



LONGBARN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

"Working together for our Community"

Registered Charity No. 1170309



Minutes of Residents' Meeting held 25 May 2023 at Padgate Village Club

Present (29): Eric and Margaret Acton, Sid & Marjorie Charlton, Bob & Pat Colquhoun, Rosa Dale, Shirley Edwards, Vinny & Paul Harrison, Janet & Bob Heap, Christine Mather, Linda McKay, Bob & Sue McLaughlin, John & Janet Melia, Tony Murphy, Geoff & Wendy Orange, Nicola Taylor, Katy Wallace, Ron & Sheila Westwood, Flo Wright, Barry Gundry, Ted Sherriff.

The meeting was opened with a minutes silence for the recently deceased Cllr Diana Friend, who sadly passed away on 21 May & who, along with her husband Graham was always a strong supporter of Longbarn Residents' Association & regularly attended our meetings.

- 1. Apologies** (6): Lynn Colter-Howard, Dave & Pat Allen, Howard Klein, David Pearson, Paul Adams
- 2. The minutes** of last meeting were passed as correct with no matters arising.
- 3. The financial report** was not presented due to a family bereavement of our accountant. However the Management Committee had recently met to update & discuss the LRA finances & found them to be in excellent order and a great foundation for our plans for the future
- 4. Christ Church School road safety scheme.** The scheme is now in place &, although arguably not perfect is a vast improvement & has made the area much safer for our schoolchildren. Some parents are still ignoring double yellow lines and are parking on them to drop off & pick up children. It will be reported to our local police asking for immediate action to be taken. A timely reminder of the very kind offer of the use of the Station House car park for drop off & pick up of schoolchildren which in the main is being underused for this purpose.
- 5. Warrington Community Lottery.** This has been introduced in Warrington, with a weekly draw of £25,000 plus many other prizes. The aim is to raise much needed funds for charities & good causes in Warrington. LRA has signed up for the scheme, when you join you can nominate one of their good causes, this automatically ensures that 50p in the pound goes straight to the nominated cause. We would encourage anyone signing up to nominate LRA to help us maintain future activities in our community
- 6. SPOND.** This is an app introduced by LRA & available for your smartphone that helps to build a "community spirit" for residents to communicate without being on Facebook, Twitter etc., as many people do not want to get involved with these "open" social media platforms. SPOND is very easy to use , whilst being safe & secure.
- 7. Community Fun Day.** The date for the next community fun day is Sunday 16th July. We are looking for any resident volunteers to help in any way to help it to be a success. The Police, Fire, RAF, Army & Navy , dance groups, D'ukes of Longbarn, drum bands & gymnastic teams have all been invited to attend along with a kiddies fairground, face painting & numerous stalls.

8. **Sunflower competition.** As usual free seeds are available for anyone requiring them to join in the fun. Simply stick them in the ground, talk to them daily, just add water & we will see who can grow the tallest on the estate.

9. **Scarecrow Competition** This year's theme is the "Coronation." Please do your best to join in & encourage your children.

10. **LRA Bowling Green Update.** Despite the wettest weather for years then followed by weeks of frost, our greenkeeper has at last been able to start work on the green. To date it has been cut on many occasions, been scarified and can now have treatments starting with regular watering and cutting. LRA has managed to secure funding to ensure that the green will be brought up to bowling standard & maintained for the future. The green ticks all the boxes for health and wellbeing both physically and mentally. LRA has already secured several sets of bowls for use for residents of the estate to rent in order to play on the green and have the promise of more.

Membership of the Bowling club will be a requirement for all future users as this will ensure an income stream for the annual maintenance which costs in the region of £4,500 per year. We aim to give lessons to 10-year olds upwards to ensure the green remains a community asset for many decades to come and a legacy for LRA.

11. **Padgate Walking Day.** LRA will be at the Padgate Village Club on Saturday 24th of June, selling hot dogs & hamburgers on the day. Any help would be greatly appreciated to ensure the smooth running of the event (the plan would be to help on a shift system of an hour each), please help if possible.

12. **Community Clean –up day.** The next litter pick is on Sunday 28th May. A big thanks to our regular weekly "litter pickers" who ensure our area looks lovely.

13. **AOB** A big thank you to The Melia Family & the Allen family and others for the tremendous amount of work carried out on cutting our grass, a massive amount of work put in to keep our community in pristine condition.

A big thank you to Sheila & Ron Westwood for their hard work with our Ukulele band "The D'ukes." Many thousands of pounds have been raised for St Rocco's, along with many hours of enjoyment for our audiences where they play. This week it was for the Alzheimer's Society in Penketh, where there were over 50 persons, singing & dancing along for an hour of entertainment.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20pm

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Member of National Organisation of Residents' Associations



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