

## **Minutes of the Wellswood Ward Partnership Meeting**

**held on 17th February 2005 at St Matthias Church Centre.**

Attending: Mr Peter Heathcote Chairman, Mrs Caroline Harding Secretary, PC Trevor Thomas, Mrs Beryl McPhaigh, Mr Ian Williams Torbay Council Parks, Rev Gordon Percy, Rev Ian Williams, Mr Stuart Lawrence Neighbourhood Watch and five members of the public.

Apologies: Mrs Lynn Atkinson (Head Teacher - Ilsham Primary C of E School), Mr David Fielding (Deputy Head Teacher Warberry Primary C of E School) and Mr Brian Gray.

1. Welcomes & introductions: Mr Peter Heathcote started proceedings by introducing and then welcoming everyone to the meeting.
2. Minutes of last meeting: Mr Peter Heathcote as Chairman agreed the minutes of the last meeting as a true and accurate account.
3. Matters arising: Mr Peter Heathcote then handed over the meeting to those members who had agreed to take on various projects.
4. Torwood Fun Day: Rev Ian Williams gave a passionate presentation on the values and benefits of community fun days held in recent years hosted and funded solely by the Living Waters Christian Centre in Torwood. Rev Williams requested that this fun day be considered as a project that the Wellswood Ward Partnership could put forward for funding. Last year's costing for this event was; £2339.52 and included hire of play equipment (inflatables), catering, entertainer, portaloos and various fun activities. Monies received through stalls charging a nominal charge brought in £1300, which meant in reality only £1039.52 was paid out. During the day over 1200 people attended, many of which were from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and single parent families. This event helps to bring the community together and provides a day where families can enjoy and meet others in a social and fun environment. The date for this event to be held this year is the 17<sup>th</sup> of July
5. Community Safety – Traffic Problems Ilsham Rd: PC Trevor Thomas stated that this was an ongoing problem and one possible solution which has been mentioned previously was of turning Ilsham Rd into a one way. This has its own problem with the bus traffic and with the number of elderly residents that are situated within our ward. Hopefully on April the 1<sup>st</sup> the problem may be eased, as various other council employees will be able to issue motorists who do not adhere to the various parking regulations with tickets and fines.
6. Daddyhole Plain: Recent complaints have been forwarded to PC Thomas regarding the middle section of grassed area on Daddyhole Plain. As young motorists, known as boy racers, have been using this area and have turned it into a muddy track. PC Thomas contacted Ian Williams of Torbay Council's Parks who has agreed at the meeting that the problem would be addressed by the council putting in 'dumpy' wooden posts around the outside of the grassed area to stop these vehicles from entering it.
7. Valuing our Environment: Tidying of vegetation in Lincombe Drive and Acadia Avenue: Mr Peter Heathcote has made various attempts by telephone to the council

regarding this situation. The council has claimed responsibility for the grounds and has agreed that employee's would be sent to tidy up this area. As of yet nothing has been forthcoming from the council and this area is still in disarray. Mr Heathcote will be giving the council another two weeks before he replies again either by telephone or by letter.

8. Dog Fouling: Mr Caroline Harding wrote to Mr Richard Barton – Torbay Council and received a letter notifying the partnership that in accessing our area, the council has prioritised the area in most need of dog bins to be that of the lane which runs down from Babbacombe Rd into Ilsham Rd, past the school and the church, to have two dog bins erected before the end of February 2005. At the beginning of February two bins have been erected in this lane.
9. Recycling Bins: Rev Gordon Percy wrote a letter to Councillor Charwood with a copy sent to Carol Arthur requesting the possibility of the council providing householders on the Babbacombe Rd with green recycling bins. Rev Percy received an e-mail back from Ms Arthur stating that unfortunately not all the properties were thought to be suitable for these bins and apologised if this seemed unfair, but the council was hoping to start an initiative to collect newspapers and magazines for recycling. Rev Percy commented he would write again to the council.
10. Provision of Cycle Racks: Mrs Caroline Harding informed those present that a parent from Ilsham School had asked her if she would bring up the matter of a lack of facilities to park bicycles within Ilsham. At present children wishing to ride their bicycles to school have no where at present safe enough to leave their bicycles. Mr Ian Williams stated that on Monday 21 of February he would be assessing our area for the possibility of erecting a cycle rack.
11. Improving Torbay's Economy – Hanging Baskets: As Mr Gerald Arnold has recently stepped down from his post as councillor; Mrs Beryl McPhaigh suggested she may have a word with local businesses in Ilsham Rd with regards to them sponsoring hanging baskets. Mr Ian Williams proposed, that if business could sponsor the purchase of plants and remain responsible for the maintenance of the hanging baskets that maybe the council may be able to provide the actual hanging baskets and stands on which they are suspended from. Also PC Thomas mentioned he would talk with Mr Brian Gray the proprietor of the Village Pantry in Ilsham Rd, to see if Mr Gray would discuss this proposal with the other businesses to see what level of commitment there would be in supporting this initiative.
12. Any other business: Diminishing Tree Line – One resident has kindly written to the council regarding the rapidly diminishing tree line on Oxley Hill Rd. The tree line has slowly decreased as home owners have been cutting down trees some of which are thought to have preservation orders on them. The council has stated there is a tree preservation order on the area of Wellswood but if there are instances where it is suspected that a house owner is illegally felling a tree then it is up to residents to telephone the council immediately. This situation needs the help and support of local residents to stop this trend continuing if they think that the owner may be doing so without the relevant permission from the council.
13. Mr Stuart Lawrence representing the Neighbourhood watch scheme introduced himself to those present at the meeting. Mr Lawrence stated his organisation was remaining active in the Wellswood ward and hoped there may be residents within the ward that would join his organisation in setting up new groups within our area. Mr Lawrence wanted to remain connected with the Ward Partnership and looked forward to the possibility of working together.

14. The issue of grass cutting of verges and road sweeping along Bishops Close was brought to the attention of the Ward Partnership by another resident. Mr Ian Williams addressed the situation by explaining the council had ended its contract with the contractors responsible for attending to this particular area and the new contractors should be addressing this situation at the end of February. However, if this was not the case a telephone number was given to the resident to contact the council.
15. PC Thomas has managed to obtain £85.00 to open an account for the Wellswod Ward Partnership. It was agreed that a bank account be opened at the National Westminster Bank, Union Street, Torquay.
16. The next meeting will be held on THURSDAY 21st APRIL at 7.00PM at the PETER LARKIN HALL, ST MATTHIAS CHURCH CENTRE.