

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the Committee Meeting at Uckfield Rugby Club

Thursday 3rd November 2022 – 7pm to 8.45pm

1. **Present:** Paul Sparks (Chair), Peter Griggs (Secretary), Sally Major (Treasurer) Dorothy Sparks Jerry Miller, Sue Fenwick, Belinda Da Silva

2. **Apologies:** Jane Shepherd, Ric Mears, Andy Clews, Julia Brown.

3. Minutes of the last meeting on 27th July 2022 and matters arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the last meeting.

Peter and Paul updated the meeting on the following actions arising from that meeting:

Streatfield House – planning consent has now been approved. Paul has asked Planning to look again at the need for two flights of steps down to the High Street. Demolition is due to start in the Spring.

All other matters arising were included on the agenda.

4. Treasurer's Report

In summary the current balance is £1335.00 with £564.00 as available funds.

The Surgery Car Service has a net deficit of £49.00 and the Good Neighbour Scheme a net deficit of £73.00.

We have £164.00 remaining of a grant from WDC and £540.00 of a grant from AiRS for the purchase of an iPad (note: the iPad has now been purchased and the WDC grant will go towards the cost of the Warm Space project).

Sally said that after ten years as Treasurer she felt it was time to step back and let someone else take on the role. The committee expressed its warm thanks for all of Sally's hard work over the past decade. The committee was pleased that Sally agreed to stay on the committee.

5. Secretary's Report

Peter reported:

- Membership – we now have 159 paid members, just one short of our greatest number in 2020.
- Correspondence:
 - At the Town Council's suggestion, the Association has written supporting Brighter Uckfield's nomination for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.
 - The Association has accepted an invitation from the Royal British Legion to participate in the Remembrance parade. It was agreed that a donation of £25.00 be made to the RBL.
 - Paul advised the committee about an Energy Trial that is to be launched on Manor Park
- Social media - we now have 898 people following our Facebook page.
- DBS checks – there is one outstanding DBS driver check. **ACTION Peter**

6. The AGM

Peter advised that Josh Broadway, Energy Poverty Coordinator, had agreed to speak at the AGM before the main meeting. Paul will advise the meeting about the Energy Trial.

7. The Dene

The Committee was pleased to learn that the Town Council is in negotiation with Buxted Parish Council about its potential purchase of the amenity land.

8. Linden Court

It was agreed that the Linden Court retirement apartments in Linden Chase would be included in the Association's area and that the constitution would be amended accordingly.

ACTION Peter and Belinda to notify the residents and circulate membership forms and information about the GNS and SCS schemes.

9. Tuesday Warn Space Project

Dorothy and Peter explained what had prompted this project, how it is to be delivered and how it is to be funded. Peter said that we have already received donations from CPJ Field (£250), Uckfield Lions Club (£250) and Action in Rural Sussex (£496).

10. Queen Elizabeth 11 commemoration

Peter said the consideration was being given to how the Association might commemorate the reign of the late Queen. One idea is for a wooden bench placed on the grassy area known as The Rockery, near to the Key Worker Tribute.

ACTION Peter to ask for ideas from members in the next e-newsletter and in the meantime obtain a price for a wooden bench with a view to applying for a UTC grant.

11. Uckfield Dementia Forum – request for Christmas activity packs

It was agreed that the Association would purchase some items and donate them to this good cause.

ACTION Peter

12. Any other business

- Peter referred to the sad passing of Mike Skinner and his past support of the Association's work.

13. Date, time, and venue of next meeting

No date set but likely to be in January 2023.