

SMART (St Mary's Association of Residents)

Minutes of meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011

### Welcome

Those present are not recorded in total on the minutes in order to protect personal information, as requested by group members.

Apologies were received from Caroline, Max, Ade and Clare, Nigel and Lyn and Paul Shannaghan.

Minutes of previous meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> April were agreed.

### Matters Arising

#### 1. Bus parking

Issues are continuing and concerns have been raised about one of the bus drivers. Robin will write to Cllr Horton and Steve E will take the matter through neighbourhood tasking which will lead to the matter coming to the attention of the police.

Police have been informed about the large silver minibus parked (?abandoned) outside No 6.

2. The new logo was approved. Members thanked Annie.

3. Planning application, 536 Bearwood Rd. An application has been made to develop part of the site as a taxi control room. Objections have been made including to noise and to potential parking of taxis on the main road.

4. Water mains. The forthcoming disruption and the implications for traffic management on our road were discussed. The latter stages are still not completely clear, but at present the work is progressing more quickly than initially envisaged. Robin has asked the traffic users forum for information and is awaiting an answer. This will be circulated.

5. Litter. Subway corner is now much tidier. However, the council workers have taken to putting the binbags from the street bins on the main rd outside the church to be collected. Robin has discussed this with Santokh (our neighbourhood officer) – apparently it is a temporary measure while the water mains work is going on, and the previous method will revert back afterwards. It was pointed out that the work has not begun yet, so the system is not needed – Santokh will report this back.

6. Skip at the bathroom shop. Concerns were raised that this constitutes a 'waste transfer station'. John Bailey, (Planning Officer) will investigate whether this breaches any planning rules and get back to Robin.

7. Suspicious people. Apparently people have been seen behaving suspiciously in the neighbourhood. We agreed to be vigilant. The idea of 'neighbourhood watch' was raised, but this was dismissed in favour of a more effective new approach to liaison between police and residents.

Richard (Traders' association) and Santokh explained the new role of 'Community Ambassador' which involves local people having more access to local police, the police being more responsive to concerns, and police sharing information with local people via the Community Ambassador. Bearwood has been chosen as a pilot scheme, with the aim of having one Community Ambassador in each road. There was interest in taking part – anyone who would like to pursue this further please reply to the email sending the minutes or contact Robin, who will put your name forward.

#### **AOB**

We discussed whether to break for summer. There were mixed opinions but since the meeting more people have said they would prefer to break. So we will plan to get together again in late Sept/ early October.

Items for the agenda please let Catharine or Robin know.