

Notes of the joint meeting between resident associations and companies held in
Fairfield Community Hall, Kipling Crescent, Fairfield on Thursday 3rd March at 7.30 pm

Present

Fairfield Parish Council (FPC) - Councillors Phil Mitchinson (Vice Chairman), Chris Bidwell, Penny Daffarn, Sharon Jones and Tom Milliken

Fairfield Park Resident Association (FPRA) – Chris Titmus (Chairman) and Peter Nash

Directors of Fairfield Hall Management Company (FHMC) – Colin Chatfield (Chairman), and Stephen Hyde

Fairfield Hall Hub (FHH) Linda Manktelow and Jenny Coles

Directors of Middlemarch Residents Company (MRC) – Geoff Smith and Gary Shanahan

Meeting chaired by

Phil Mitchinson

Notes taken by

Katrina Henshaw (Parish Clerk).

1 Apologies

1.1 Apologies received from Councillors Barrie Dack and Nathan Hanks (FPC)

2 Welcome and introductions

2.1 PM welcomed everyone and then everyone introduced themselves.

3 Update on actions from meeting held on 1st October

3.1 Sign at Eliot Way – has been installed.

3.2 Maps – FPC notified google maps that Kingsley Avenue is not a through road to Hardy Way.

3.3 Additional Bins near exits from Hall – MRC advised that this was a problem over Christmas in particular with Hall residents using Middlemarch bins. FHMC advised that there were no plans to install additional bins but residents had been advised on how and when their rubbish was collected. MRC has been told to instruct FHMC's groundsmen to remove any rubbish from the Hall found in Middlemarch bins. FHMC will advise Groundsmen of this agreement. **Action: FHMC / MRC**

3.4 Yellow Developer Signs on Hitchin Road – FPC continue to chase up Hertfordshire Highways to remove these but it is still a low priority.

3.5 Green Waste – No one volunteered to create a steering group to investigate feasibility, location and demand. It was agreed that FPC would look into this further. **Action: FPC**

3.6 Disposal of Christmas Trees – a site was set up and used by many residents. MBS kindly removed the trees without charge.

3.7 Fly problem – FPC advised all of contact details for future incidents and an article was included in Fairfield Matters.

3.8 Emergency Plan – A training session was held on 4th February.

3.9 Pot Holes off Eliot Way – FHMC advised that work had been commissioned and would be done soon. MRC advised FHMC that the road had not be constructed properly by the developers. FHMC agreed to investigate this further. **Action: FHMC**

3.10 Cycle Path across Kingsley Avenue – FHMC has checked maps and the path is on Hotbed land that FHMC has responsibility for. CBC has confirmed this to be the case. Therefore it is entirely a decision for Hotbed and FHMC to agree priority. For safety reasons and to be consistent with the cycle path in Eliot Way, FHMC will be changing the priority from cyclists/pedestrians to traffic.

4 Update from Fairfield Hall

- 4.1 Completion Certificates - Nothing new to report.

5 Update from FPRA

- 5.1 Handover of Assets – Nothing new to report.
5.2 Road Adoption – Nothing new to report.

6 Update on Outstanding S106 issues

- 6.1 No further progress on the transfer of Hotbed land to FPC. It is understood that Hotbed has only just instructed their solicitors.
6.2 The contract negotiations with PJ Livesey are ongoing.
6.3 It is understood that the two planning applications from PJ Livesey will be discussed by CBC at the planning meeting to be held on 30th March. FPC is unaware of CBC's recommendations.

7 Update on work to Orchards

- 7.1 Work to trees in East Orchard was done by a professional arborist whereas the work to trees in the West Orchard was split between volunteers and a professional arborist. A lot of dead wood has been left on trees on purpose for habitat and only 20% could be removed per year. No work can take place after Sunday until after 31st July as it will be nesting season. All trees have been numbered and about a third have been identified. There are nearly 200 trees. The ongoing maintenance needs to be agreed and replanting proposals are being considered.
7.2 GS asked if the Friends of Orchard Group would be interested in removing the ivy from any of the big trees around Eliot Wat and Hardy Way.

8 Update on Neighbourhood Plan

- 8.1 All documentation is approaching completion of the initial drafts. There will be a six week consultation period monitored by CBC for all residents and interested groups (all management companies, school etc.) to make comments. It is hoped that the NHP will be in place by the end of the year assuming the referendum votes in favour of adopting it.

9 Dog Fouling

- 9.1 For CBC to consider enforcement of penalty notices then it needs a letter from the landowners of private land confirming that they will enforce the penalty note. FHMC and FPRA agreed to ask landowners for a letter stating this and pass the letters to FPC to pursue with CBC. **Action: FHMC/FPRA/FPC**
9.2 CBC will allow dog wardens to visit Fairfield providing FPC is prepared to pay their overtime wages.

10 Provision of Lighting on the footpath across the Cricket Ground

- 10.1 The benefits of providing lighting along the existing footpath to the West side of the cricket pitch were discussed. At the moment the land is owned by Hotbed and leased to the cricket club. They would need to be consulted before any work could be considered.
10.2 There is a question on whether lighting would be better placed on footpath running alongside the Community Hall. This could then be linked to future additional car parking.
10.3 The original proposals for this area also included a footpath from the cricket and bowls car park along the side of the cricket pitch to the bowls club. This has never been constructed but needs to be considered in any future proposals.

11 Additional Car Park Signage for Bowls and Cricket Club

- 11.1 FHMC confirmed this is part of an ongoing Signage Plan it is working on.

12 Additional seating in play parks

- 12.1 FPRA advised this would be considered once plans for Urban Park had been agreed as there may be surplus benches then.

13 Urban Park (including. Public Arts Money)

- 13.1 Everyone was shown some plans from CBC including a band stand with some art designed by Wendy Biggs (CBC appointed artist). The band stand would not be funded by CBC so would need to be purchased by FPC or someone else. This proposal was discussed by all. FPRA did not like the idea of a band stand due to ongoing maintenance. It was agreed that FPRA would put together a proposal after consulting residents. FPC would look at that stage to see if the Public Art money could be used as part of the agreed design. **Action: FPRA**

14 Date of Next Meeting

- 14.1 The next joint meeting will be June 2016 unless it is considered necessary to have one before.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm