

SMART (St Mary's Association of Residents)

Minutes of meeting 16th Feb 2011

Welcome

There were no apologies

Matters Arising

It was agreed that we will meet every two months and that our initial focus will be litter, traffic and unsocial behaviour.

Agenda

Cllr Eling Information sharing: The reformation of the Traders' Association and the Lightswood Park developments both offer an opportunity for us to liaise with other groups in Bearwood.

Anti-speed measures are to be taken on St Mary's, Abbey and Poplar Rds.
The yellow box should be repainted on 21st Feb.

Litter/Waste management

The discussion included issues of enforcement and how this can be achieved. We agreed to invite someone from street cleansing to a future meeting. Dog fouling is currently a large problem.

Food waste/wrapping. Cllr Piper will raise this issue with the Traders' Association.
Recycling. The council will soon be adding a food waste bin to the recycling boxes

Parking

The issue of people parking on the double yellow lines and pavement outside subway was raised. The area of pavement does belong to subway. There are more parking attendants now operating in the area and if there is a problem the number to call is 0345 113 5000.

Residents' parking was discussed briefly; within a small defined area there needs to be a majority consensus that a residents' parking scheme is desirable. At present this does not seem to be the case here.

Unsocial behaviour

There was a discussion about local crime levels. Improvements have been noticed in relation to the Samba Lounge.
Our local police beat officer is Clare Possell.

Funding

Funding may be available from the council to support the residents association for paying for printing, room booking and so on. However it was agreed that we will continue with the 'subs' system for the time being and see how we develop.

Report on road safety, John Gregg

John outlined various problems with crossing the Bearwood Rd at the pedestrian crossings. He and his wife had tested each crossing and found the timings tight while the green man was on. John had discussed this with Santok (Council liaison) who explained that although the green man may stop flashing the lights have not changed for road traffic so for pedestrians the time is longer than it may seem. There are no bleeps because the crossings are close to one another and bleeps could give a confusing message to someone with poor sight. The green man signal is now at a lower position on the crossing where the button is pressed, rather than higher on the opposite pillar. Robin and John will liaise with traffic authorities about crossing issues.

Website

Ade was thanked for his work in developing the website. The minutes will be posted there as well as sent to people on the mailing list. We agreed to discuss the logo at the next meeting. Ideas were invited for developments to the website, for example news items could be added as we go along.

New members were welcomed and thanked for their input.

Date of next meeting to be confirmed.