

Littletown Residents Association

Minutes of Meeting Held 15th June 2006

Guests: Pam Sinclair
Bill Kellett

Present: Billy Everett, Sue & Ken, Marion Sowerby, Andrew Sowerby, Marian Allport, Ted, Lynn, Bev, Kathleen Wilson, Janet Watson, Vicky Clark, Thomasina, Alasdair Lovett, Sheila Smith (Chair), Angela

Guests

Pam Sinclair: Will give Sheila details of two organisations that can help with set-up and running costs for

Constitution – Julie Taylor is still looking at this. She will also advise us about finding organisations which can help with funding, and also about applying for these funds.

Bill Kellett: Believes that there is no chance of using the Old Chapel as a community centre and states that a purpose built building would be the best.

Report

Smith-Gore

Andrew has contacted Smiths Gore for an update on the Old Chapel, Michael from Smiths Gore stated that they have had one of their surveyors out to inspect the building and that there is NO CHANCE of the building falling down just yet; also they are still waiting for the surrender of the Chapel by Mr Cairns.

Listed Buildings

Andrew has contacted the Heritage department in County Hall, there are NO listings on the Old Chapel or the Animal Hospital (Potato Shed) but he has been given info on how register the buildings and would like a volunteer to take up getting the buildings registered.

(Any volunteers please see Andrew at 21 Plantation Avenue)

Village Green

We now have all the forms to start the process of registering our Village Green, and those who came to the meeting have some to fill in – if there is anyone who would like to fill in an Evidence form to help register the Village green, please do ask, as they do take into account the number of people who respond.

Access to Moor

There have been many concerns regarding the fencing off of the Moor, partly because it has been used by the public for many years as a 'common' space, partly because there were several unmarked paths which have been closed off, and partly because of the concerns about the use of barbed wire alongside people's gardens. While most people are aware of the need for preventing animals from straying, the loss of what was part of living in Littletown has landed hard – and a number of residents feel that the previous spirit of co-operation between villagers and the tenants of the Moor has been lost.

For anyone wishing to have paths registered by the council, we have (more) evidence forms – again, the more filled in, the more likely that the council will look at registering any path.

Allotments

Concern has been expressed regarding the number of 'dumped' vehicles in allotments around the village; and also the amount of general rubbish. Some residents are worried about attracting vandals/thieves to the allotments – particularly since we've had the children going up to the woods setting fires, there are worries that they might start in Littletown. There are also concerns about safety – what if these children start breaking into allotments and get injured?

Smoke

Most Littletowners – and many from Pittington – were amazed by the amount of smoke at the weekend (10th June particularly): this was caused by a pile of burning manure in a field on the other side of the woods. Many people noticed that it actually continued on through the week – so a couple of residents actually contacted Environmental Health, amongst other agencies, to find out if we really have to put up with that. We await a reply.

Angela pointed out that at the village green recently, a silver Peugeot pulled up, the occupants got out, urinated publicly and shouted abuse at her children –they did not get the registration, but it's worth keeping an eye out.

Any Other Business

- The children seem to have disappeared from the woods, but the police say that they will still call up periodically
- Dog dirt is still a problem on the village green – particularly, it seems, from visitors. It may be worth taking registration numbers and telling the Neighbourhood warden.
- The Parish Council, however, are to provide more (permanent) signs and dog bins, to help combat this problem
- Parking – some residents are feeling put out by owners of more than one vehicle taking up extra space on the street instead of using drives. As a group, there is nothing we can do about this (other than report the concerns) – and it is not illegal to park a taxed, insured vehicle on the street.
- Volunteers for the working party – Vicky Clark, Andrew and Marion Sowerby, Sheila Smith, Marian Allport, Kathleen Wilson and Lynn.
- For the summer period, working party meetings will alternate with full meetings , in order to minimise the pressure on Lynn and Ted's house

Date & Time of Next Meeting

6th July 2006, 7pm, 33 Plantation Avenue

All residents will be advised.

We declare that these minutes are a true record of the meeting held on the 16th June 2006

Signed: _____ (Chairperson)

Print: Sheila Smith _____

Signed: _____

Print: _____