

The Moor Pool Duck

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Residents' Newsletter.

Issue No.39

April 2009

The Moor Pool Viability Study.

BCC have come up trumps with a major part of the funding required to look into a financial viability study for the Estate.

Grainger have declined to contribute financially although they will "offer the services of the Property Management Team in Birmingham, who will assist in providing information and input into the study, and provide meeting facilities in Moorpool Hall free of charge". As things stand, (BVT) Bournville Village Trust would manage the exercise. This will be a thorough exercise looking into all aspects of community facilities. We are starting the process of involving Clubs and Societies.

Scarecrow Competition.

The Winner and Runners up are as follows.

1st Prize. "Mr & Mrs Bunnykins" by Jamie and his Mom.

2nd Prize. "Pinky the Punk" by Tasmin, Liberty and Eden.

3rd Prize. "Handy Andy & Hilly" by Patrick and Hillary Everard.

Congratulations to Jamie for a super effort. The work put into all the entries was really good.

Thanks to the Bowling Green for their entry too which, after close examination, we realised was not one of the members!

Website: www.moorpool.com

Pictures of the winner and all the other entries are available to view on the website.

As an aside we tabled the points for each road and worked out an average based on the number of houses.

Road.	Score	Position
The Circle Top score 'Mr & Mrs Bunnykins'	5.22	1
Ravenhurst Road Top score ' Handy Andy & Hilly'	5.11	2
Wentworth Gate Top score 'Pinky the Punk'	4.88	3
Carless Avenue Top score = ' Scary Bird & Dereck'	2.93	4
Margaret Grove Top score 'Daisy'	2.45	5
Moor Pool Avenue Top score 'Aunt Sally'	0.80	6
East Pathway	0.00	
High Brow	0.00	
Northgate	0.00	
North Pathway	0.00	
Park Edge	0.00	
Park Hill Road	0.00	
The Square	0.00	
Wentworth Road	0.00	
West Pathway	0.00	

We are very grateful to Glyn and Diane who judged all the entries and must have had a very difficult time deciding.

We will hold the competition again next year so please do enter, particularly if your road scored nil points this time.

Chair: Rob Sutton. 426 5669.

And finally; Thanks to Emma Gray and Margie Harley for all their hard work behind the scenes which made the event possible.

Residents Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning is on Saturday 25th April in the Lower Hall starting at 10.30am. As usual, any donations of cakes will be very welcome but more importantly, please come along and join in. Winterbourne Botanic Gardens will also be joining us. (See later item)

Moor Pool in Bloom 2009.

You may have noticed displays of pansies have appeared at both ends of Moor Pool Avenue, Park Edge and along Carless Avenue. Thanks are due to the volunteers who spent their Sunday planting these (and to Mrs Goodall who provided the very welcome tray of tea.) Many words of encouragement were received from passers by and other displays are appearing which is very pleasing. Chris Jones and Gary McManus from Cofton have again been very helpful with the supply of flowers.

Winterbourne Botanic Gardens.

Winterbourne, as mentioned in the March issue, was the home of the Estate's founder, John Nettlefold. Winterbourne are planning an oral history project which will feature Moor Pool and are coming to the April Coffee morning to give an introductory talk which should be very interesting.

Moor Pool Hall Centenary.

It seems the Centenary is actually in 2010 and the document referred to was wrong. This allows us more time to plan a suitable event to celebrate this important milestone.

Website: www.moorpool.com

Grainger Planning Applications.

Again nothing to report. First it was February, then March. Taking into account Easter, April would seem unlikely.

MRA Subs - reminder.

Since our last reminder subs are still trickling in. These are £5 per household or £3 per single person. Please pay either Gill Morgan (Treasurer: 80, Moor Pool Ave) Rob Sutton (64 Margaret Grove), or Mike Frost (1 Carless Avenue) and enclose your name and address so that a receipt can be sent to you.

English Heritage.

English Heritage are revisiting the Estate at the end of April to consider the importance of the area as designed landscape and the possibilities for restoration and improvement.

Verge Damage.

Bill Taylor, the local highways engineer, has responded to our enquiries on this problem. Bill has provided a document explaining parking restrictions and also some polite notices for residents to use who suffer persistent problems. Please do use these as a last resort. Problems can often be resolved just by talking to each other and being a bit flexible in understanding another's point of view. These are available from the website and on view at the Coffee Morning.

Tree Replacement

The 14 new trees are due anytime now. We are pressing for an ongoing programme to replace trees as there are still many gaps. These trees have been paid for out of an additional grant by the Ward Community Chest Chair: Rob Sutton. 426 5669.

so there should still be funds available from the normal planting budget for replacements.

Thanks are due to our local Councillors for responding so quickly to our concerns and ensuring this funding was made available.

Although we offered suggestions on alternative locations to spread these trees a little further, this was turned down.

Valley Site Garages.

A few residents have mentioned that they don't think a modern car will fit in the newer garages. This is incorrect as my 4.567m Laguna fits with clearance. We hope that the graffiti will be removed soon.

Vandalism.

Following vandalism and graffiti to the garages in the Valley Site, the local Police seem to have taken action against the young perpetrators. At least they have dispersed for the moment. Any problems should be reported to the Police at Rose Road. Keep us informed so that our crime survey reflects the problems residents experience.

Moor Pools History

"Fears have been expressed in certain quarters that the concessions made to Harborne Tenants by the Birmingham City Council will entitle the ordinary builder to demand similar concessions. When the ordinary builder is willing to restrict his houses to 10 per acre and provide open spaces and playgrounds as Harborne tenants have done then it is to be hoped that the local authorities will meet him in the same spirit of give and take that was shewn to Harborne Tenants, but those same builders who now put 40-60 houses per

acre cannot reasonably claim concessions in the cost of Estate development until they make concessions in the number of houses per acre, etc, etc. Harborne Tenants have by various minor concessions added to the restriction of 10 houses per acre, paid more than full toll to the public purse." Extracts from Harborne Tenants prospectus 1907 and 1909
Moor Pool News and Wine.

The visual display of old Moor Pool pictures in the shop window must stir memories for some and be of great interest to others. Our thanks to Raj and Dip for allowing the display to go ahead, Vanessa Cusack who organised it and the funding from the Community Chest which made it possible. The shop is very important to the Estate so please do use it whenever you can.

Estate Repairs.

A Tenant resident asked whether the rumour that exterior painting would only be carried out on request was true. The following answer was received from Grainger.

"Houses are not painted on request only, we assess our portfolio on an annual basis and paint when and where required."

So now you know.

We are also following up on dangerous fencing along Moor Pool Avenue and the footpath by the bowling green.

The Moor Pool website.

Please log in to check for latest pictures and information.

The address is: www.moorpool.com

Many thanks to Andrew Hackett for his hard work on the website.

NEWS UPDATE

An e-mail was received on April 15th from the Planning Department advising us that they will be recommending approval of all Grainger's planning applications.

These recommendations will be submitted to the Planning Committee at their next sitting, which is on Thursday, April 23rd at 11am in Committee Rooms 3 and 4, Council House, Birmingham.

This is a public meeting and all residents and other interested parties are urged to attend.

The agenda is available from the Planning Department web site, and there are links to this on the Moorpool Residents' web site and the Moorpool Regeneration Group web site.

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