



Hockley Residents Association

Minutes of Hockley Residents Association Meeting Held on Tuesday the 10/11/10 at 19.30 hrs Chaired by Vice Chair Alan James - AJ

The meeting was attended by approximately 14 members / visitors. From AJ's memory and a few notes the meeting ran as follows:

1. Crime Stoppers

Ken Wickham from Crime Stoppers gave an interesting 15 minute presentation. He also brought a wall board and a three minute graphic video about knife crime produced by Steve Joynes son.

2. Costcutter

We spoke about the new Costcutter Supermarket being fitted out in the empty Bathroom Shop (previously a One Stop) in Main Road. Most agreed that this will be a welcome addition to the area having lost Alldays to the Co-op undertakers. We had received an email mainly complaining about the possibility of youths congregating outside because it will sell alcohol and tobacco but it was thought this is unlikely to happen.

3. Pizza Shop

The planning application for a pizza take-away next to the Factory Shop in Hockley was turned down by Rochford District Council.

4. Somerfield

The Somerfield Supermarket is due to open as a Co-Op on the 25th October.

5. Central Area Committee

The Rochford District Council Central Area Committee meeting took place yesterday on 9 November in Greensward Academy. Myra Weir asked why the homes proposed to be built in the first 10 years are the 175 in Hawkwell. They said she could not ask the question as she was on the committee. AJ asked the question for her but Shaun Scrutton head of planning did not really answer the question and AJ let him know this. He then answered that Hawkwell had the best infrastructure and everyone moaned in disagreement.

6. HAAP

Rochford District Council will display new versions of the Hockley Area Action Plan (HAAP) at a public drop in meeting on the 16th November at Greensward Academy Hockley from 18.30 to 20.30 hrs. A formal consultation period on the options chosen will follow. Rochford District Council will then hold a public meeting on 7th December 2010 at 19.30 hrs at Greensward Academy Hockley to discuss the options and suggestions that residents have put forward for the Hockley Area Action Plan. There was concern that both these meetings have not been well advertised. AJ said he would investigate. There followed a lengthy heated discussion about the proposed 250 homes that could be built on Eldon Way and the Foundry Estate with the majority against mainly because of road congestion. Hockley Parish Plan Group has now disbanded and they gave out copies of their last newsletter. Dave thought it unlikely they would be replaced as it is doubtful that any new group would get the backing of Hockley Parish Council.

7. Essex Police

Essex Police Authority will hold an open meeting in the Parish Hall (Old Fire Station) at 19.30 hrs on 17th November. They want the public's views on local policing.

8. Massive

The Massive charity is holding a quiz on 20th November at Greensward Academy Hockley to raise funds for the youth club in Eldon Way Hockley. The hall opens at 19.00 hrs for 19.30 hrs start. Tables of 8 are at time of going to press £5.00 per head email Kathy Muncer (k.muncer@sky.com) for details.

9. Core Strategy

The new Rochford Core Strategy changes have now been approved by Rochford District Council and the public consultation ends on the 30 November. All other representations previously made to the Core Strategy Submission Document remain valid and have been submitted to the Inspector but additional comments may be made on the RDC website or by post by this date. The Hockley and Hawkwell Residents Associations have prepared a suggested response that they are putting in the libraries and local shops. You may also print your own copy from our website use as a guide or sign and send freepost to Rochford District Council before 5.00pm on 30 November to be included in this consultation. Gabriel was not happy with the document and had produced a one page version that she wanted to put round. AJ said any version is better than putting round nothing. We had a general discussion about the core strategy and the proposed loss of Green Belt. John Hater distributed copies of his article in the Rayleigh Times.

10. Nationwide

The Nationwide Building Society in Hockley will close on 31 December taking its ATM with it. Nationwide are apparently closing all Nationwide Agencies like the Hockley branch. It was agreed that this will be a sad loss for the village.

11. JAAP

AJ reported that he recently attended an organised trip round the airport. The station and control tower are complete but not yet in use. They have started work on the foundations for the new terminal and the planning permission has been granted for the Hotel and runway extension. Work has also started on diverting Eastwoodbury Road but the runway extension is subject to a High Court challenge. The airport has yet to find an operator for the flight they would be able to run to most of Europe. Most seemed to be happy with the developments as with the quieter modern jets hopefully there should not be any noise issues.

12. NHS PCT

AJ had read that two areas of the PCT had been amalgamated with Andrew Pike in charge. AJ expects that we will continue our meeting with them in the near future. A comment was made that Southend will probably still get the lions share of future investment. The new dentist's in Southend Road is nearing completion.

13. NAP

The next meeting will be at 19.00 hrs on 22 November in the Westminster Drive Community Centre. AJ reported that due to financial cut backs the Hawkwell meetings have for the time being been amalgamated with the Hockley meetings in the community Centre.

14. Car Wash

We spoke about the Folly Lane Car Wash it was believed that they now have planning permission.

15. Rose Garden

The Rose Garden Restaurant is still going as they have an appeal against their planning permission refusal. It was stated that they are taking Christmas bookings.

16. Next Meeting

The next Hockley Residents Association meeting will be on Tuesday 14 December 19.30 hrs in Kilnfield House.

AJ closed the meeting.