

HARTSHILL AND HARPFIELDS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

REPORT FOR COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC MEETING

MONDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2019

The Meeting was opened by the Chair Kay Webster who welcomed those attending. There were 11 residents and 9 Committee members, who were introduced in turn and gave some details of their roles and the work they had carried out on behalf of residents, which are recorded below.

The Treasurer gave his report for the period from 1 November to 31 January.

HHRA INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT **FOR THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 31 JANUARY 2019**

OPENING BALANCE 1.11.18		1731.81
<u>INCOME</u>		
DONATIONS	36.00	
ADVERTISEMENTS	530.00	
ANNUAL GRANT FROM CITY COUNCIL	100.00	666.00
		2397.81
<u>LESS EXPENDITURE</u>		
PRINTING WINTER NEWSLETTER		345.00
CLOSING BALANCE 31.1.19		2052.81

The balance includes a £200 donation from Councillor Pender's Ward Budget towards the cost of the hoped for Notice Board. This application having been refused it remains to contact Councillor Pender to ask if another purpose, namely a plaque to recount the history of the Rosemary Ednam Memorial Railings, might be a recipient instead. Councillor Pender is content with this use of his money.

We have agreed to fund a sign directing people to the Defibrillator at the North Staffs Medical Institute as its position on the building is somewhat removed from the public view. It was suggested that posters be placed in nearby shop windows advertising the position of the Defibrillator.

It was suggested that a sum from the Association's funds might be given to a local voluntary organisation, has as happened in the past or offered as a prize to a local school child for a piece of work.

Members of the Committee gave updates of those matters which had been reported in the Newsletter and other matters which were presently under investigation and any new developments likely to be of interest to residents.

The Secretary's Report gave the following details:

1. The clearance of leaves from pavements, particularly on Hartshill Road, by the Academy playing field – this had not been very successful. It was pointed out that Hilton Road, particularly the cycle paths were in a very poor state and needed attention. Parts of The Avenue and Upper and Lower Crescent were also mentioned.
2. Gullies, Potholes and Utility Covers. Gullies in lower Albany Road and Hilton Road, whilst largely free of an accumulation of leaves, were to a large extent full of sludge, which prevented water from draining away. This problem had been reported to Highways. Highways had also been made aware of two potholes in Thornburrow Drive and that two utility covers on Hartshill Road required resetting.
3. For several weeks the gates on the footpath passing Palmer's Green had not been opened. This should now have been resolved and was due to a changeover of staff at the Federation Road depot in Burslem who were responsible for the operation. There have been further complaints since this supposed resolution mentioned above.
4. A complaint about a company selling vans using part of the premises of R & B Autos, but not associated with them, are to be investigated by Planning Enforcement for not requesting permission for a change of use.
5. A Planning Application to build 27 houses on the site fronting Shelton New Road, adjoining the Minton's Wood development has been lodged.
6. The Trentwood business in Stoke Old Road has closed and the premises cleared. Last year an outline planning application was approved to build 19 houses on the site.
7. The derelict Cliff Vale Inn in Shelton New Road has been demolished.

Peter Morton gave details of the work he had undertaken since before and after joining the Committee in November 2018.

1. Successfully obtained the removal of ivy from the Cemetery Chapels and the boarding up of windows to prevent entrance of pigeons.
2. Installation of double yellow lines in Tolkien Way – some still required.
3. Cliff Vale Inn - Enforcement action against owners, resulting in demolition.
4. Resurfacing of part of Oxford Street.
5. On-going – Installation of gulley by Tesco Express to prevent flooding.
6. On-going - Provision of pedestrian crossing at entrance to Tesco Express by R & B Autos.
7. On-going – Blocked gullies in alleyways at rear of Frederick Avenue and Richmond Street.

REPORT OF HOSPITAL LIAISON MEETING 13.2.19

1. Attending – HHRA – Kay Webster; Mary Bradley; Reg Edwards; Margaret Glanville; Peter Morton. Hospital – Mike Brown; Ash Chudasama.
2. Update on Business Plan for demolition of NSRI – There is some funding in the Capital Plan for 2019/2020 to demolish part of the site. The Infirmary site will still be needed to be available for some time to hours cars removed from the whole of COPD until the new car parks on the Royal Stoke site can be built. These will be on the main “fan” car park and beyond the Clinical Education Centre.
3. Car Parking – 1. There is room on the NSRI site to decant those cars presently on the COPD temporary car park permission for which ends on 30 June 2019. 2. A compound on the Royal Stoke site between the Springfield building and the Estates compound, presently used by contractors will become a car park for 35 cars. Update: This is now in operation. 3. Funding to install barriers will be used to change parking arrangements from pay on entry to pay on exit. This will stop some abuses and free up parking space. 4. Thought is being given to restricting staff parking permits.
4. New Modular Buildings – These are now in use.
5. Winter Pressure on Beds – Not the problem that was expected.
6. Cost Savings – Ways to reduce costs are being investigated. Medical Records are slowly being digitised. This will produce a saving in transport costs and may eventually remove the need to retain Wilfred Place.
7. NSRI Security and tidying up – Money is being spent on boarding up windows to prevent breaking in and patrols are in operation. The position with the Heras fencing on the perimeter on Queens Road and Princes Road which Security maintain is necessary should be looked to see if there are instances where the panels could be removed because of the presence of trees and bushes preventing any entrance. There would be a saving in rental paid and the perimeter would look better.
8. The next meeting will be held on 8 May 2019.

One question raised by a resident was that which asked, bearing in mind the fact that the temporary COPD car park was to be vacated with effect from 30 June 2019, was there a date for the emptying of the rest of the COPD car for which housing was intended. The Hospital state that no consideration has been given to this matter yet.

Hartshill Medical Centre Patient Participation Group

Chris Munday, Chair of the Patient Participation congratulated those patients who had contributed over £800 in the Christmas Raffle, organised by the Group which will provide extra medical equipment. It was mentioned by Peter Morton that a patient, Heather Jones, had undertaken a sponsored 5 km walk which had raised over £500 to be used for the same purpose. Chris stated that the Medical Centre has a list of local social and craft activities which patients can join in order to help combat depression and lonlieness and would welcome more. Anyone wishing to obtain details of the Patient Participation Group can obtain details from Chris Munday 01782 851785 or Kay Webster 01782 612957.

Jolly Potters – Licensing Review

Residents were updated on this matter which involves complaints about the premises. The Association will not make a formal representation but suggestion that anyone with an interest in the matter should do so as an individual. The closing date for submissions was 25 February and the Review will take place on 11 March.

The next Open Committee/Public Meeting will take place on Monday 20 May 2019.