

School Lane Community Association, Hadlow Down  
Minutes of the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2008 at 6.30 pm  
At 13 School Lane, Hadlow Down

Present: Malcolm Burt (Chair), Jill McMahon (Secretary), Chris McMahon (Treasurer), Diana Kempson, Marion Bayly, Tom Wright, Barry Richardson

Guests: Bob Taylor and David Gibson (Wealden DC)

Apologies: Alan (no 11), Drew McCann and Sarah Webb (no 14).

The meeting was chaired by Malcom Burt, who welcomed Bob Taylor, Special Projects Officer, Wealden District Council and David Gibson, Tenant Involvement Officer, Wealden District Council.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer reported that a cheque for £345 had been received to fund start up costs and that a bank account was to be setup tomorrow (8<sup>th</sup> Aug) in the name of School Lane Community Association.

**Community Garden:**

Good progress has been made on clearing the ground. Malcolm Burt expressed the unanimous feeling of the meeting of thanks to Chris, Alan and Tom for the monumental effort put into this operation.

Bob Taylor said that John Bulwall, a WDC contractor, may be available to check the electrical connection required for the garden site and that the DSO (Direct Services Organisation) could advise on the water supply connection needed.

Jill McMahon said EDF had indicated they would charge a fee of £88.13, purely to inspect the site to establish electrical supply requirements.

Bob Taylor said a licence agreement would need to be established between WDC and the Association. Wealden would charge a small fee as nominal lease each year. The chance of building on the allotments was negligible.

Wealden Council Leader Pam Dodes was very keen on garden schemes and would like to visit. Also keen on self-sufficiency.

**Transport:**

It was reported there was a different bus service now operating in the village David Gibson reminded the meeting there will be an initial meeting of Wealden Action Group on 24<sup>th</sup> September at Uckfield Civic Centre at 7.00 pm. The group will be formally known as The Wealden Residents Action Group, as there is already a Wealden Action Group in existence. Each

Community Association will be allowed to produce an information pack and provide refreshments for 15 people.

Malcolm Burt was pleased to report that the disable parking space was now complete.

Bob Taylor to look at ownership of land at the front. Chris asked if the trees could be thinned particularly one dead tree which was dangerous.

Chris asked if the layby could be extended to ease parking issues.

### **Home Improvement (tenants only)**

Bob Taylor outlined future plans for heating and especially door replacements. Wealden have on trial a number of wood pellet fuelled boiler systems and solar panels. These are on long term assessment, together with an air pump system which extracts heat from the atmosphere. Wealden are working with various trial systems to drive down energy costs. A 30 year business plan has to be put together and tenant input is welcome. A show home at Berwick could be visited on request.

Chris McMahon raised the point that WDC were currently blocking up existing fireplaces. Marion mentioned we have many power cuts here.

Doors – Malcolm Burt asked if there was any progress on this issue. Bob Taylor responded that the doors were to be replaced – no time scale as yet – but hopefully this year. A cat flap would be allowed ! Additionally the shed doors would be replaced and the shed roofs re-covered though the time scale on this may be 4 years!

### **Any other matters:**

Chris McMahon pointed out that the garden now needs to be kept clear of weeds until the next stage can progress. There was some Japanese Knotweed which may need special treatment.

Jill McMahon said there was still a problem with the water main on the main roadside leaking. Marion had reported to South East Water.

It was suggested we take some photos of the "clearing party" and the BBQ.

The next meeting will be at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 13 School Lane.

Thanks to those who provided tea and light refreshments.

There being no other matters raised the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

11<sup>th</sup> August 2008