**Minutes of the Pipers Area Residents association Meeting held 12.5.14 at 7.30pm at the Wheatsheaf, Newport Street**

1. **Apologies:** Daphne Hardwick, Cllr Bluh, Duncan Cunningham, Chris Hawkins

**Present:** Carole Bent, Kareen Boyd, Bea Menier, Judith Randell-Sly, Claire Bouverie-Brine, Colin Doubleday, PC North, Cllr Watts, Cllr Mattock, Susanne Webb, Linda Kasmaty

**Guests:** Jane Milner-Barry, Neil Hopkins, Gerry Hannon

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Proposed by Carole and seconded by Kareen

1. **Matters arising**

Cllr Mattock was unable to confirm whether the £55k Section 106 money allocated to Old Town has been spent. There is also more S106 money from the Goddard development, this amounts to £110k and is available to spend until 2022.

**Action:** Cllr Mattock will give us an update on S106 money at the next meeting, specifically the amounts, where it is earmarked and when it runs out.

Planners are looking at the Local Plan and will have completed this by 22**.**5.14.

The breakdown truck in the Marlborough Lane layby has now been retaxed.

1. **Police Update**

PC North confirmed he would not be able to attend the AGM, but a PCSO would attend with leaflets.

There have been minor assaults and some graffiti in Greywethers Avenue, same tags as elsewhere. Metropolitan police area nationwide scam continues, a reminder not to divulge any bank card details to anyone whoever they profess to be. There have been beggars in Wood Street, car break ins in the Marriott and Ashlar Court car parks but nothing taken. Hub caps removed in Leverton Gate. Small fights and drug dealing in Wood Street continue.

1. **Councillor’s Update**

**Cllr Mattock:**

The Royal Oak is still awaiting purpose made tiles to complete the exterior façade.

Nothing seems to be happening at the Bell, an email has been sent, but there has been no response.

Synopses of responses to play area consultation have been sent out.

There may be a planning application being submitted by Taylor Wimpey for development of land behind Fitzroy Road at the bottom of Croft Road.

George Mead has been out to look at the trees in the unadopted section of Marlborough Lane; he didn’t ring Carole in advance although she had requested he do so. Mr Mead felt the tree line was a hedge which had grown into trees, but agreed they fulfil a purpose, and said a TPO is not needed if the trees are retained by the council. Mr Brannan has said the trees are no longer in the Croft lease, but remain in the brochure. The road has also been removed from the lease, the Draft lease says the leaseholder will have access to the adopted highway.

There was discussion about whether a TPO is needed on trees on SBC land.

**Cllr Watts:**

The Old Town Festival starts on Friday 13th of June with many events happening, visit [www.oldtownfestival.co.uk](http://www.oldtownfestival.co.uk) Highlights include Sat 28th June Band Concert on the Lawns 5-10pm and Sat 5th July Concert in the bowl in the Town Gardens 1-10pm.

There have been 2 traffic counters on Marlborough Lane, not on the section leading to Evelyn St. The traffic consultation is scheduled for June/July 2014

**Action:** Cllr Watts to find out about street lamp on the unadopted section of Marlborough Lane.

1. **Croft Lease**

Cllr Mattock said the leisure facilities are not being sold, they are being leased out, the council will retain the freehold. A report will go to Cabinet about those who have put forward proposals, and on the basis of solidity of options, a decision will be made by officers.

The committee expressed disappointment that the reply from the council did not address most of the questions raised in their letter. How do we get questions answered?

The process is as follows, there is a public report published, and then we are entitled to ask questions at a cabinet meeting.

**Action:** Members of PaRa to submit questions to Cllr Mattock who will get answers.

Four questions asked at the meeting were:

1. What sort of organisations are the council talking to?
2. A covenant was removed from Croft playing fields in 2011 for £100, what was it?
3. Will the leisure centre leases go to full council after being discussed by the cabinet?
4. When is the cabinet meeting to discuss the leisure leases being held? (26th June?)

Cllr Watts suggested the playing fields be taken out of the lease. The petition asking for this to happen has now reached over 1500 signatories.

The unadopted section of Marlborough Lane needs a regular maintenance programme now that it has been taken out of the lease.

1. **Report from Clean up**

This went really well and a big thanks to all those who helped out on the day and beforehand, especially to Kareen who coordinated the day wonderfully.

Litter form the MUGA pitch is causing concern. Larger litter bins and reminders to all in the area that these need to be used would be helpful, a suggestion was made that we have recycling bins.

**Action**: Speak to someone about bins.

1. **AGM running order**

Kareen went through this, and confirmed tables as follows: Police, Croft school, Mela and Corn Exchange development.

Refreshments in the form of water, squash and biscuits provided.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm

Date of next meeting: 9th June at 7.30pm in the back bar of the Wheatsheaf