



LONGBARN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No. 1170309

Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held 6th February 2020 at 7pm at Padgate Village Club

Present: Geoff Orange (GO), Wendy Orange (WO), Nicola Taylor (NT), Rosa Dale (RD), Bob McLaughlin (BMcL), Richard Robinson (RR), Paul Adams (PA) David Pearson (DP)

Apologies: Raj Asani (RA) Lynn Colter-Howard (LC-H), John Hill (JH) Gareth Thomas (GT)

1. **Welcome** ~ Geoff extended a very warm welcome to Katy Wallace to her first meeting, & to colleagues listed above.
2. Before the meeting proper, we took the opportunity to reflect on the response to Geoff's Freedom of Information request from Warrington Borough Council about the rules pertaining to their Community Initiatives Fund. We concluded that no further action is necessary, but noted the value of the reply in providing information about the operation of the Fund.
3. **Minutes** ~ of the previous Committee meeting are on our LRA website.
4. **Matters Arising** ~ There were no matters arising.
5. **Amendments to Terms of reference & Governing Principles for Management Committee (MC)** ~ Having circulated proposals since our last meeting, Paul now tabled changes as follows ~
 - Nominations for the posts of Chairman, Vice Chair, Secretary & Treasurer/Accountant may be made from exiting MC members who have been in post for a minimum of 12 months.
 - Management Committee members will be elected annually at the first Management Committee meeting following the Residents' AGM, subject to a minimum age of 18.
 - Proposed: Paul Adams, Seconded: Bob McLaughlan
 - Carried unanimously.
6. **Appointment of Principal MC colleagues – Chairman, Vice Chair & Treasurer/Accountant** ~ Having invited nominations from MC colleagues since our last meeting, Paul tabled the following proposals ~
 - Chairman: Geoff Orange
 - Vice Chairman: Bob McLaughlan
 - Secretary: Paul Adams
 - Treasurer/Accountant: Nicola Taylor
 - Proposed: Rosa Dale, Seconded: Richard Robinson
 - Carried unanimously
7. **Appointment of sub-committee lead members.**

National Crime Agency & Land Trust	Geoff Orange
Greencore	David Pearson
New Town Housing	Lynn Colter-Howard
Communications	Paul Adams

Friends of Padgate Station
Warrington Borough Council
Social

Bob McLaughlan
Howard Klein
Geoff Orange

Residents at our next meeting on 20th February will be invited to join the any of the sub-committees.

8. **Financial Report** ~ Our MC approved the accounts at month ending December 2019 as an accurate record of monies held in both the current & the restricted accounts. Answering a question about the annual accounts for the full year ending November 2019, Nicola explained that a formal audit of the accounts is not legally necessary given the value of our accounts. She will however provide LRA with a financial assurance statement for the year ending 30 November 2019. In response Paul formally moved the annual accounts for the year ending 30 November 2019 as a true & accurate record ~

- Proposed: Paul Adams, Seconded: Katy Wallace.
- Carried unanimously

Cheshire Community Foundation: Bright Ideas (next steps) ~ Paul updated the meeting as follows:

- Bright Ideas Team met 14 January
- **Footloose in Longbarn:** Helen Broderick (Team Leader) had invited a dance teacher (Tina Thomas) who we hope to engage to run our dance classes. The Team has developed a poster/questionnaire which will be distributed with our next LRA Newsletter, & on our social media platforms. From residents' responses we will assess take-up (types of dance, numbers & preferred time(s) of day) & then make decisions on venue(s).
- **Mindfulness and Wellbeing:** Paul explained that we'll hold fire with this initiative ... Bob has established that the Torus development at Harper's Green will be running wellbeing/mindfulness events which may be extended to our residents at large. And Geoff has established that Warrington Voluntary Action is in the throes of doing likewise. We may take stock about our next steps as these 2 initiatives unfold.
- Paul thanked Bob for his sterling work in summarising the variety of our Bright Ideas into a tab which demonstrates what's already on offer in the vicinity, & a control sheet to help us track progress.

Poulton with Fearnhead Parish Council (Litter bins) ~ Paul had previously picked up, on social media, about the mindless vandalism of litter bins in Longbarn Park, & suggested that LRA help with the cost of replacement. And, keen to add 2 more litter bins along Harper's Road, Geoff contacted our Parish Council to see if they could help. The upshot is that, following Parish Council advice, LRA will collaborate with Friends of Longbarn Park on a joint bid for 4 litter bins (2 each) in March. The bid will entail LRA offering to fund 25% of the total cost ~ which was formally proposed by Dave Pearson, seconded by Richard Robinson, & carried unanimously.

9. **LRA Safeguarding Policy & Appointment of Safeguarding Officer** ~ Paul explained that he will provide an updated Safeguarding Policy for consideration at a subsequent meeting. In the meantime he went on to propose Lynn as our Safeguarding Officer for a further term, which was seconded by Bob & carried unanimously.

10. **Padgate Library Office** Geoff Orange has successfully renewed and signed the lease for the next 3 years.

11. **Friends of Padgate Station** ~ For the 2nd year running, Padgate Station has been awarded a top award as one of Cheshire's Best Kept Stations. Huge applause for Bob for all his hard work in enabling our success. Bob went onto explain that the Government is taking control of the franchise that was held by Northern Rail & we eagerly await developments.

12. **Lottery Application** ~ has been approved and we have been awarded significant funds which will enable LRA to continue to do great things for our community. Geoff took the opportunity to acknowledge Paul's role in completing the bid & achieving a successful outcome.

13. **Social Events 2020**

- Quiz Night 7th February 2020
- Social Evening 20th March 2020
- Community Fun Day 25th May 2020 Bank Holiday Monday
- Fireworks Extravaganza (tbc) 7th November 2020
- 4 coach trips are planned for 2020, with the next one being on 19th April 2020 to Buxton and Bakewell.
- Information Day 15th March at 12 noon in the grounds at Raj's shop on Pasture Lane.

14. **News Round-Up** ~ A standing agenda item, Geoff introduced the topic to give us the opportunity to share news, gossip and especially, recognise achievement and the nice things we do for each other. Paul took the opportunity announce colleagues' birthdays being celebrated between now & our next meeting ~ Richard Robinson on 17 February, John Hill on 6 March & Katy Wallace on 11 March.

15. **Speakers at the Residents' Meeting on 20th February ~**

- Cheshire Fire & Rescue ~ Paul took suggestions for their presentation & will pass them on to the Fire Brigade.
- Torus & Anwyl to update on Harpers Green.

Geoff added that we have secured Police & Crime Commissioner David Keane as a guest speaker at our Residents' Meeting scheduled for 2 April. This is something of a coup & we must do our best to attract a decent audience on the night.

16. **Review of meeting** ~ Round table agreement that we'd covered a lot of stuff professionally & in good humour, backed up with some very supportive words from Richard. Thanks, Richard.

17. **A.O.B.**

- Richard Robinson informed us that Livewire are to fund much needed repairs to Padgate Library.
- 1st Apartments at Harpers Green have been allocated. Apartments will be available for occupation from approximately 9th June.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

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