



# **LONGBARN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Registered Charity No. 1170309

## **Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 at 7:30pm Padgate Village Club**

**Present: (9)** Geoff Orange (GO), John Hill (JH), Bob McLaughlin (BMcL), Chris Merritt (CM), Wendy Orange (WO), Rosa Dale (RD), Lynn Colter-Howard (LC-H) Raj Asani (RA), Paul Adams (PA)

**Apologies (2)** Howard Klein (HK), David Pearson (DP)

**1 Welcome** – GO welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Minutes** of the previous Committee Meeting are on the LRA website

**3. Correspondence** - There has been a letter from Greencore apologising for the noise from the site: they have employed a consultant who is working with the Environment Agency to resolve the issue. The noise from IFCO has ceased & a letter of thanks has been sent.

**4. Correspondence** – We discussed the letter of resignation received from one of our Management Committee members. Paul Adams, Geoff Orange and Chris Merritt have each visited our colleague to discuss the email, & Paul clarified a number of points contained in the letter. In terms of next steps, we agreed it would be right & proper for Geoff to visit our colleague; ask if he would prefer a formal reply to his email; explain that, as a recent & valued member (especially of our CRT team), his experience & contribution have been invaluable; & offer the opportunity to join us with similar projects in the future.

**5. Venue for Management Meetings** – Our last meeting held 21 March was disrupted by noise & numerous interruptions leading DP to request, “That future Management Committee meetings be held in our Padgate Library office to allow for a more meaningful meeting to take place” be included as an agenda item for our next meeting. And so the debate unfolded, with the following headlines ~

### **PROs**

### **CONs**

Move to library

Quiet ~ free from interruption  
Quiet ~ easier for minute taker to follow the debate  
Quiet ~ more convenient for those with hearing difficulties  
Private  
Kitchen facilities  
We already pay for the facility  
Public car park  
Fear for safety on dark nights

	<b>PROs</b>	<b>CONs</b>
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Stay at PVC

Ambience
Private car park
Not private
Noise
Risk of interruption

Concluding the debate, GO proposed a motion (seconded by CM) to relocate future Management Committee meetings to Padgate Library. The outcome was ~

For	2
Against	4
Abstained	3

The result was that we remain at PVC. The matter may be reviewed at a later date if that should be thought necessary.

**6. Financial Report** - NT has amended the layout of the report to better depict the spend on Restricted Funds. A discussion followed regarding the most appropriate way of informing residents of monies held by LRA & it was agreed that a full & transparent view of the accounts will continue to be presented at every Residents' Meeting. The Accounts at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were presented, noting that £558.02 has been received from the Co-Op Community Fund (restricted to funding for the Fallowfield Grove Play Area as previously agreed).

**7. Harpers Green update** – Melanie Owen from Torus will be attending the 16<sup>th</sup> May meeting to update everyone on the progress of Harpers Green. The site manager provides information to keep LRA updated. At a recent meeting at Newton-le-Willows (a Torus site similar to Harpers Green) attended by interested parties, at least 20/25 people have already chosen their plots. Torus have said they will work in conjunction with solicitors & estate agents to make sure that those opting to move to Harpers Green will get advice about a price for their property. The on-site suite will be opening late summer. The plan for completion is currently March 2020

**8. Social Events** – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019 Coach Trip to Llandudno – some tickets still available.

1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 Longbarn Community Fun Day.  
5<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – Quiz Night.

**9. Race Night** – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**10. News Round-Up** – Management Committee advised that emails are to be copied to recipients by Bcc and not Cc unless the Management Committee have previously agreed individually in writing that they do not object.

PA heralded the forthcoming birthdays ahead of our next Management Committee meeting, of Raj (10 May) & Dave (13 May) & on behalf of t'Committee wished them all the best.

GO & BMcL to meet with David Boyer (WBC) regarding outstanding work needed to be done on our Longbarn estate. Only 3 out of the 73 items (identified previously by CM & PA on a tour of the estate) have been dealt with.

**11. Speaker at Residents' Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019** – Stephen Hunter (WBC). GO has several questions from residents which have been forwarded to Stephen Hunter regarding the development of Warrington East roadworks.

**12. Review of Meeting** – A new & standing item for our agenda, where we review the meeting against our Terms of Reference & Governing Principles. We concluded this had been a positive meeting held in good spirit. PA especially thanked BMcL for his helpful contribution during agenda item 5. And suggested that if a bit of polish were needed, it would be for folk not to talk across each other, & not have sideways conversations during meetings. JH was keen to point out that it's important we're not too officious. Absolutely. And equally important that we're not rude with each other 😊

**14. A.O.B.** BMcL has enquired about planters for the fences around PVC & was informed by WBC that it would be a Health and Safety issue (even though there are several similar in & around Warrington already). To be pursued further.

GO has been advised by The Land Trust that we need to have a licence to cut the grass on the Longbarn Estate, including risk assessments for every area we wish to maintain! LC-H (chairperson of our Land Trust & NCA sub-committee) to follow up with Mary Doyle at The Land Trust.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

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