



## DORRIDGE & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1961

### ANNUAL REPORT

#### 45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006

Bentley Heath Community Hall, Widney Road, Bentley Heath, Solihull

#### AGENDA

- |        |  |               |
|--------|--|---------------|
| 7.30pm | Minutes 2005 AGM   | <b>item 1</b> |
| 7.35pm | The Chairman's Report - <b>David Glanfield</b>   | <b>item 2</b> |
| 7.50pm | The Treasurer's Report - <b>Alan Holder</b>  | <b>item 3</b> |
| 7.55pm | Amendments to the Constitution - <b>Malcolm Shepherd</b>   | <b>item 4</b> |
| 8.00pm | The Election of Officers & Committee - <b>Malcolm Shepherd</b>   | <b>item 5</b> |
| 8.05pm | Question Time  |               |
| 8.30pm | Interval, Coffee, Tea & Biscuits   |               |
| 9.00pm | <b>'The role of the Magistrates and the Court in the Community'</b><br><b>Mr John Barritt, Chairman of the Bench, Solihull Magistrates</b> |               |
| 9.45pm | Close of Meeting   |               |

# **1. DDRA MINUTES OF THE 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2005 AT DORRIDGE INFANTS SCHOOL, HANBURY ROAD, DORRIDGE.**

## **PRESENT AND APOLOGIES**

The meeting was attended by approximately 40 Members including David Glanfield (Chairman), Glennis Portsmouth (Vice Chairman), Peter Radnall (Vice Chairman), Alan Holder (Treasurer) and Jim Trangmar (Secretary).

David also welcomed Sgt Ann Strachen (Solihull Police), Councillor Andy Mackiewicz and Jo Williams (Solihull Council). Apologies were received from Councillor Ken Meeson, Councillor Ian Courts and Brenda Cope.

## **MINUTES OF 2004 AGM AND MATTERS ARISING**

The Minutes were approved.

In relation to the reference in the Chairman's Report to the Dorridge Park Group. David said the Group had not continued. He also advised that the Committee had decided to discontinue Membership of the Civic Society as the main benefit was to obtain Insurance but an alternative cheaper quote had now been found.

In relation to an item discussed during the open forum at the 2004 AGM David said that Chiltern Railways had been unwilling to designate car park spaces for those using the bottle bank as the car park was now fully utilized and all spaces were needed.

## **THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

David thanked all those involved in running the Association and who had contributed to its work during the past year including our Ward Councillors, the Police, Solihull Council, the Association's Committee and others, who assisted the Committee.

It had been another busy year with some noticeable improvements in Dorridge Village Centre including Christmas Lights. There were ideas for further improvements in both Dorridge & Bentley Heath and there were hopeful signs that the new Managing Agents at Forest Court were interested in making much needed improvements to its general appearance. However, David said that the Association was concerned at the number of empty retail units and also the opening of yet another fast food outlet.

David referred to the land adjacent to Dorridge Station which the Association had landscaped at a cost of £500 only to find that this was wrecked by the Contractors installing the Station Lifts. The good news was they promised to re-instate this on completion of the work.

Policing issues had been a regular Newsletter feature and Sergeant Ann Strachan and her Team had taken a number of initiatives to combat anti-social behavior by young people and this had resulted in a number of arrests and letters to parents. It was hoped that the relatively small number of youngsters causing problems, together with their parents, were taking note. Arden School was mounting a drugs awareness campaign. Committee Members attended the Police Consultative Meetings but although these were public meetings they were usually poorly attended.

It had been another busy year on the planning front with Developers approaching home owners to persuade them to sell so they can knock down their homes and build Apartments. The Association remained committed to preserving the character of our area and we supported local Action Groups in opposing inappropriate developments. The support of our Councillors was valued. We did not however oppose all applications out of hand and recognized that new building were needed and where these were sympathetic to their surroundings the Association did not object. The Association was aware that Solihull Council decisions were circumscribed by central government policies and could be overturned on Appeal. Discussions were taking place with Knowle Society to try and strengthen our defenses against these policies.

A Motorway Service Area at Junction 4 re-appeared on the scene again this year and the Association has objected to this and will be 'on watch'.

The new Youth leisure and play facilities in Bentley Heath Recreation Ground had been completed and their formal opening attended by Carolyn Spelman MP and Solihull Councillors. The Association still hoped for further developments and will keep Resident's informed via the Newsletter.

The Association was keen to publicize the many achievements of our young people. Congratulations had been extended to Dorridge Junior School for display of their 'Art Work' at the National Gallery.

The Association's Newsletter was now in the fourth year of its new and enlarged format. There were four editions each year and we tried to make it a varied and informative to read. It was also generating a surplus from advertisers and we now had a waiting list for this space. Thanks to our Newsletter Deliverers.

We hoped this year to top a thousand subscribing Members though this is only a small proportion of our residents. However our finances were in good shape and the Committee will be considering the best way to use this money.

David referred to the failed campaign by the Association to prevent the closure of Dorridge Post Office. We were all appreciative of the continuing service at Bentley Heath Post Office.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

Alan Holder, Treasurer referred the Meeting to the Annual Accounts included with today's Agenda. He explained that the surplus shown for the current year was less than the previous year due to expenditure on Christmas Lights. The costs of running the Association were however covered by Subscriptions. The costs of the Newsletter were more than covered by advertisements. The Accounts were approved.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

Jim Trangmar reminded the Meeting that nominations for the Officers designated in the Association's Constitution were required to be submitted seven days prior to the AGM. Nominations had been received as follows; Chairman David Glanfield, Vice Chairman Glennis Portsmouth and Peter Radnall, Treasurer Alan Holder and Secretary Jim Trangmar. There were no contested posts and the Meeting agreed to approve the election of the above.

Jim said that all the existing Committee Members except Ken Alway-Jones were standing for re-election. In accordance with the Constitution nominations for Committee Members could be made at the AGM. Jim asked if there were any additional nominations but none were made. Jim advised that the number of nominations were within the total number specified in the Constitution and the Meeting agreed that the following be elected as Committee Members; Helen Bragg, Malcolm Shepherd, Pam Nunn, David Bell, Dave Carter, Lilian Gates, Margaret Johnson, Martin Lambert, Nest Overend and Ian Spencer. The Meeting recorded its thanks to Ken for his service to the DDRA Committee and wished him well for the future.

David said that the Committee would very much welcome new Members and that anyone interested could come and see the Committee at work on an informal basis.

### **QUESTION TIME**

A Resident from Weston Close expressed concerns about parking in Dorridge Road at the end of the yellow lines and the dangers this created leaving Weston Close. A solution would be to extend the yellow lines. He had made many complaints to the Council but nothing has happened. Councillor Andy Mackiewicz suggested that a petition could be presented to the Council and that a formal response would then be activated. David also said that he would include this in forthcoming discussions with the Council. A Resident of Manor Road expressed similar concerns.

A Resident sought information on Police response to Reported Incidents and he made a particular reference to a telephone call he had made when he observed Youths breaking bottles in the car park. Sgt Ann Strachen said that the Police responded as they were able to taking account of prevailing priorities. She clarified the contact procedure that the public should use.

A resident of Warren Drive asked about action that could be taken in response to pedestrians dumping rubbish such as fish and chip papers in roads and gardens. Jo Williams confirmed that such dumping was an offence but there were difficulties in identifying pedestrians, but reported incidents with identification and witnesses could be acted upon.

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm

## **2. DDRA THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- Introduction
- Thanks. Recruitment of Committee Members
- Information Technology & DDRA Profile
- Police Matters
- Leisure facility at Bentley Heath, Village Centre Improvements
- Traffic Management
- Membership
- Birmingham Airport Expansion & Motorway Service Area.

**3. DDRA ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD – 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER** **2005** **2004**

**GENERAL ACCOUNT  
INCOME**

Subscriptions & Donations	1,701.00	2,373.00
Donations from Business	350.00	0
Newsletter Advertisement Fees	2,480.00	2,240.00
Notice Board Advertisements	80.00	70.00
Christmas Light Donations, Business	0	590.00
Christmas Light Donations, Residents	0	366.00
Organization Donation	0	25.00
Bank Interest	89.81	64.30
Donations for BHLSG	120.00	0
Parliament Visit	1,245.00	0
	£6,065.81	£5,728.30

**EXPENDITURE**

Newsletter Printing	1,498.56	1,444.93
Christmas Lights contribution to Solihull MBC	0	1,842.40
Plants & Landscaping	194.85	520.15
Expenses	163.65	176.31
Insurance	195.00	192.50
Civic Trust Subscription	0	209.00
SALRUA Subscription	5.00	5.00
Donations/Awards	0	144.99
Donation to BHLSG	120.00	0
Hall Hire	49.50	28.00
Planning Leaflets	0	14.00
Membership Cards	86.72	0
Parliament Visit Costs	1,245.00	0
	£3,558.28	£4,577.28

**SURPLUS**

**£2,507.53** **£1,151.02**

**BANK BALANCES HSBC**

Current Account	£875.02	£1,454.59
Deposit Account	£6,740.73	£3,653.63
	£7,615.75	£5,108.22

**BALANCE INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR**

**£2,507.53** **£1,151.02**

**YOUTH ACCOUNT  
INCOME**

Donations	0	1,200.00
Bank Interest	4.56	4.49
	£4.56	£1,204.49

**BANK BALANCE HSBC**

Youth Account	£5,613.99	£5,609.43
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**Alan Holder, Hon Treasurer**

**Colin Bennett, Hon Auditor**

**4. DDRA AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

**5. DDRA COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2005/6 (16)**

\*David Glanfield, Chairman  
 \*Alan Holder, Treasurer  
 \*Helen Bragg, Membership Secretary  
 \*David Bell  
 \*Lilian Gates  
 \*Nest Overend

\*Glennis Portsmouth, Vice Chair  
 \*Malcolm Shepherd, Secretary  
 \*Pam Nunn, Events Secretary  
 \*Tim Burchall  
 \*Margaret Johnson

\*Peter Radnall, Vice Chair & Editor  
 \*Ian Spencer, Planning  
 \*Bridget Trangmar, Minutes Secretary  
 \*Dave Carter  
 \*Martin Lambert

\*members who have agreed to stand for election for 2006/7