

Homesteads Community Forum Public Meeting Notes

28th August 2009 at 7.30 pm Hardie Hall, Hardie Road,
Stanford-le-Hope
www.homesteadscf.org.uk



1) Welcome and Apologies

Present:

Committee: Tony Sharp, (Chairman) (TS), Tony Benson (Vice Chairman). (TB), Frances Benson (FB),
Carol Sharp (CS), Sally Griggs (Treasurer) (SG), Ray Griggs (RG),
Mike Farman (Secretary) (MF)

Councillors: None present

Thurrock Council: None present

NGAGE: None present

Police: None present

Public members: 6 people attended and signed the register

Apologies: Suzanne MacPherson, John Everett, Pauline Tolson, Sgt Lee Stannard, Nadine Gardner-Holt, Beverly Evans, John Evans, PCSO Christine Hope.

2) Approval of notes of previous Public Meeting

The notes of the previous public meeting were approved.

3) Matters arising from previous Public Meeting

None

4) Chairs Report

The Chairman said this years Party in the Park went extremely well and thanked all those who helped. He continued to say that maybe we had chosen the right day and of course the weather was excellent. Had the band continued beyond the 5.00pm finishing time, many residents would have stayed. He summed up by saying everyone enjoyed themselves. He invited the attendees to comment.

Tony Benson said he had written a letter of thanks to all concerned and submitted it for publication in the local paper. As a result of heavy editorial editing, the letter did not convey the appropriate message when printed. The chairman said he had invited a representative of the Playbuilder scheme to give us an update on the planned improvements to the play equipment in Balstonia Park. No representative attended the meeting.

5) Treasurers Report

The treasurer said that the accounts for the Party in the Park event were not complete. She was advised by the council last week and after the party event, that we had to pay an additional, one off, 'top up' event insurance of £255 to the council's liability insurance we have been told to use. The 'Top up' last year was only £50

Before we used the council liability insurance, we paid the whole amount which in 2007 was £460 for the Party in the Park event, and £250 for the Children's Christmas party.

Sally agreed to write to the council to ask for an explanation for the increase and to ask how much the 'Top up' is for this years Children's Christmas party. The budget for the Children's Christmas Part is £500.

Sally continued to say we has budgeted £3000 for the Party in the Park event and to date had spent £3482 but this was a very approximate figure. The Toilets were £362, Band £320, Inflatables £2000. The Garage Lock up was paid up to date.

Carol Sharp ran the white Elephant stall at the Party in the Park and made a profit of £60. This has been donated to the PDSA and we have received a letter of thanks.



6) Police Report

No police report is available as no police representative attended the meeting.

7) Any Other Business

a. Balstonia Park Fencing

The chairman said he wanted to complete the Perimeter fencing/netting along the Eastern side of the park. Residents were keen to see this completed with new play equipment planned for the park.

b. Winter festival

A fundraising event with a ABBA tribute act has been planned. Residents were urged to support this.

c. Children's Christmas Party

The Children's Christmas party is on the 13th December 2009. Tickets are £1 Tickets are NOT available on the day

d. Play equipment areas

Tony Benson said he was keen to identify other areas in the Homesteads where play equipment could be located. The green near Hassenbrook hall is one area. He suggested a survey of residents views was undertaken.

e. Branksome Avenue speeding

The secretary has received a telephone call from Councillor John Everett. Residents in Branksome avenue have asked if more can be done to reduce the speeding and calm the traffic on the avenue. A speed camera has been suggested.

Councillor Everett said it is not possible to install any type of speed camera as the Government regulations state that a fatality has to have taken place for a speed camera to be considered.

8) Next Public meeting

2nd October 2009 at 7:30p.m. Hardie Hall, Hardie Road, Stanford-le-Hope

The meeting closed at 8:10pm

