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Beechwood & Wheatcroft Residents Association

Minutes of meeting held

02/05/2024

Loch Lomond Rugby Club

In Attendance:

Committee members: T Neufeld, J Coulthard, J McGarva, A McGarva, D Bole, K Gothard, M Reid, K Smith, G Coulthard, R Kerr, I Milligan

Apologies: R Stibbs, R Goodall, H Scammell

Councillors: J Bollan, I Dickson

Residents: K Little, P Shannon, H Connolly

Guests: E Adams Park PM

Community Police: None

1. Welcome and introduction:

T Neufeld, (Chair) opened the meeting and thanked everyone in attendance and in particular extended a warm welcome to the new committee members.

2. Minutes:

Proposed Janice McGarva, Seconded Irene Milligan.

3. Matters arising from last meeting’s minutes:

TN stated that there was a small error in reporting that the fencing at Highdykes had been completed, when in fact its the footpath and top soiling that has been completed.

4. Park PM Update:

For the purposes of full coverage, EA had brought with her, addressed envelopes that contain letters of the fees due to be paid by the residents. These are to be hand delivered by the Committee. She added that with regard to the owners that are not occupying their properties Park PM will be sending out posted letters. EA also stated that where the residents have provided an email address, an electronic copy would also be sent. TN advised that he would expect all the residents to receive their hand delivered envelopes by the end of next week. TN further stated that it had been announced at April AGM that there was to be mail drop. EA stated that occasionally residents do phone to state that they are not happy to pay their fees as the grass has not been cut and she enquired if she should advise residents to phone a particular number but TN stated that no phone numbers are given out and residents are advised to use BWRA contact form that TN monitors himself.

EA also confirmed that there were no changes, that the current payments remain at 91.28% (408 payments) collected.

5. Councillor Update/Questions:

JB reported that the council monies were still being cut with no sign of new investment and the council are actively seeking a consultation with local residents with regard to the budget for next year as they have a expected shortfall of £17 million. He also stated that the council voted not to object to the proposed Flamingo Land. JB determined that the council are proceeding with their plan to charge residents £60 to have their garden waste uplifted with no exceptions to residents on disability, benefits or state pensioners. He added it remains to be seen if the council can be persuaded to withdraw the proposed charges, some councils have withdrawn and other councils have continued to impose the charges.

DB stated that street lights irregularity is still an ongoing problem, lights coming on too early in the morning and evening. DB proposed he would send JB a video of the irregularity of the street lights.

Residents reported that yellow grit bins and litter bins that were removed from the pavements and footpaths to resurface have not been put back in place and in some cases are still in residents gardens. JB stated that he would arrange for the relevant bins to be put back in place. Concern was muted that there was still no bin at the bus stop.

6. Chair Report

TN commented that the AGM was a successful meeting with enough residents present to hold the meeting. He thanked the committee members for continuing to support the association.

TN read an email from Hospital Watch expressing their appreciation to BWRA for the £100 donation. Donations allows Hospital Watch to meet regularly, to set agendas and address any concerns raised by the community in advance of meetings Hospital Watch hold with the Health Board and Senior Managers, their primary objective is to protect and increase services within VOL Hospital.

7. Secretary Report

JC stated she would follow up email and telephone numbers for the new committee members and will post a updated BWRA committee members 2024-2025.

8. Treasurers Report

A cheque written to the contractor M & T Civils £2,778.40 has been cleared through the bank and has reduced the Total Amount as shown in April minutes from £50,558.58 to the current balance of £47,780.18.

JM reported that there are some outstanding cheques written but not cleared through the bank.

The current balances are as follows:

General Maintenance: £25,831.26

Reserve Account: £21,612.12

Social Fund Account: £ 336.80

Total: £47,780.18

The outstanding cheques awaiting clearance:

VOL Donation; £ 100.00

M & T Civils: £2,926.00

Flowers: £ 26.00

Total Amt O/s; £3,052.00

The O/s cheques once cleared through the bank will reduce the total balance from £47,780.10 to

£44,728.18.

A further credit payment received from Park PM of £697 will increase the overall total to: £45,425.18.

9. Contact Co-Ordinator Report:

TN presented the report in the absence of RG. TN reported that the lower half of the gully area is in the process of being tidied and MGS have stated they need to hire two skips, the problem has been exacerbated by some residents fly tipping. TN asked for the committee’s views with regard to the payment of £1,500 to supply the skips and remove the rubbish and clear the undergrowth in the gully area, known as Area 14, the price includes the labour resources to undertake the task.

The costs associated with the works were proposed by Janice McGarva and seconded by David Bole.

With regard to the fly tipping problem TN reported it was stated on the flyer distributed for the AGM that residents would be approached and advised to clear the fly tipping within a week, otherwise they would be reported and possibly facing a fine. The flyer also stated that if people continue with the practice of fly tipping they can expect higher fees to manage the problem to cover these costs.

With regard to the area further up the gully TN stated that there had been a particularly bad storm previously that had caused trees to fall into the burn and although a work party was organised to lift the trees out of the burn the debris was still lying around and it was the council’s responsibility to remove it.

JB confirmed that he was awaiting a plan from RG as to who owns what. As soon as he received the plan from RG he would check out ownership.

10. Social Convenor Report:

There were a few proposals muted; i.e. barbecue, dog show to interest the children on site. To try and encourage more residents to join in. It was suggested we hold a simple barbecue on the grass area opposite the lower bus stop in the estate, we put a sheet up “Come & enjoy a burger”. On a Saturday there are quite a few families passing by that may be encouraged to stop and get to know the residents association. Also advertising social events actively on the BWRA website might also attract more residents to propose and take part. It was decided to give more consideration at the next BWRA meeting.

11. Any Other Business:

Dog Fouling: It is apparent that the problem with dog fouling is an ongoing problem and the purchase of the new signage has not appeared to improve the situation. Following a general discussion DB took it onboard to obtain poo bags and TN would arrange to position them beside the litter bins to encourage residents to make full use of them.

TN stated that the telephone numbers for fly tipping and dog fouling will be advertised on the BWRA website and as its an anonymous service it may encourage residents to report offenders.

MR thanked the committee for the flowers and card she received.

The notification of fees letters were distributed to the posties.

12. Next meeting: Thursday 6th June 2024.

13. Actions.

| Meeting Date | Action | Responsibility | Update |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2/2/22 | Address water at Murroch Cres. (i.e. The corner of Murroch and Beachwood | R Goodall/I Dickson with R Welsh | Ongoing |
| 2/3/22 | Investigate water through Communal Car Park at top of Beechwood. | R Goodall | Ongoing |
| 3/8/23 | Collect designs for Estate Entrance | R Goodall | Ongoing |
| 5/10/23 | Replace bin next to bus stop | I Dickson | Ongoing |
| 01/02/24 | Feedback from the report issued to the contractor regarding the pavements and roads. | J Bollan | Ongoing |
| 01/02/24 | Changing the accounts to online. | J McGarva | Ongoing |
| 04/04/24 | Lower part of gully area. (Awaiting plan). | R Goodall/J Bollan | Ongoing |
| 02/05/24 | Hand deliver Park letters | Committee | Ongoing |
| 02/05/24 | Send JB video of street light timing. | D Bole | Ongoing |
| 02/05/24 | Grit & Litter Bins to be replaced in their original positions. | J Bollan | Ongoing |
| 02/05/24 | Make up new BWRA committee list. | J Coulthard | Ongoing |
| 02/05/24 | Obtain & position poo-bags adjacent to litter bins. | D Bole/T Neufeld | Ongoing |
| 02/05/24 | Publish telephone numbers on BWRA website for reporting Fly-tipping & Dog-fouling. | T Neufeld | Ongoing |