

MINUTES FOR KINGSHILL AREA RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION (KARA)
MEETING
WEDSDAY 13 APRIL 7PM - CLIFTON INN, CLIFTON STREET, SWINDON

Attendance: Nicky Sewell, Dave Wood, Gina Akers, Darren O'Connor, Julia O'Connor, Norma Williams, Marjorie Snell, Ken Snell, Daphne Dingle, Martin Hambidge, Liz Gallagher, Sue Phipps, John Phipps, Nina Stimson, Chris Watts, Nadine Watts, J Smith, V Jones, Jane Williams, Mike Diffin, Melissa Camilleri, Simon & Wendy, Val & Tony, Stan Pajak, Amber Vater, Clare Lees, Tom Hunt, Sheila Kerslake, Adele Carthew, Mary Carthew, Tony Carthew,

1. Neighbourhood Police Team

3 Priorities: **Anti-social behaviour** inc. street drinking (targeting 10-15 individuals), ASBOs & public nuisance. High visibility patrols & enforcement to tackle the problem

Speeding 20MPH zones popular with local communities, Community Speed Watch
NS to email Mike Diffin with list of those who are interested

Fly tipping alleyways are highlighted as being a particular problem. Police will support SBC

Litter & dog fouling. Police trying to get CCTV records of dog fouling. Looking to do a 'name and shame' in the Adver. A consultation on ASB reforms has been launched. Just changing the definition of litter to include dog mess would be a huge step forward and cut out acres of red tape.

Recorded Crime figures from 1st March until 13 April:

Burglaries 15

Criminal damage 16

Violence against the person 23 (inc. 7 from railway village) also inc. domestic violence

Theft from vehicles 12 - (majority are from insecure vehicles) personal security vital

4 arrests on Kingshill on Sunday regarding drugs

Recommendation: sensor security lights make a vast difference to the area

Car break ins in alleyways near Clifton Street. NPT drop in 7-8pm on Friday. Advice & leaflets on car security. Remove cradle & sat nav

2 issues raised by residents: issue with 2 Staffie dogs & untaxed car in Bowood Road

2. Apologies: Michele Harding, Mark Walker, Jo Mortimer

3. Amendments to Minutes of last meeting - none

Carried as being correct - proposed by Daphne Dingle & seconded by Gina Akers

4. Any other business - none

5. Martin Hambidge - Parks & Green Spaces Manager

- Badgers are common in the Old Town area
- People feeding badgers is a problem
- Setts can be very large & badgers forage over a large territory which can lead to problems in gardens
- Badgers are difficult to deter. Heavily protected. It is against the law to interfere with their setts
- Robust secure fencing/walls with substantial foundations with wire buried underneath or electric fencing effective
- www.badgertrust.org.uk lots of information available online
- Radnor Street Cemetery has a sett of badgers

Radnor Street Cemetery - there is going to be an **exhumation**, so cemetery will close for a short time. Notice will be given.

Dogs are prohibited as it is a cemetery and protected by cemetery regulations. Guide dogs are accepted.

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6. Committee feedback

- **Nicky Sewell** working on a list of speakers. Produced a voluntary parking charter. This will be publicised via website, newsletter & email distribution list.
- **Dave Wood** - Grant application gone in. Looking to cover printing costs for 1 year (£500)
- **Gina Akers** - *none notified* & **Nadine Watts** - *none notified*

7. Road Reps Feedback

Bowood Road - is grass to be cut soon? Commercial van parking issues (<12ft high). Untaxed car to be removed.

Clifton Street - none notified

Dunsford Close - none notified

Exmouth Street & the Nurseries - concerns regarding 2 houses, one of which was a cannabis factory. Details given to NPT

Grosvenor Road & The Heights- Gina saw a rat & asked if anyone else had seen one. Issue raised regarding commercial waste being left at the Heights & plastic recycling not being collected. *DW to investigate*

Hillcrest Close & Hillside Avenue - none notified

Kingshill Road - issue with 2 Staffie dogs. Issue with alleyways. Solar powered motion sensors available from Maplins £25. *NS to approach retailers*

Radnor Street speeding issues 4-5pm. *NS to let Mike Diffin know & DW to let SBC know*

Shelley Street - none notified

Stanmore Street - pavements patchwork tarmac & constant fly tipping behind William St. *DW to report to SBC*

Sunnyside Avenue & Valleyside - grass verges in Sunnyside need cutting

William Street - Fly tipping started to reappear

8. Vacant road rep positions: Fairview

9. Raise issues to local councillor

- General comment regarding binmen tidying up after collections
- **Spring problem** - back alleyways down Kingshill. Neither SBC or Water Board accept responsibility. Costing home owner £1000s. *DW to investigate*

10. Neighbourhood Watch feedback - none

11. Local business feedback

- Acoustic guitar music Saturday 8.30/9pm

12. Community cohesion projects -

- **Reading group** - "A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian" discussed. Next meeting in June. Next book: Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie
- **Big lunch** - next meeting May 5th at the Clifton at 7pm. Red/white/blue material wanted for bunting
- **Macmillan garden party/coffee morning** on Sunday 18th September at the Clifton Inn. *Darren O'Connor contacted Macmillan. Businesses to be contacted for raffle donations*
- **Big Tidy Up** July 3rd 11am at start of canal. Litter pickers going up Old Railway Line. SBC supportive. Insurance being looked into. Posters to go up nearer the time

13. Info from other local residents' associations - Queen's Park Community Council (QPCC) - Easter Egg Hunt, entertainment & giant pumpkin competition on Sunday 24th April 12-3pm. & Royal Wedding picnic with jazz on Friday 29th April 2-4pm

14. Any Other Business: none

15. Date & time of next meeting: Monday 23rd May at 7pm at the Clifton Inn