



Love's Farm Community Association Meeting  
Tesco Extra  
Wednesday 11 March 2015  
19:15

## COMMITTEE MINUTES

Please note: The meeting will be held in the Tesco Extra Community Room. Free tea and coffee, please arrive at 19:00 to make drinks before we can start the business part of the meeting.

Item	Agenda item	Lead
1	<b>Welcome</b> Marcus Pickering, Sally Tilley, Emma Lovelock, Ian Gardener, Julie Wisson, Hazel Pinhiero, Ben Pitt, Phyllis Hooper, Kim Burrows, Helene Tame, Rebecca Mitton, Angela Patrick (labour candidate), Patrick Cadawere (HDC)	Marcus
2	<b>Apologies</b> Pricilla Gompelman, Stephen Hinchley, Amelia Gough Steven Emberson, Bryn Dymott, Alexis Delaforce Fry  Keela Shackell – Smith, Lee Israel, Caroline Henderson, David Wells, Lee Israel, George Yazigi, Denise Barr.	Sally
3	<b>Tesco service yard and surrounding area</b>  Feedback from residents confirms there is still litter at the back of Tesco, such as trolleys and cardboard crates. Marcus has contacted the Community Champion at Tesco Extra with regards to the matter, however, since then, there has been a new manager at Tesco Express (Rachel). Helene feels they have tidied up but not as well as they could have, and a crate had recently rolled down the hill in the wind. There is also litter, which originates from Tesco, at the MUGA so LFCA have already been working with HDC but this has been ineffective.  Plan is to get together with HDC, police and Tesco to work together. Litter picks have been useful but do not prevent it. LFCA now have better contact with the police and Tesco, in order to take this on.	Marcus

Marcus says it has been several months since promises were made by HDC with regards to the MUGA, but nothing has come to fruition due to budget cuts and lack of resources.

Patrick Cadawere (HDC) advises that the council have to act with regards to antisocial behaviour due to a new law requiring them to do so, and he will leave his contact details for LFCA to follow up with him re; further info.

Ben feels we should keep HDC involved as they own the MUGA.

Helene spoke with the football club with regards to offering any help, they did not think they would be able to offer any help but will speak to apprentices about clearing up after themselves.

Ian Gardener (Town Councillor) feels the town council should take responsibility for Station Square area when completed as they do in other areas of the town, e.g. Putting Xmas lights up

Marcus

### **Site progress and plans**

- 4 Redrow have started building on their site. Bovis are well into their build. Hogsden Leys surfacing and pavements are due to be finished by the end of 2015. Block paving is to go in front of the Bovis site. The patch of land next to Station Square is destined to be a civic centre / space but plans have not yet been submitted by Gallaghers to HDC planning. Redrow and Bovis is estimated to be finished in 1-2 years, then final surfacing of roads will follow on from that. Ian Gardener informs us that the planning committee for Wintringham Park development meets on March 16th. Love's Farm East is at a similar planning stage. Ben feels the design of Station Square is crucial and would like LFCA to look at any plans and be consulted. Helene feels this is a reason to keep the lines of communication open with Tesco, due to the litter problems.

Marcus

### **Website forums**

- 5 Website forums have been off-line before Christmas as they were becoming too negative. It has been agreed to move on to a system where registering under a real name and with a Love's Farm address is required. Marcus advises he is 2/3 of the way through the process and hopes to have them up and running soon.

Hazel

## 6 Updates from working groups:

### • Parking

The steering group have met and have been concentrating on 4 main issues; Resident parking, commuter parking, school parking and match day parking.

Adopted and non adopted roads are to be treated differently. E.g. For Stone Hill (adopted), they are looking to set up a survey and apply for funding from the local highways initiative fund. Ian Gardener states the town council are in discussion with the county council with regards to this and suggests that by July this year, LFCA can write to the Town Council requesting assistance, but this can only be done for adopted roads.

Julie Wisson states the county Council can contribute up to 10% to funding.

Hazel would like to ask residents what the problems are in order to come up with solutions. Re: unadopted roads, the plan is to work with the PCSO and Gallaghers. In the mean time wants to finalise a survey via survey monkey in time for July's funding request. The group are also aware that Longsands new parking restrictions may put further pressure on Love's Farm parking.

Marcus

Marcus feels that depending on where the survey is done on the site, opinions will differ.

Julie Wisson suggested some green areas could be used for parking, such as the green space near to the pirate ship. Marcus does not feel this would go through planning. Julie advises that it is the jurisdiction of the highways agency as opposed to planning.

Marcus

Ian Gardener pledges that the town council will work with the LFCA to assist us with parking issues and will bid for funding and advises there is nothing to stop LFCA from putting in a bid if town council bid is rejected.

### • Dogs

The working group has not yet met as Keela is on holiday. Plans are to try and get this set up by next officers meeting, otherwise no progress to report.

### • Youth

Marcus reported on behalf of Kirsty, not much to report. Kirsty is

meeting with Kim re; funding for youth club role / provision.

Rosie had an email from Jane Darlington from County Council who liaises with the police and crime commissioning panel, they have some funds to spend and offer. Rosie and Jane spoke about the community centre, levels of deprivation and prioritising the role of the community centre in engaging youth groups.

Helene

Patrick feels there is a case to offer funding to target 14-18 year old age group.

Bargroves youth club has now closed so LF youth group have had more older youths attending. However, the school hall is too small and the football club too expensive so the group will be meeting at the MUGA for now.

Emma wonders whether we can fund the £20 per hour football club fee as the MUGA is weather dependent.

Emma

- SMART

Stone Hill, Foxbrook and Whiston Way have been adopted so should now have regular litter picks from HDC. Helene has been asked by HDC to help remove tree guards and HDC will help with disposal. However, they are tricky to remove and Phyllis feels it is dangerous due to the hawthorns and has asked for safety goggles.

Helene has agreed to help out but has asked HDC to keep it as one of their jobs as LFCA are limited in what they can offer.

Marcus

Ben feels it is beyond our remit and role.

Marcus suggested we could help out with some visible ones. Sally asked when HDC litter picks will be,

Helene informs us they will be every Friday morning.

- Events

Easter; Easter egg hunt planned, Emma has asked for prizes from residents and has had a response already.

Chocolate Bingo; The last event was very busy with at least 53 paid attendees and around 70 in total. Emma has emailed the football club to ask for the larger room for next time. She has offered to clean up but any help would be appreciated. The next date is likely to be the last Thursday of the Easter holidays on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April.

Marcus

Scarecrow festival; To be arranged over the summer.

- Finance

Marcus reported on behalf of David that BPHA have signed off the accounts for last year with the suggestion we improve documentation. BPHA have given a £50 cheque for street reps.

Helene discussed the money that The Town Council has given for small groups. She suggested we decide on the process, then once decided, Marcus and Emma circulate on the website and facebook.

Ben

Ian advised groups can apply to The Town Council annually for a fund.

Emma asked how much the grant was for, Marcus stated that David had thought it was around £500 with the aim of granting small amounts to several groups, e.g. £50 each to 10 groups.

- Street Reps

The next newsletter will be a street reps special, to go out to every house this month, with details of the street reps role. The street reps will also be given a card to post to all residents which will have their details. Another card will be for new residents moving in. However, we need more volunteers, where the blue pins are on the map.

Phyllis spoke with Daniel (PCSO) who is keen on the street reps role and suggests the street reps subscribe to E-Cops.

Patrick advises a similar scheme has been successful in his area of work and gave his details to Marcus for the LFCA to contact him for more details info on what they do.

Marcus thinks highlighting the scheme with the police may gain more funding.

- Community Centre

The funding application to WREN has been done

There is a meeting tomorrow where it is hoped we will go from 3-13 trustees

The building specification is largely finalised (some small details to be arranged).

The building is coming on and is on schedule

The booking schedule is getting full.

LFCA agreed and finalised the goals for 2015.

- Increase participation in all that we do. This isn't just about increasing numbers at events and meetings, it's also about improving communication and finding ways to involve all residents in our decision making – **Ongoing**.
- Community centre
  - Get the centre operational – **The build is on time**
  - Appoint a full complement of trustees – **To be done at tomorrow's meeting**
  - Recruit at least 50 'members' - **Should be achievable**
- Youth
  - Secure Youth Club funding for 2015/16 – **Ongoing**
  - Become independent from YSP by June 2015 – **This has largely appended**
  - Establish partnerships with more local organisations including The Children's University - **Ongoing**
- Events. Per quarter, organise:
  - At least 1 adult activity – **3 adults events organised**
  - At least 1 child event – **Chocolate Bingo**
  - At least 1 event linked with other groups or organisations – **Likely**
  - At least 1 'out and about' event' - **Likely**
- Street Reps
  - Scheme fully publicised and communication networks up and running – **Achieved once newsletter goes out**
  - 90% coverage of street reps – **Only at 50% so far, with areas highlighted with blue pins still needing**

**volunteers.**

- Email to all Street Reps at least bi-monthly with information – **Ongoing.**
- Neighbourhood Watch up and running – **Not yet but in pipeline**
  
- Responsible Dog Ownership
  - Visible campaign to bring responsible dog owners together – **Not yet achieved**
  - Campaign to highlight dog fouling as an offence – **Not yet achieved**
  
- SMART
  - Further increase participation – **May be on the up, at the last one there were 15-18 attendees on a wet day.**
  - 3 SMART days with incentives – **Emma suggests a Spring one and will look into incentives.**
  - Target specific areas – **Thinking about targeting litter picks on specific streets**
  
- Anti-social behaviour -
  - Ensure we are well informed about issues and problem areas through Street Reps – **Street reps scheme just rolled out.**
  - Increase engagement with the police and other agencies to ensure the issues and their root causes are tackled – **Ongoing, good links with PCSO**
  - Develop long term solutions to ensure the MUGA and other play areas remain safe for our children and young people – **In process.**
  - Aim to give young people a voice as we tackle this – **Likely to be done with the youth club and Community Centre**

- Parking
  - Form a working group to tackle the issue - **Achieved**
  - Engage with the police, local authorities and developers to find solutions – **Ongoing**
  - Ensure that residents' voices are heard and passed on – **Ongoing**
  
- 6 good news stories in the local press – **Marcus asks if anyone has nominated us for a St Neots Community Award? We can nominate ourselves as can residents.**

**The Community Centre has been publicised in the paper already and suggests we could do this re; the street reps role.**

**Ian suggests we ask the mayor to attend an event in order to publicise it.**

- An AGM that celebrates our achievements and engages the community with wider appeal and higher attendance than previous years – **Plans ongoing.**
  
- Website
  - Residents only area with real-name posting to raise the level of debate and reduce the negative comments that are publicly visible – **Ongoing, Marcus is working on this**
  - Front page highlights for how to get involved – **Ongoing**
  - Mobile friendly design – **Ongoing**
  
- Newsletter
  - Financially sustainable – **Emma suggests ideas re; advertising revenue, such as shops.**
  - Increase registrations on the website to ensure more people receive the electronic version – **Ongoing, to be promoted once forums are up and running.**

June and there will be 20 places.

9 **Next meetings**

13 May, 15 July, 16 September, 18 November