

MINUTES

Northfields Liaison Group Meeting

Date: Monday 10th April 2017

Venue: St Andrews Church, Carlton

Present:

Eleanor Wood
Petula Beverley
Ian Sarson
Franco Onesti
Peter Race

Apologies

None

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Eleanor advised that she had emailed the Clerk to the Shackerstone PC regarding the meeting, but had received no response or apologies.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

2.1 The minutes were agreed as accurate.

2.2 Grounds maintenance of wildflower areas between 4 & 5 Northfields & Barton Rd outside the Diamond Jubilee Orchard – Eleanor advised that funding had been obtained to apply to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council to change the wildflower areas to shrubbed areas and to replant those areas. The gardening contractors had been asked to provide a quote to replant the wildflower areas & were sent a site plan highlighting the areas which needed to be done. They provided a quote, clearly stating that it was for the replanting of all the areas highlighted. However, when they attended site to carry out the work, they only planted the area in front of 4 Northfields. When questioned, the contractors claimed that they had only quoted to replant this area, when this clearly was

EW to
provide
feedback on
any
progress

not the case. NCHA is now in dispute with the contractors, who have been advised that they will not be paid for the job until they have completed the planting of all of the areas, in line with their quote. Eleanor expressed concerns that the contractors may refuse to carry out the scheduled grounds maintenance of the site until they are paid for the job. Petula pointed out that only a small area is actually maintained by the contractors as many residents maintain their own areas and that the grass at 5 Northfields, which the gardeners are supposed to maintain, is now overgrown.

Petula said that she was not happy with the work done by the contractor to the wildflower area in front of her property. The workman only strimmed the ground and did not cultivate it properly. He should have laid a membrane and cut out holes where the new plants were to be planted and then bark-chipped the area, but did not do so. Petula spoke to the manager of the workman on site and he agreed to obtain 5 bags of compost to dig into the area. Petula also advised that weeds and grass are already appearing in this area.

- 2.3 Residents' local connection to Carlton – Franco queried if there have been any tenancy changes at Northfields and, if so, how the property was advertised. Eleanor confirmed that there has been one change of tenancy and that the vacancy was advertised with Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council. Unfortunately, there were no applicants from Carlton and so the eventual successful applicant came from further afield. Petula advised that the resident came from Market Bosworth.

Peter queried when people can apply for housing. Eleanor advised that people should register with Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council as early as possible.

- 2.4 Resignation of Shackerstone Parish representative - Eleanor advised that she had emailed the new Clerk to the Shackerstone Parish Council concerning the meeting and had provided a copy of the constitution of the NLG but had received no response.
- 2.5 New hedge on Nailstone Rd – Ian confirmed that the new hedge has been planted. Franco advised that a boundary kerb has been installed in addition to the hedge and queried if this was necessary, when the money could have been spent elsewhere. Eleanor advised she was unaware of this. Petula advised that it was the County Council which did the work as she saw them on site.

3.0 Any other Business

- 3.1 Petula asked if the other residents of Northfields had been notified of the meeting. Eleanor confirmed that letters had been sent to everyone stating that they should pass on any matters they wished to be raised to Petula. Petula advised no-one had come forward.

However, she is aware that the resident of 9 Northfields has raised an issue about some concrete in his back garden on several occasions, but has heard nothing back. Eleanor advised she was unaware of this, so it may be an issue raised with the Maintenance department.

EW to follow up.

3.2 Petula advised that 2 street signs have been erected by the County Council at the entrance to Northfields, which read "Northfield", instead of "Northfields". Eleanor advised that she had already raised this with NCHA's Development Department, but, as yet, had received no response.

EW to chase up response from NCHA's development department

3.3 The members of the NLG agreed that April is the best time of year for the meeting to be held. Peter suggested that an article could be published in the Parish Newsletter early in the year to see if anyone has any issues or comments concerning Northfields prior to the meeting in April. Ian felt that this would not be necessary.
