



Friends of Moneyhole **meeting minutes**

November 21st 2009 @ 10:30 -12:00. (half hour over run, Cllrs joined at 11:00)

Present:
TK Choo (FoM), Cllr Darren Bennett, Cllr S. Johnston
Christina Cooper (PCSO), PC Paul Edmondson, (total of 41 people attended)

**Apologies: Cllr Roger Trigg, Grant Shapps MP, Kerry Clare, Tim Beyer, Street Wardens, John Manitarra (Child UK), Sgt Stephanie Morris, Roseacre Garden residents, Finesse
No representatives PFC attended.**

Key points discussed:

1) The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

2) Proposal for barrier.

Prevention deemed better than cure. Acknowledgement that Police resources late at night may be stretched. Therefore a prevention approach, by way of blocking vehicle access is on solution.

Nearby resident Ian stated that stopping car entry at night will also remove the attraction of the park for others that go there in order to "hang out" with the car owners. Thus also reducing the non car invoked disturbance.

Resident George made the point that wooden barrier/posts may also be needed elsewhere to prevent cars going around and barrier.

Barrier proposal consists of a rising step or rising bollard barrier, these are considered to be the most vandal proof. On an automatic timer and with Emergency Service override. Operation times to be agreed and confirmed (PFC can have swipe card access 24hr). The install cost on quote obtained would be between £12 and £14k. This is just one quote, others can be obtained for comparison. Annual maintenance contract quoted at around £500, may be less if maintenance is bundled in with other car park equipment preventative maintenance programs operated by WHBC or Finesse.

Cllrs Bennett and Johnston confirmed to residents that they would endorse a Community Chest application for the install cost, with the proviso that alternative funding is in place for the annual maintenance fee. Cllr Trigg also has to endorse before a Community Chest funding application can go forward.

A local resident petition of 159 signatures, calling for a barrier will be presented by TK Choo to the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday 23rd November at 7:30 PM, Campus West. All are welcome to attend.

A resident made the point that a barrier at night will stop drivers further damaging the car park surface, which is already in disrepair, through skidding/sliding etc. That saving further justifies the install of the barrier.

3) Pavilion matters

Financials were read out concerning yearly maintenance spend on the park and pavilion by Finesse. These reveal that KG5 gets about eight times more than Moneyhole does. Questions were asked about the huge disparity. The pavilion access for the community was again raised. Nobody from Finesse present to comment. Cllr Johnston said that Panshanger Community Hall is actually in the Haldens ward.

Cllr Johnston stated "We are trying to get access to PFC" She would like to see the pavilion opened up for public use, and that this aim was shared among councillors.

Cllr Bennett stated that PFC has not been responding to his requests to discuss the matter. In response, residents queried the PFC's duty to respond, especially as they are WHBC tenants. He and Cllr Trigg will arrange a meeting on Cllr Trigg's return. **Action:** Cllrs Bennett and Trigg

4) Speeding cars

The Police are planning to install speed logging devices in roads near the park. These will give a picture over time of the speed/time of day that speeding offences occur. From there speed traps can be requested for the appropriate time and location. **Action:** Police

A lady from Roseacre house said she had witnessed cars going very very fast around local streets. She also claimed that trying to confront them about it resulted in her being subjected to harassment.

5) Calls to the Police re ASB

Police stated that they still have next to no calls coming in about ASB. Made the point that Police resources can only be assigned if there are reports of disturbances coming in. Some residents state they had called the Police, in one instance the resident was not contacted again until 2 months later.

Police re-stated that residents should call them, councillors also said they should also be informed of disturbances, and that they will take action to help resolve the issues. Residents were also asked to keep a log of all incidents irrespective whether the Police are called.

There seemed to be a disconnect between what the Police report and what residents say. It was recommended that all calls to the Police should be logged by residents, and a reference number obtained when the call is made. A card with the 0845 33 00 222 number with guidelines made by Finesse was given out. FoM suggests that residents should use the Panshanger Football Club, Sylvan Way **AL7 2RT** as the address for Moneyhole Park incidents. **Action:** residents

The Police also say they have found drivers from outside the area (incl St. Albans) hanging around at night in car park. They have also used Stop and Search powers to establish drivers intentions at times.

6) Finesse response

A resident claimed that she had called Finesse in the past to report issues at the park that affect them, but they do not respond at all. Often there is an answer phone when they are rung.

Sara Johnston stated that they should reply in 24hrs and that people should let her know when they don't reply and she will look into it. **Action:** Cllr Johnston

7) Car park safety measures

Chris Brandon volunteered to act in a Council safety study of Moneyhole car park to see how the congestion and potentially dangerous parking during football could be made safe. Residents are invited to become involved. Several residents said the size of the current car park is now inadequate for the number of park visitors using Moneyhole at peak times.

8) 10 year plan

Darren Bennett talked about the ten year plan being discussed for Moneyhole. Finesse and FoM will evaluate how the Wish List can be incorporate into the Moneyhole Green Flag Development Plan. A sub-group will be formed to progress this further. Residents are welcome to be involved. The councillors stated that some of the facilities under discussion could be met using funds from the Community Chest.

9) Youth Activities

The public are invited to submit ideas for new youth engagement activities at the park. Youths and youngsters are very welcome to contribute at future Joint Agency meetings. **Action:** residents

10) Litter

Residents stated that PFC is also responsible for their litter, and should clean up after games. A need to educate people about litter exists. It is not park users responsibility to clean up after inconsiderate people who litter (although many do out of frustration).

A location map of the new litter bins and benches was circulated. New litter and dog fouling signs will be put up shortly too.

AOB:

Mark Allen from Panshanger Church is happy to help where it can on enhancing the park. Collection - £38.50 was collected for the hall hire (£16). The balance will be used for hall hire of the next meeting and printing costs.

Date of next meeting: Sat 13 February 2010 **Venue:** Panshanger Community Hall, Moors Walk

Contact Details:

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Contact the group and follow progress at: www.welwynhatfield.co.uk/moneyhole

Alternative Police contact number: 01707 638100 (24/7)