



Moor Pool Heritage Trust now set up.

Hello Everyone,

I am sure many of you will know that the 3 development sites were sold just prior to the July auction. A company called Banner Homes based at Redditch has bought them along with the allotments and Orchard. Shortly after the auction date, Banner was at Moor Pool carrying out test drainage works which provided an opportunity to introduce ourselves. The drainage issues of site A in particular had not gone unnoticed and we will want to have discussions as to how these will be resolved particularly in view of other instances locally when similar problems have not been properly addressed.

The sale was a sad moment in the Estates history but we continue to work towards securing the community facilities and remaining open spaces. Creating the MPHT is an important next step and we hope demonstrates to both Grainger and BCC we are serious in our intentions. The MPHT has put forward a proposal to Grainger for the acquisition of the community assets and awaits their response.

Rob Sutton. Chair.

FUNDRAISING.....From Jules Bellingham: Chair Moor Pool Heritage Fund Committee.

We thought it might be helpful for us to provide some further information on the Fundraising Campaign.

How much are you looking to raise?

We are seeking to raise **£200,000**. While this is a large amount, we have every confidence that with your support we can do this.

We have seen examples of other community groups in similar situations raising £250-300k. We know that you Moor Puddlians are a passionate, committed group of people who care about their community – so help us prove that our community is alive and kicking in Harborne. Our destiny is in our hands!

Where will we get the money from?

There are 4 main sources of funding that we have identified for potential support:

- *Statutory funds or large grant givers* – there are a number of these schemes open at the moment, but we have to ensure we meet their criteria for giving out grants. Even if we do meet these criteria, competition for funds is tough. We have currently applied to Heritage Lottery Fund for over £800,000 to fund the purchase and restoration of the Community Hall.
- *Locally based charitable trusts* – there are a number of locally based trusts that we are researching to find ones whose criteria we meet (e.g. Harborne Parish Lands, Cadbury trusts etc)
- *Individual donations* – many residents and locals alike have expressed strong support for what we are trying to do. We will be looking for donations from individuals to help fund the initial purchase and will also be holding fundraising events as well. Ultimately we will set up a Friends of Moor Pool scheme to help maintain the project thereafter.

- *Companies* – we will be seeking some support from locally based companies, ideally financial support, but possibly in-kind (e.g. approaching B&Q for help with building materials for the Builders Yard development)

Note: many of the charitable trusts that we will be applying require that an organisation or community has raised some funds themselves. It demonstrates our commitment to the project.

What will that fund?

In practical terms, the money we raise will be used to fund the following:

- Purchase of the Builder's Yard site
- 10% "community contribution" to secure charitable grants - towards purchase and renovation costs for the Community Halls and towards the Builders Yard development (e.g. HLF's requirement for 10% contribution)
- Legal and acquisition costs for the various assets we acquire
- Kitchen refurbishment costs for Halls (as HLF will not fund this)

How much have you raised to date?

Thanks to generous individual donations and soft-loans from some residents and a series of extremely successful events, the Moor Pool Heritage Trust has already raised around **£40,000**.

The great news is that this has enabled us to buy the Builder's Yard! So we can now move ahead with plans for the outdoor learning space/eco classroom for local schools and groups.

Due to the tight timescales for the auction of the Builder's Yard, some residents made a generous offer of "soft loans" so that we had the money available for the auction. Obviously we now need to raise money to repay them!

By the way, the Moor Pool Avenue residents are the most successful street so far in terms of fundraising. Their events have already raised almost £600.....the gauntlet has been laid down to other streets!

How can we help?

We urgently need your support.

Help us protect and preserve the heart and soul of the Moor Pool Estate by making a donation, holding a fundraising event or attending one of our events. You could also put our fundraising team in touch with people or organisations you think may be able to support us.

Here are a few things to think about:

- *Want to help us build a future for this community?* Then buy a virtual brick via our website so we can re-build a "virtual" Moor Pool Hall. Let's lay the foundations for the next generation of our community. Go to www.moorpoolfundraising.co.uk to donate.
- *Want to feel part of the community?* Then come along to our fundraising events, meet some new or old friends, and save the community while you have fun! Supporting the Moor Pool Festival on Sept 11th will ensure we have a Community Hall for local children to attend dance classes next year!
- *Need some gardening work doing or want to occupy the kids over the summer by taking them to learn jujitsu?* Then use the Moor Pool skills bank. We are a talented bunch on the Estate – and skills fees are all going towards the fundraising challenge. Spending £10 on a fishing lesson now could ensure we still have a Pond to fish in for the future!
- *Sick of carrying around all that loose change?* Then pop it into a jam jar and when it's full, donate it to Moor Pool Heritage Trust. Go on....it's amazing how your 10p's could save Pond
- *Oh and by the way, if it's easier.....we also take straight forward cash or cheque donations (payable to Moor Pool Heritage Trust).*

Website: www.moorpoolfundraising.co.uk

Volunteering

We are also desperate for volunteers in the following roles:

- **Volunteer Treasurer** – we need a volunteer treasurer. To process and record donations and manage the accounts of the new charity. Ideally with knowledge of charity finance (SORP etc.)
- **Street Champions** – we are struggling to get information out quickly enough. We would love to have a volunteer champion for each street on the estate who will pass on information (i.e. leaflets) and keep their street updated on events, activities and news (we will provide updates/briefings)
- **Refreshment volunteers** – we need tea/coffee and bar volunteers for various events that may be coming up. Ideally we'd like a pool of people who we can then pick from so that people can have a break from time to time!
- **Event set up / clear down volunteers** – we need volunteers who can set up events (e.g.

for the Festival or the Dance). This may require lifting and moving tables/equipment.

- **Fundraising committee volunteers** – we are at a point where we would love to widen out the committee so we have more input from you all. We need people who have ideas for event/event organising skills, bid or application writing skills (for thank you notes), or good local networks around the estate (word of mouth is proving to be as successful as posters in attracting people to events!).
- **Consultation volunteers** – we want to consult with the community about plans for the Estate. We need people who are willing to help us encourage residents to complete a survey, and then help collate the results. This may include helping us run “surgery sessions” or focus groups with residents to get their views.

If you can help, or for more information in what these roles may involve, please email your contact details to fundraising@moorpool.com or pop your details into the MRA box by the Circle shop in an enveloped clearly marked *Volunteer Information*.

The Moor Pool Recycle Network.

If you are throwing away something that someone else may want, don't just bin it before you've offered it to the Moor Pool Recycle Network. This network works like the Freecycle or Freegle networks that operate around the country, where you make an offer and the taker comes to pick up the item. The only difference is that instead of giving it away for nothing, the taker will make a donation to the Moor Pool Heritage Trust fund. Accessible via the fundraising page on the MRA website or call 689 7368.

Ebay for Moor Pool Fundraising

Have you anything we can sell to raise funds? Give us a call on 689 7368

easyfundraising.org.uk website

Moor Pool is now registered to receive funds raised by using this website. It's a FREE service where you can shop with your favorite online stores and at **no extra cost**, raise funds for Moor Pool. You still shop directly with each retailer as you would normally, but simply by using the links from the easyfundraising site first, each purchase you

make will generate a cash back donation to Moor Pool Heritage Trust, instantly raising money.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Good cause is:- **Moor Pool**

Fundraising Event News

- Jan Scotts tea party raised £179
- The balloon race raised £166.
- June Quiz night raised £126
- Book Sale raised £175
- August Quiz night raised £174

Many thanks to all those who helped make these events such a success.

Moor Pool Heritage Trust

After discussions with Mike Whitby and local council Officers we applied for a £7000 grant to legally set up the charitable trust and this was approved at the last Ward meeting. Many thanks to Mike Whitby for supporting this initiative which is key to moving the process forward.

The Trust can now become the legal owner of the Builders Yard and lock up garages once the purchase is completed, and will also be available to accept the community facilities if our proposal is accepted.

The Moor Pool Heritage Trust has been set up as an incorporated not for profit private company limited by guarantee with an initial 6 directors. These are Rob Sutton, Adrian Millicheep, Jules Bellingham, Dave McGee, Igor Cusack and Nigel Bartram. Formal elections will be held in 3-9 months. In the meantime it is important that as many residents as possible become Members of the Trust and are then able to exercise a right to vote at general meetings.

MOOR POOL FESTIVAL

Sunday 11th September 11.00 – 4.00

Part of Heritage Open Days.

- Stalls, fun and games, Cakes, Teas. Visit Moor
- Pools Clubs. See the shooting club in action.
- Visit the Pool, bowling green and snooker club.
- The Circle Tennis Club have their finals match.
- learn about Moor Pools history on tours of the Estate.

All monies raised will go towards securing Moor Pools community facilities.

The Directors will be providing information and the opportunity to become a member as soon as possible. We plan to arrange a residents meeting as soon as the proposal which has been put to Grainger has received acceptance. This will allow Members, residents and users of the community facilities to express your views. The detailed proposal to Grainger includes acquiring the Moor Pool Hall, community facilities which includes the various sporting facilities and open spaces. The Trust has also included in the proposal acquisition of various income producing assets. The bid to the HLF is for funding of over £866,000 of which the majority is for the acquisition and refurbishment of the Hall including over £105,000 specifically related to the skittle alley. The Trust has sought professional valuations both on the assets and liabilities which are part of the proposal. The Trust has a clear objective in its Articles of Association to:

4.1 *To promote, for the public benefit:*

(a) *the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment within the Area; and*

(b) *the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of residents of the Area through the use of community facilities; and*

(c) *the advancement of education, including promoting knowledge of the social and architectural history of the Area.*

The Trust has applied to the Charity Commission for charitable status which will enable a much wider range of applications to funding organisations as well as maximising what is quite limited income. The Trust is a vehicle to secure Moor Pool for the future and to enable everyone to continue to enjoy and benefit from the various features forming Nettlefold's original vision for a garden suburb community which provided not only better living conditions but a wonderful environment. Beyond that, Moor Pool has an important historic value and remains an almost intact example of a garden suburb built on co-partnership principles from what was an extremely important period in Britain's town planning history. We have a duty to do what we can to preserve that whilst preparing ourselves to face the challenges of the future.

Letters to the Editor

Who's the busybody advising me to micro-manage my rubbish?

A few points for them to consider:-

1. Their efforts would be better spent aggravating those property 'owners' that haven't spent £30,000 on the modernisation of their home.
2. They should put more effort in persuading the council to provide adequate bins for house rubbish and re-cyclable waste rather than pathetic boxes and bin bags.

No person has a right to enter my property area distributing such 'advice'. I know the score. I do my bit. Who are you? Take a hike!

Name and address supplied

Moor Pool in Bloom

Following a meeting with BCCs local officer Sue Hicken, work has started clearing the runaway undergrowth at the Spinney. The Hit Squad team have made a start on what will be a long process to try and restore this area to its former glory. A waste bin has been requested and supplied. We hope this will encourage the occasional passing dog owners who fail to properly clear up after their pooches to do so.

On the 7th September it's the RHS award ceremony at Solihull. Fingers crossed for another good result to reward all those who have worked so hard this year. We'll announce the results in the next Duck.

Liz Muir who has co-ordinated all the MiB efforts has recently had a well earned break in China. I time allows we are hoping to arrange a viewing of the many pictures she took whilst over there.

Moor Pool Allotments Sold

As mentioned earlier these have been sold to Banner Homes.

We will continue, supported by our local Councillors try to negotiate with the Council Planning Department to withdraw the renovation condition and accept instead the transfer of the allotments to a local Trust. We are now concerned that with the maintenance obligations, the new owner will be reluctant to transfer the ownership. As we said before we will pursue this matter vigorously with BCC and Banner Homes as we consider local management and control of the allotments and Orchard crucial. We have written to Banner inviting them to visit Moor Pool and begin discussions on

solutions which mitigate the issues of flooding, restoration of the allotments and help with an understanding of the significance of Moor Pools heritage.

Nettlefold: Father of the 2nd City?

Nettlefold was an influential figure during his time as the Chairman of the Housing Committee. In his vision for the City he saw its expansion; ideally with many more suburbs like Moor Pool, as highly important. He drew up the first drafts of the Greater Birmingham Act which came into force in 1911 and which increased the boundaries of Birmingham so that we became the 'second city'. Without that act the standing of Birmingham and the investment that follows from it would be diminished. What a pity such little respect has been accorded him.

Coffee Morning + 100 Club Draw.

The next Coffee Morning and 100 Club draw will be on Saturday 24th September 2011. Do come along for a cuppa, a cake and a good chat. It will be in the Lower Hall as usual from 10.30am.

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Moor Pool News and Wine

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Put your trainers on for Moor Pool!

Runners, joggers and walkers of Moor Pool. Have you already signed up to run the BUPA Great Birmingham Run on 23rd October? Maybe you have thought about signing up but haven't got round to it yet, or don't fancy entering on your own? If so, we want to hear from you.

Kathryn Hobbs and Jessica Loveland have already agreed to run the 13.1 miles to raise money and help secure local open spaces and facilities for the community. It would be fantastic to have more people joining them, pestering their friends and relatives for money and taking on the challenge of a half marathon.

For more information about the half marathon, visit www.greatrun.org/events/Event. There is an entry fee of £30. To join Team Moorpool, sign up to the BUPA Great Birmingham Run and then email fundraising@moorpool.com or kathryn.hobbs@hotmail.co.uk with your name and contact details.

Thank you. Kathryn.

MOOR POOL DANCE

LAST FEW TICKETS

Saturday 10th September 7.30pm

Back by popular demand are last years swing, jive, rock n roll band:

The Starlites.

The tickets cost £10 including food with a bar available. This was a great night last year and this year will be even better, so put a date in your diary to come and have a great night out and raise funds for the Trust. Tickets will be available at the shop or ring 0121 427 6795

Digital Switchover September 2011

A quick reminder to those who haven't read the local press or the multitude of leaflets. The Sutton transmitter will be going digital in September.

- If you get your TV through satellite or cable this will not affect you.
- If you use Freeview then you will have to retune on September 7th and 21st. Judging by past performance you may also have to do this on other dates as well as the whole thing seems to be handled by baboons. Any and all devices including TV sets, digiboxes, PVRs, DVD/VHS recorders, PC cards etc will need retuning. This can usually be accessed through the Set-up or Installation menu. I would suggest a full search rather than adding new channels, particularly on the later date. This will, in all likelihood, lose any favourite settings, so be warned.
- If you only have analogue reception you will lose all channels and will need to upgrade your equipment. The cheapest method is to buy a digibox for £20 or so. If your aerial is not up to the job then I suggest waiting until after the switch as there should also be a considerable signal boost with the changeover (according to the baboons at least). If you are 75 or over or fall within some benefit categories, some financial help is available.

Alex's 100 Club

Buy a number from 1 – 100 for £1
£25 prize draw each month

If you're in it you can win it!

**Alex and Sydney have now raised
over £500 for the Trust**

Siobhan Collins - McCarthy Dance Academy

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The Moorpool Hall, The Circle, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9DY.

Website: www.ballet-birmingham.com

Mob: 07896315199

'... We can, if we will, arrange for healthy, wholesome surroundings for every Birmingham adult, and, even more important, give every Birmingham child the 'light and air' that are so essential to its healthy development.'

John Sutton Nettlefold, speech made to Birmingham City Council, 3rd July 1906.

Dates for your Diary

Coffee Morning. Saturday 24th September 2011.
Moor Pool Trust Dance. Saturday 10th Sept 2011
Moor Pool Festival. Sunday 11th Sept 2011
Ward Meeting. Moor Pool Hall Monday 26th Sept 2011 7.00pm

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