



LONGBARN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

"Working together for our Community"

Registered Charity No. 1170309



Minutes of Resident's Meeting held 19 January 2023 at Padgate Village Club

Apologies. P.Adams, L.Colter-Howard, D Pearson, T Murphy, Flo Wright, Councillor S Emery, Councillor D Friend.

In Attendance Geoff Orange, Wendy Orange, Nicola Taylor, Howard Klein, Katy Melia, Bob & Sue Mclaughlin, Pat & Dave Allen, Sid & Marjory Charlton, Bob & Pat Colquhoun, Janet Heap, John & Janet Melia, Bob Millington, Brian & Denise Walton.

- 1. Minutes of last meeting held 29 September 2022:** Minutes were agreed with no matters arising.
- 2. Financial report for year ending November 2022:** With a massive thanks to our Treasurer, Nicola, the annual accounts were noted.
- 3. Possible Move of our LRA office from Padgate Library:** Geoff was pleased to report that his ambition of a permanent office in Longbarn has been achieved and indeed the move was made today ~ to a unit at Kassia Academy. The new unit needs some attention which will be carried out in the immediate future. LRA will pay a one-off invoice of £880 for the connection of the integrated alarm system. A request has been sent to the Parish Council for a grant of £390 to cover the annual maintenance. With this acquisition it means that we can be self-sufficient for all events on the school field as there are toilets & a kitchen in the new premises. The family of the late Sheila Lawrence have kindly donated £1,000 to LRA in memory of Sheila and it was agreed that the large room in the new building be named, "The Sheila Lawrence Room" in her honour.
- 4. Warrington Borough Council's proposed new Road Safety Scheme around Christ Church School, & along Harper's Road:** WBC has posted a proposal for a new scheme around Christ Church School & along Harper's Road. WBC, the School & Parish Council are, at last, all in agreement that something has to be put in place before there is a serious accident (there have been many "near misses" in recent months). The proposal is for double yellow lines on Harper's Road from Station Road South to a point past Harper's Green which will impact on parents dropping off & picking up children at the school. The owner of The Station House pub has kindly made his large car park available for parents to park & then use the path from there to Harper's Road at the side of Guildford Close as pedestrians. All new pupils' parents have been informed of this generous offer, plus the school newsletter has informed all parents of children attending the school. The scheme also includes an increased level of disabled parking so that disabled children attending the school can be dropped off safely. Currently, they have great difficulty as spaces are blocked by others. The scheme is to be advertised in the Warrington Guardian which will allow

residents to send in supporting letters in the following 21 days which WBC will consider before the scheme can be implemented. LRA ask all residents to write letters backing the scheme in the interests of the safety of our children.

5. **Potential venues for coach trips in 2023:** LRA has funds to subsidise some further trips which will mean we can maintain the usual cost for the outings at £6 per person (subject to the increased costs of coach hire not being prohibitive). Residents were asked to let the Chairman know of their support for suitable venues to be visited so that some further dates can be agreed.
6. **Prospects for our major LRA events in 2023 ~**
 - Coronation Weekend – it was agreed that an event be held on Sunday 7 May from 12 noon to approx. 5 pm with several of our annual events be consolidated into one event i.e. Coronation, Fun Day, & LRA Information Day to take place on the Coronation weekend - Geoff to seek the availability of the school field. The usual guests – Fire Brigade, Police, Army, Navy, RAF, Muir, Greencore, Torus, WBC etc to have stalls with all their information for attendees to solve any queries they have.
 - Padgate Walking day, 24 June 2023. LRA to look for volunteers to man the burger stall from 12.00 – 5.00pm, a “shift “pattern would be the best option - Geoff to speak to Greencore to see if they will kindly supply food as usual
 - Sunflower competition & Scarecrow competition (with a Coronation theme), to be judged in September.
 - Firework extravaganza will be on the 3 November – meeting to be arranged in August to discuss proposals to make the display even better, safer & easier for the organisers
7. **Forward look for our Residents Annual General Meeting on 2 March 2023:** Our LRA Secretary will shortly be publicising this & residents were invited to consider if they could help by volunteering to become members of our LRA Management Committee for the next 12 months. This would involve their attendance at approx. 10 meetings at 6 weekly intervals & their support for LRA events throughout the year. Volunteers please contact lrasecretary15@gmail.com in good time before 2 March 2023.
8. **Feedback on our Poppy Appeal 2022:** The results of our annual Poppy Appeal were announced. It was noted that we included the resplendent soldiers on the grass verges at Carpenter Grove. Further Large poppies were bought. The total included the box in PVC and the sponsorship of the poppies by local companies and individuals. The total was massive £1,420, donated to Royal British Legion.
9. **Any Other Business:**
 - a) It was confirmed that the Parish Council will again be holding an Open Day on Bennet's Rec in 2023. It was agreed that LRA would support the event.
 - b) The new bus shelter at Guildford Close will be fitted with a plaque as a permanent reminder of our late colleague Helen Broderick's untiring campaign for it over several years. Unfortunately, Helen failed to see it installed.
 - c) A big, 'Thank you' to Raj for the donation, & his support, from the collection box on his shop counter. For 2022 he donated £159. We have since had a further £60 which we go towards the 2023 sum. This is very much appreciated ~ nice one, Raj!

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.