



Hockley Residents Association

Minutes of Hockley Residents Association Meeting Held on Tuesday the 08/11/11 at 19.30 hrs in Kilnfield House Chaired by Vice Chair Alan James – AJ

The meeting was attended by 10 members / visitors. From AJ's memory and a few notes the residents meeting ran as follows:

1. Core Strategy

We discussed Keith Hudson's reported comments in yesterday's Echo that having an approved Core Strategy, the district is no longer at risk from predatory planning applications. RDC will have a formal vote on whether to adopt the original Core Strategy plan on 13/12/11. We also discussed the Christmas Tree Farm plans that are now reduced to the RDC number of 175 homes for Hawkwell. It was suggested that next week there will be a government decision from Eric Pickles on how much green belt land can be released.

2. HAAP

Although there has been no apparent progress on the HAAP, we notice a number of developments in the area. We discussed these developments including: The factory shop becoming a Sainsbury's and its deliveries, the new Dominos and deliveries to it and from it, the empty butchers becoming a nail bar, the empty green grocers becoming a dress shop, the shop on the corner of Bramerton Road being up for sale and the empty units in Eldon Way including Belmar Engineering and Ironmongery Direct. It was generally thought that Eldon Way and the Foundry Estate has now been blighted by the HAAP and JAAP.

3. Car Wash

The car wash has not complied with RDC's planning requirements. Tim Gleadall said they are waiting for a decision from the appeals court in Bristol.

4. Southend Airport

AJ reported on his recent organised trips round the airport. The new bypass road is complete and Eastwoodbury Road through the airport is now closed, the new station is in use, the new control tower is also finished and in use, the runway extension is almost complete, the new terminal will be finish soon and the new Holiday Inn is about 50% complete. AJ was told the new terminal will more than doubled in size within two years. We also discussed the RDC 120 per month night flights quota reported in yesterday's Echo, the JAAP airport area business park and the activist's invasion of the airport. We briefly talked about the proposed airport for the Isle of Grain.

5. East Community Forum

Tim Gleadall reported on the East Community Forum replacement for the CAC meetings that met on the 18/10/11. His main comment was that they have now reduced the top table to about 6 and put the rest of the councilors etc of around 20 in with about 10 from the public in the audience. The West Community Forum will be held in Rayleigh at the end of November. Both meetings will be held every 6 months. The general consensus was that we doubted they would be any more successful than the CAC meetings were, as very little of the public's requests ever get carried out.

6. Digital TV

We had a discussion with Tim Gleadall (the local representative) about the latest and future developments.

7. Police Neighbourhood Meeting

The police meetings should resume again next week after two cancelled months due to the Dale Farm evacuations. We discussed the reported relocation of local police teams to other areas and that Brian Guyett has complained to the Chief Constable about this. John Worden reported that Steve Joynes job is being relocated to Basildon. We hope to learn more from next week's meetings. We also discussed the current spate of telephone and email scams.

8. Massive Youth Club

We have had a request for additional funds for the youth clubs running costs that would be match funded by Barclays Bank. It was stated by Shirley James that the Hockley Parish Council had given them £7,500 for two years running that represents half of each year's rent. It was also stated that Massive runs the Farmers Market canteen with the Day Centre and keeps the profits. We believe the club has been successful and it was decided to give Massive an additional £500.

9. Public Toilets

We discussed the RDC threat to close five public toilets in the district including the one at the library but not the one at Hockley Woods, as reported in this evenings Echo. Tim Gleadall and Shirley James said that RDC are trying to get HoPC to run the one in Hockley but as this would be a considerable on cost this has yet to be decided. We felt closing these toilets would be particularly hard on the young and old in our community and public workers such as post deliverers. We discussed alternative toilets such as shops and the Spa Pub. It was suggested that if the toilet block was demolished, an 'in and out' road could be built to access the car park.

10. Next Meeting

The next Hockley Residents Association meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 December 2011 at 19.30 hrs in Kilnfield House.

AJ closed the meeting.

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