

THE MOORPOOL DUCK

Residents' Newsletter

Issue No. 25

June 2007

MOORPOOL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 14th JUNE 2007 at 7.30 pm
in THE MOORPOOL HALL.

The meeting is called to seek a mandate for the Residents Association to :-

- 1. Set up a Consultative Committee to represent the views of Residents to Grainger Trust and Birmingham City Council concerning the current development plans for the estate.**
- 2. Determine whether Residents would support a Community Trust to manage non-residential areas of the estate.**

NB. The above notice forms the Agenda for the meeting, which is only open to Residents.

Now that Grainger Trust has made public its first draft design proposals for the estate, the Residents Association needs to determine the views of residents concerning our future course of action, if any. The special general meeting will vote on two issues :-

- 1) Whether residents wish to set up an independent consultative committee to represent the views of residents to Grainger ?
- 2) Will residents support the formation of a Community Trust, formed by residents, to manage the Moorpool Hall

and public amenity areas of the estate ?

If an independent consultative committee is agreed, the Residents Committee are prepared to work with residents to set this up, and will ask anyone interested in participating to put their name forward on the night.

If support is gained for a Community Trust, a working group will be needed (formed by residents, representatives from the Moorpool clubs and associations, and probably the City Council). The group would need to be chaired by someone with experience of setting up and managing similar Trusts.

Although it is difficult to divorce the detail of Graingers' proposals from the need to plan a way forward, it is important that the SGM concentrates on processes, rather than the detail of the plans. As there will be future opportunities for this kind of discussion, the meeting will not consider any points of detail concerning the proposals.

Finally, the work of the CAMP Steering Committee, formed to oversee the introduction of the Article 4(2) Direction and related matters, is now nearing completion. The new body envisaged above would take on an equivalent role overseeing the future development plans.

GRAINGER PLANS

Following last months open meeting, which was more an illustrative exhibition than the open meeting many Residents were expecting, Grainger has promised to hold an

open meeting at which Residents will be able to make their views known in an open forum. Phil Nelson (Regional Manager) told the Duck "I am pleased to confirm that Mike Whitby has agreed to chair the next meeting. It is proposed that this will be a more formal meeting and, therefore, an alternative (larger) venue will be required. Our intention is to arrange the meeting as soon as possible, with the exact date being dependant on availability of the venue and the key people who are involved."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Recent editions of The Duck have included letters about the proposed development of the estate from both Grainger Trust and Birmingham City Council. To provide residents with as many views as possible, we have invited correspondents of the "Save Moorpool" web site to submit their views for publication in this issue. We have undertaken to publish these views in full, and without editorial comment.

The two responses we have received are shown below :- from J.Tucker

"I have just visited the savemoorpool blog site and noted your posting over comments for next issue of the Duck. Here are mine: I would support the idea of Site B on the proposal being used solely as a small traditional park for children to play in and people to relax in, with trees, benches and swings. Alternative parks for residents are not within easy walking distance and require the crossing of busy roads. Thanks. Jim Tucker : Ravenhurst Road . PS Centenary Park would be a good name for the play area."

(NB. For non computer Residents the "blog" is a form of open notice board on the internet where individual views can be expressed)

... and from Rob Sutton

Dear Residents

It has been heartening to hear the many expressions of support for the allotments, both on the Moorpool blog and also at the Grainger's presentation meeting. If we can ensure the continued existence of the allotments then it will go some way towards maintaining the integrity of the estate. I also hear the views of residents who do not wish to overlook disused and overgrown allotments. This is something we recognise and wish to address. The answer is for Graingers to restart the process of letting all the allotments and for residents to take up and actively use those that may still be available. Please register your interest with the MAA so that we can be sure that not only Graingers but also the City planners recognise the true demand.

If you have an allotment and wish to join us then please contact me. We also have an associate membership for those who wish to support the allotment association but who do not have an allotment at the present time.

Rob Sutton. Chair Moorpool Allotment Association. (MAA) Tel 426 5669

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.

The Residents Committee 'Management Group' is currently working on options to help reduce the incidence of antisocial behaviour on the estate, which has worsened in recent months. A special meeting to seek the views of the local police service was scheduled for early June; unfortunately, the police were unable to send a representative to the meeting, and this will be reconvened for July. Following this, the DUCK will publish a summary of the recommendations, and seek views on an appropriate form of consultation with residents.

FINAL QUACK

Please do attend the meeting. Your participation is vital.

Editor: Mike Frost 1 Carless Avenue