

PCA Committee Meeting Minutes

3 March 2012 – 48 Stafford Road, BN1 5PF

Present: Richard Denyer-Bewick, Martin Moore, Jannet King, Martin Poole, Dinah Tracey, Marek Kohn. **Visitor:** Natalie Miller

1. Apologies for absence:

Alison Whiteoak, Cllr Mike Jones, Peter Golton

2. Minutes/Matters Arising (from 12th & 25th Jan)

Prestonville Post – JK and MK met with Gill Hasson and her daughter-in-law Sarah, who accepted that they couldn't call their advertising newsletter *Prestonville Post* but would still be happy to carry notices, stories, articles from the PCA. We will wait to hear from them.

John Lovatt Commemoration – suggested location for a bench is now outside Church Hall in Exeter Street. MP will raise this with the PCC on 26 March, and try and ascertain how far the Hall's land extends out on to the pavement. Although John's family were intending to pay for bench themselves, the meeting felt it appropriate for the PCA to make a contribution. MM was mandated to offer £100.

Links with other organisations:

Marek went to the DRARA AGM, which had a good turnout of 40 people. Their main focus is gardening – they have permission to garden on a plot assigned to them by Network Rail next to London Road station. The common area of interest between DRARA and the PCA is London Road and its potential development.

Rebecca Morgan had contacted the PCA to say that people in Matlock Road are trying to start a community association. Would like some advice. MK to make contact.

3. Church Hall – The PCA position

PCC has given THGI a 6-month window to come up with money for a bid. There will be a 3-month interim updating meeting. Charities Commission to be consulted about the details.

RD-B asked: What is the relationship between THGI and the PCA? Should the PCA offer to affiliate the THGI, or simply to support them, or to keep separate? MK pointed out that we were talking initially about a 6-month period. It was agreed that having both MP and PG on the PCA Committee was an advantage. All agreed that a continuing supportive role of the PCA was appropriate and discussed help that could be offered:

- The PCA agreed to formally note their thanks to the PCC for giving THGI the opportunity to prepare a bid. The PCA also agreed to make public their support for THGI group. They wish THGI every success in developing its project and the bid.
- **MM** reported that the THGI is to become an Industrial and Provident Society, which means they cannot claim Gift Aid. They have asked if money donated could therefore be channelled through the PCA accounts, enabling them to claim Gift Aid. **MM** has seen the Inland Revenue forms that are designed for precisely this purpose. The meeting felt the need for further information and advice before a decision could be taken e.g. written confirmation or guidance from the Inland Revenue or Charities Commission on whether this arrangement was viable for the PCA. There was discussion about required governance between the two organisations. **MM** will get Inland Revenue info for next meeting. **DT** will make informal enquiries with accountant friends.
- **MM** asked if THGI could use our *PP* distribution network. The meeting agreed that this was sensible. The PCA area consists of 2,100 households. **MM** and **JK** would, when contacting *PP* distributors explain what they were being asked to distribute, and would fill any gaps with willing volunteers from THGI.

4. **Friends of Dyke Road Park**

Still waiting to hear about whether they have permission to create the Community Garden. CityParks will let us know when the roses are ready for planting.

5. **Big Freeze**

RD-B has some registration forms, and needs to do reference checks. Had picked up from responses and the meeting that there were lots of people out there to be general volunteers, even in warm weather! MP agreed that there had been an appetite for a befriending service, or 'friends network'. Impetus, a Neighbourhood Care Scheme, had written a letter of support.

MP has 10 PCA snow shovels and 2 snow brooms, which are stored in the Church.

6. **Extending the Committee Membership**

RD-B intending to put something on the Postblog encouraging more people to join the Committee.

7. **Committee Activities / Events for 2012**

MK suggested a 'network of parties' all on the same day, e.g. Exeter Street (MM will ask Peter G and Paul Winter), Hamilton Road and Lancaster Road (Natalie Miller will make enquiries), Coventry Street (MK will ask Rob Beasley). All other members of the community would be invited to attend - in effect to hold a 'street crawl'.

8. **Finance**

Current account as of 31 January: £1,723 (since when the £200 Hedgcock Bequest for the roses has gone in and a £461 invoice to the Council for purchase of the roses has gone out.)

MM needs to get the 2010/11 accounts inspected.

9. **Highcroft Villas allotments**

A notice has been posted outside the allotments saying that the developers are applying to renew the planning permission for the development of flats. It was agreed that the PCA would object on the basis that the flats were an over-development of that site. **MM** would write letter, making reference to previous PCA objections.

10. **Wistons Clinic**

There are regular protestors outside the British Pregnancy Advisory Clinic, and now a second group every day during Lent standing. MP has spoken to them and made it clear that they do not have the support of St Luke's. The Police Community Support Officer says that there is legal action in progress against them but it won't come to Court until August. PCA discussed that if individuals in the community are concerned, they are able to report directly to the Police non-emergency number 101 who can then take any appropriate action.

12. **AOB**

Thefts in Stafford Road - Police have sent letter round saying that they are on the case.

Tree-planting behind the church - Educational gardening session, 12.00, 4 March

Prestonville Post - Possible topics for inclusion: Community Garden, the Hall, Big Freeze, Street Crawl, Committee membership. When there is more conclusive news on all these things JK will put together a short PP.

13. **Date of Next Meeting**

12 April, The Vicarage, Old Shoreham Road