

**DIVINITY ROAD AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING
24 NOVEMBER 2008 MINUTES**

Attending: Peter Coggins (chair), Ivon Asquith, Chris Brazier, Barbara Crossley, Susan Lisk, Elizabeth Mills, James Styring, Lynne Trenery, Cindy Carlson (minutes)

Apologies: Vicki Cullen, Alastair Gray, Amanda Root, Lucy

Matters Arising:

- Examining DRARA accounts: couldn't be done before the AGM so still needed
Action: Cindy to ask Alastair if accounts have been examined.
- The Franks are not interested in pursuing an appeal
- Sinnet Court Parking – Brookes does not have any mandate to do anything about cars in residential areas. Residents have to report suspected Sinnet Ct resident cars to the caretaker who will chase up if provided with details.
- Ivon is organising a meeting for all residents' associations affected by Brookes.
Action: Barbara to forward Liz Grovenor email to Ivon.

Traffic Action

The consultation documents are now out. James and Lynne have put leaflets around all residents' regarding the different options. The data for the survey done on cars in the area has not yet been analysed. The council have presented a plan that could have been done without visiting the area, as it is so generalised and poorly defined. The key issues remaining are a) how to control speeding cars if parking is only on one side of the road, b) acceptance (or not) of pavement parking and c) the overall number of cars in the area. A rough look at the results of the car survey shows that one in four cars in the area are HMO related. From the council side, it is clear that there is no appetite for suppressing student demand for bringing cars into the area, and there is nothing in the consultation about linking parking permits with where cars are registered with DVLA. Hill Top Rd residents are alarmed that the consultation document suggests 93 parking places on the road, which would have to include parking in front of driveways.

Action: Lynne and James to draft a response, though need analysis from car survey. Also need to include issue of children walking to and from school.

Action: Lynne will call a meeting of the DRARA committee once figures are available from Richard.

Action: Lynne to follow up with the council as to why recommendations on road closure in the area by traffic consultants not taken forward.

Treasurer's Report

There is an overall balance of £2,403.33, with £2,191.23 in the bank account. Still need to consider ways to use DRARA funds for the community, such as street banners for street events.

Action: Alastair to provide accounts in a slightly more detailed fashion, perhaps through a table that shows detail of money going in and out?

Membership collection

One half of collectors have sent in their membership collections. It looks like these will be slightly lower than last year. Have so far put £410 in to DRARA.

AGM Report Back:

The meeting was very noisy because it was the Eid celebration. However, full of very interesting points of interest and shame that fewer DRARA members attended.

Action: Next AGM email people just before the meeting to remind them, and just afterwards with main issues arising during the meeting.

Action: Jo to provide AGM minutes

Environmental Action

Suggested that it would be good to have a ten point checklist on energy efficiency that residents could hand to their builders doing any building work in the area. This would include guidance on how to do things differently to help raise awareness amongst builders. The East Oxford car club has been launched (as of today, 24 November). Two spaces allocated in the DRARA area (near Co-op and on Southfield Road). No signage has been put up yet and still early days as to who polices parking and who to contact if the space is being used.

Planning Action/East Area Committee

At last E. Area Committee councillors rejected the Oriel plans as being too big and out of character of the area. Richard English spoke on behalf of DRARA. The college may come back with an alternative, smaller proposal. The police reported that they now have a full complement of neighbourhood police. They would like DRARA to put feedback from Neighbourhood Action meetings on our agenda. Also would like residents to report any incidents related to the Regal or other problems in the area. The person to report to is Brian Cooper. There are also thoughts about creating a 'wet area' in East Oxford to give support to people. Hill Top Road has resuscitated its neighbourhood watch scheme. Chris Cousins has opposed the development of land adjacent to the Hill Top Road. Next East Area Committee meeting will be 17th December.

Action: Chris to ask Kerry Patterson to go to Neighbourhood Action meetings.

Events

The next events meeting will be on the 1st December at Judith's house to plan 2009. Henrietta Gill has agreed to be head of the events group. Peter has organised a wine tasting event on 5th December at the golf club. This needs to be booked by 2nd December. Planning a Freecycle Day in April. Would be good to have a Freecycle day when students are leaving so that they can recycle things they want to give away. Ivon has offered organising fireworks for any open air events. The committee is organising a ceilidh fundraising event in February for the local hospices.

Oxford Brookes Liaison

New development plans have been released. Ann Edmunds is looking to see where new student university events are going to take place. The next community liaison meeting will take place on 26th November.

AOB

Could Peter please write to the Council to ask them to replace the road sign that has been lost at the bottom of Divinity Road (next to the Co-op). Warneford Meadow has been recommended to be a Town Green. Now need to look at who will form a management committee for the development of the meadows. Elizabeth will sit on the committee for DRARA.

NEXT MEETING

26TH JANUARY 2009 – 8PM, CHRIS'S HOUSE, 38 HILL TOP ROAD