timetable to avoid this slightly. KR has made enquiries to Steve Burd, Managing Director of Stagecoach Midlands.

Mr Burd confirms that no issues regarding problems navigating along Hidcote Way have been reported to the management at Rugby depot or any of the trade unions. Any concerns should have been raised and escalated and the route was extensively trialled prior to the service being introduced. As it covers such a long route it is not possible to change the timetable at this time but this is subject to change when further expansion of DIRFT takes place and the service.

(A copy of the letter will be available in the noticeboard if anyone wishes to see a copy of the detailed response)



2. Middlemore Clean-up Day feedback & other 'Middlemore Mess' issues

The clean up event that took place on 2nd May 2015 was a resounding success. Excellent turn out (34 volunteers) and 31 bags of rubbish were collected

Four of the volunteers were from the Grange Estate who came along to lend a helping hand – Jacqui Ward, Jamie Over, Councillor Wendy Randall, Maureen Luke & Councillor Abigail Campbell.

Another clean up day is planned later on in the year. Date to be confirmed .

3. Outcomes of the last meeting not already discussed

Lighting

Lots of lighting still not working. Steve Whelton at DDC has instructed Balfour Beatty to carry out lighting works.

Ground maintenance

Ground-keeping issues that were reported by Snowhill Close resident have still not been attended to.

There are also a few complaints about maintenance in other areas of the Estate. - we need photographic evidence for this

For instance - The pocket park on the corner of Hidcote Way/ Clevedon Court is also totally overgrown with the benches having been vandalised.

KT to contact Persimmon & DDC

Footpath to steps below Middlemore Farm Pub car park

Mid March this year KT contacted DDC Business Manager who advised that they were between estate surveyors so there could be a delay getting back to us. Nothing heard thus far. **KT to chase**

Footpath along Hidcote Way

Whilst acting as Councillor for Middlemore Maureen Luke visited with a GPRS camera to take pictures of footpath. Nothing further has been heard. Camera was borrowed from Councillor Long who said that he will



chase

ACTION Councillor Long

4. Call Push Rescue Training Presentation & update of grant funding of defibrillator – KT

KT presented information regarding CPR Training. We also have a CPR community kit. We need to organise a venue for training and seek further guidance ACTION KT

5. Possible Middlemore Community Event in the summer.

There is an interest in people helping. It will take a lot of time to plan and organise. We also need to consider if there is enough time to organise an event and get permission, licences to use land etc. Monies raised agreed will go to British Heart foundation

6. Any other business