



3rd October 2017

Public Meeting – Hare and Hounds

Attendees:

Chaired by Katy Stone – board member KH CIC (KS)
Dave Loughran Smith – board member KH CIC (DS)
Jon Jaffa – board member KH CIC (JJ)
Adam Regan - board member KH CIC (AR)
Philip Osman – board member KH CIC (PO)
Kate Goodall board member KH CIC (KG)
Daisy Wilkes – young persons representative
Emma Page – website builder for KH CIC
Georgina Key
Michael Davies and colleague – Action 4 Families
Shane Foley
Esther Hess
Lynda Bowen
Alison Wilkinson
Sarah Burgess
Peter Milner
Dave Travis
R March

Sara Aboutorabi – KH Neighbourhood Watch / Friends of KH Park
Gill Bentley
Adam Robins
Becca Colebrook
Janan Choudhary – Spectacle Emporium
Jen Nadin – Cherry Reds Cafe
Richard Harris – Black Market Barbers
Carrie Weekes
Pip Bradley – Pips Hot Sauce
Helen Baglee – Chair, KHRF
Sarah Lee
Callum Lee
Annabel de Vetten – Conjuror’s Kitchen
Ian Barber
Julie Bryant – I Had One of Those
Kirsty Wallace
Annie March

Apologies

Colin Dickinson
Elinor Warner
Elissa Renouf

The meeting started at 7.10pm.

KS welcomed all to the meeting and said how good it was to see so many people here. KS explained that we want your views and input to the KH CIC and to encourage participation throughout the meeting.

DS introduced KH CIC as having been set up in August 2016 in order to help fill the gap in Kings Heath for collaboration between residents, businesses, visitors and those that love Kings Heath, creating positive action for the community. DS explained that we have already undertaken small projects such as the painting of the railings underneath Avenue Road bridge. DS explained that when we heard that there may not be funding for Christmas lights that we thought we should try to work together to ensure that there were lights at Christmas and we set up the crowdfunding page as a consequence. DS also explained that we already have had some press coverage as a result of this.



The plan for this meeting is to try and find more ways to work together and create some actions to move forward. DS introduced the board members to the meeting (for more info please see the About Us page on Facebook if you were unable to attend).

KS explained that the target was tough and we needed to raise £800 per day from here on in order to meet the target. She explained that crowdfunding monies will be retained if we don't meet the target. KS also explained that we are also seeking contributions from big businesses on the High Street.

KS explained that one of the initiatives from the smaller businesses, is the Heathen Hamper – Pip and Annabel, two local businesses are putting together prizes from across Kings Heath to use in raffle to support the Crowdfunding initiative, this would have a Halloween theme and comprise items from businesses such as :

- Cake Conjourer
- Pips Hot Sauce
- Whiskey Birmingham
- Hare and Hounds (tickets)
- Black Market Barbers (vouchers)
- Cherry Red (craft beers)
- I Had One of Those
- And many more still to be announced

Richard from Black Market Barbers also made an offer of sports memorabilia for another raffle prize. Jen suggested that this should perhaps be part of a separate raffle offer.

DS explained that the crowdfunding deadline was in order to meet Birmingham City Council's deadline on ordering the Christmas lights and we would not necessarily need all funds by 19th October.

Richard (local resident) asked for the cost per light, per lamp-post. JJ responded £285 per lamp-post. Richard suggested that groups/businesses could support individual columns. This was agreed to be a good idea. Richard also asked if whether we raised less money it could still be used for lighting – and this was explained yes, that even if we didn't meet target we could still buy that amount of Christmas lights. Emma Page followed this up suggesting that businesses could sponsor specific lampposts.

There was a question from the floor asking if we could use string light alternatives as a cheaper option – KS responded that this could be difficult because of health and safety but that all options could be explored.

Skills forms were handed out for people to complete to offer their time/services to KHCIC.

Emma Page explained that she had been tasked in building the website for KHCIC which should be completed by the end of the week. KH CIC thanked Emma for building the website.

Annie asked whether we could get people together to coordinate volunteers. This was agreed.



Richard asked whether this group would take over from the BID. KG responded that this was not the remit and that this was a different model of governance encouraging residents and businesses and others to work together for Kings Heath. KG mentioned that Moseley have got a good balance of how they work together and JJ explained that this was largely resident led.

Richard suggested that we could flyer, door to door, to help people who are less social media savvy gain awareness of the project. This was agreed. DS can print flyers which would be distributed through a coordinated network of volunteers.

ACTION: print flyers and distribute (DS)

It was also suggested that lamp-posts could have laminated adverts on them to support the KHCIC with this venture. This was agreed as a good idea. If businesses sponsored we could also put a plaque to indicate sponsorship, but there was concern about the additional cost of this.

ACTION: Advertise on lamp-posts

Mike from Action 4 Families asked about a light switch on or event and suggested that York road could be closed for this. DS explained that we had earmarked 25 November as a potential date for this event. KS explained that there are some difficulties in closing York Road but that this could be explored further. KS also explained that KH CIC were keen to use the Community Centre more, but not for this event, as you would need to see as much of the High St as possible. Mike offered to supply a stage for the event which could also be used as a vehicle for business sponsorship.

It was agreed that flyers through the door were a less intrusive method than doorstepping people. DS agreed to get these done as soon as possible and to put a map together to ensure non-duplication. Annie suggested that flyers should be available in the Library.

Richard asked when LIDL opened and whether the opening could be tied (informally or formally) into creating awareness of the crowdfunding. DS understood this to be 19 October which is the last day of the appeal. DS asked if anyone had any other contacts for LIDL to let him know. Annabel told DS that all staff are currently working at Balsall Heath branch.

The shaker cash collection pots are currently in:

Cartridge World, Cherry Reds, Cooshoo, Curry Garden, Dickinsons Barbers, Dorothy Perkins, Frank Nutt Sewing Machines, Gorilla Coffee, Hare & Hounds, I Had One Of Those, New Lotus, Polar Bear Records, Precision Imaging, Syhlet Spice, The Station, Winspers, Black Lab, Hi Tide Chip Shop & York Supplies.

KS asked for ideas about future projects that people would want to see. Suggestions included:

- Fireworks party in Kings Heath Park
- Street Festival
- Kings Heath carnival (including local groups e.g. Scouts, Guides etc)



- Garden Festival

There was a discussion about the park and a desire for it to be used more. Although drainage has been poor in the past, there is a possibility that investment could be used to improve drainage and therefore use the park more for events.

Emma Page suggested that a PayPal donate button could be put on the website to allow people to become a 'Friend of KH CIC' with discounts and a badge available. This was agreed to be a good idea.

PO described other ventures that we may like to proceed with including

- Support local street parties
- Supporting residents and others who want to tidy up their streets, pick litter, clean off graffiti etc

JJ also explained that we own bunting that is loaned out to different groups and organisations.

Georgina explained her background in horticulture and also that there are pockets of funding available to help. She suggested that we get in touch with Andy at the Wildlife Trust for the environmental side of things.

There was a question from the floor about how we would work with Kings Heath Residents Forum (KHRF). Helen Baglee, Chair of KHRF said that they were keen to work with KH CIC. The KH CIC will have a stand at the KHRF networking event being held at the Community Centre on Saturday 7th October.

KG also mentioned other Residents Forums/Associations that could be involved more widely e.g. Brandwood Forum, Springfield Road Residents and History group, Tenbury and Featherstone Residents etc

There was also a discussion about accessing funding streams and how best to do this.

JJ explained that this just isn't about residents, or businesses, but also about people who travel through Kings Heath, work in Kings Heath or have family connections and history in Kings Heath.

DS summed up the meeting with some action points:

1. Get flyers ready by Friday
2. Sponsorship of lamp-posts
3. Coordinate raffles and communicate about them
4. Action plan by end of the week

The meeting finished at 8.10pm.