

Hockley Residents Association

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 13 December 2006-12-14

1 New Business

Action

1.1 **Hawkwell Residents Association:** Angela Heath (Chairman) and Alan James (Minutes/Web Secretary) attended the meeting and updated on their organisation. Both associations pledged to work together for mutual benefit in future.

1.2 **HRA web-site:** The new web-site is now up and running at <http://www.hockleyresidents.co.uk>
Members were urged to review the site and put forward recommendations for improvements.

1.3 **Planning – Phone mast:** the Chairman updated on complaints by residents in the Betts Farm area that they were not consulted on the phone mast being erected near Hockley Primary School. RDC only consulted a few houses in the Folly Lane area and at least 2 formal complaints have been made to the council. Their concerns reflect the general unease with the attitude shown by RDC Planning.

1.4 **Planning: Pond Chase Nursery:** Following the planning application for change of use to industrial purposes, approved in September, the landowner has now produced a brochure proposing converting 4.5 acres of Green Belt land to 72 houses, with 5.5 acres remaining as playground and nature conservation. No formal planning application yet but this application needs to be viewed against RDC proposals (see 1.6 below) to release Green Belt land

1.5 **Planning: Plumberow Avenue:** 2 significant applications were reported:

1.5.1 – 4 maisonettes and 2 bungalows at 190/192 Plumberow Avenue. Agreed no reason to object given specific circumstances with no increase in height and an existing infill house nearby. Also acknowledged we have to accept increased density if we do not wish to release more Green Belt land (see 1.6).

1.5.2 – block of flats: No details available and not shown on RDC web-site. Details tba

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1.6 **Planning: Local Development Plan:** A detailed and wide ranging discussion took place regarding RDC's LDP proposals. Most residents were unaware of the questionnaire which has been distributed. Also concern at the imposed target of 4600 new houses. Agreed:

- preference for in-filling rather than releasing Green belt land
- need for transport strategy, especially possibility of a by-pass
- need to ascertain implications of East of England plan
- concern at traffic implications, with Southend having to have a similar number of new houses
- view that land North East of Rayleigh, around the Raweth area, would be best location for extra houses due to proximately to better transport links.

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2 Other business

2.1 **Woodlands Surgery:** concerns expressed at danger arising from new entrance/exit to doctors surgery opening straight on to the road as no pavement.

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3 Date of Next Meeting: 10 January 2007

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all residents