

**MINUTES OF**  
**ROPEWALKS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETING**  
**HELD ON WED. 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**

**PRESENT:**

Peter Schriewersmann – Resident (Chair)  
 Andy Blackmore – LCC  
 Maureen Delij – Resident (Part)  
 Jenny Ewels - LCC  
 Catherine Holden – Student Rep.  
 Caitlin Hare – Student Rep.  
 Wes Hartless - LCC  
 Diana Heredia – Resident  
 Maureen Hulme - Resident  
 Thrusha Maharaj – Resident  
 Thomas Moezer - Resident  
 Mal Scott - Resident  
 Scott Wellard – Resident  
 Emlyn Williams – Rodney St. Residents Assoc. (Part)  
 Hetty Wood - LCC  
 Paula Deboo – Minutes

**APOLOGIES:**

Steve Avis – Merseyside Police  
 Kenny Brew – LCC  
 Heather Corcoran – Resident  
 Terry Eleftheriou – Resident  
 Stephen Fitzsimmons – Cream  
 Jill Harris – News From Nowhere  
 Andi Herring - BID  
 Jacqui Keeler – Merseyside Police  
 Christine Kerr – Merseyside Police  
 Sean O'Neill – Resident  
 Gilian Paterson-Fox – Resident

**DATE:** 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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| <p><b>1. <u>INTRODUCTIONS / APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Apologies given as above. Introductions of all attendees made.</p> |                      |

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| <p><b>2. <u>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</u></b></p> <p>Minutes agreed without changes.</p>  |                      |
| <p><b>3. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>NOISE ISSUES</u></b></p> <p>No one has reported any recent/ new noise issues.</p> <p><b><u>Maya</u></b><br/>An Enforcement Officer went out to this bar re. speakers. TM confirmed she has only heard the music once since the last meeting (but she was away most of December) and confirmed it has definitely improved.</p> <p><b><u>Blue Angel &amp; Heebie Jeebies Queue</u></b><br/>AB confirmed a Notice has been served on them for queue related issues. AB iterated that the queues are slow moving as security have to carry out searches, etc., but the queue should be managed. If it is not and you wish to report it you need to take photographs if possible (as evidence) and report it on 0151 233 3015.<br/>EW queried why the Blue Angel cannot be made to clear up bottle litter or chewing gum left on the pavement by their customers; or erect spit-out boxes.<br/>PS iterated that the BID on Bold Street regularly attempts to clear the gum in Bold Street and you can see the difference for a while. Currently the BID is under review. If Ropewalks and Baltic are to be included it would mean some of the services bought by the levies paid could be replicated on Seel Street. WH confirmed that gum is very difficult to remove.</p> <p><b><u>LITTER</u></b><br/>WH iterated that the Kingdom taskforce and the Council are still monitoring the city, etc. for litter and any other environmental issues to rectify.</p> |                      |

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| <p>Dumped litter bags are being searched for evidence. Fixed Penalty Notices are being issued to businesses and residents for leaving waste strewn. Novotel are guilty of obstruction by leaving their rubbish out and WH is addressing this. The litter squad has been very positive.</p> <p>MH complained that there appears to be a plague rats around what appears to be waste land at the top of Duke Street / 60 Berry St. WH to investigate and refer to Environmental Health. For the safety of the children, MH informed the nearby nursery that she had seen rats entering their property; but was reported to Regenda for doing so. If you witness any rats, please report it to the Council (Tel: 0151 233 3001) in the first instance as they need to log the given location.</p> <p>Before Xmas MH witnessed a man taking bags out of bins in the courtyard and the residents had to pay to get a private company out to remove the mess. WH has an idea who this may be (repeat offender).</p> <p><u>Escort Agency Stickers / Flyers / Recruitment</u></p> <p>JH asked for the above issue to be raised again (in her absence) iterating that the average age for starting in the sex industry is just 15, and over 90% have been sexually abused as children, so this is very much an extension of child sexual exploitation, and is not a benign industry. It is not something that residents think should be associated with, and tolerated within the city centre, and is not something teenage girls should be encountering in the city centre (there have been lots of recruitment stickers since the New Year, offering up to £80 an hour). JH along with many others, including the Council, are often seen trying to remove these stickers/flyers from the area. It is against the law to erect stickers/flyers; but it is hard to obtain evidence of the culprits. However stickers are currently specifically being addressed in the city centre by the Council. WH suggested the best solvent to use when trying to remove the stickers/flyers is 'Sticker Remover Spray', which is citrus based and available at B&amp;Q.</p> | <p>WH</p> <p>WH</p>  |

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| <p>The van which was being used to advertise these agencies is being moved around regularly. WH is working with Highways looking at the vehicles which are displaying for sale / advertising.</p> <p>JE iterated that the city has been awarded a large sum of money from the Home Office (c.463K) to support sex workers out of the industry and also to help protect them. Crimes against sex workers are seen as hate crimes in our city. There will be more Sexual Violence Advocates available. This is positive news for the city.</p> <p><b><u>OBSTRUCTION ON THE PAVEMENTS / ROADS</u></b></p> <p>TM suggested that when going to Planning for works to be carried out (e.g. around Novotel, Gostin Buildings, Campbell St.), should the Planning Dept. be taking into account what impact this will have on the public highways as it causes obstruction. PS will email Ian Wiggins regarding the obstructions.</p> <p>To report rogue parkers (i.e. same vehicle parking all the time on the side, obstructing the walkways by John Lewis Bus Station, Parr Street (11am-3pm) and St. Lukes (whilst they're giving food out) etc.) you need to contact Parking Services (Roy Tunstall) via Highways on 0151 233 3001 and the complaint will then be logged and the relevant person will deal with it – you must give the times and the actual road when this is happening (photographs if possible) as they will send officers out when this is happening. General obstruction caused by parking is a Police matter. HW confirmed there will be a further 17 Parking Attendants employed (currently have 43) which should help alleviate the issues.</p> <p><b><u>BROKEN FLAGSTONES</u></b></p> <p>TM is concerned about the repair of broken flagstones. This is a Highways issue and should be reported to them accordingly (0151 233 3001). The Highways Review is currently going on which will include some repairs and it may be part of this programme. EW iterated that the</p> | <p>PS</p>            |

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| <p>problem with the Council tarmacking over the cobblestones is that the height level of street goes up, making it easier for vehicles to mount and park on the pavement, and also causing gullies to become blocked. The Council should be encouraged to expose the cobblestones. PS iterated that he thinks that as part of the Highways Review there are suggestions made not to tarmac the cobbled road and re-lay some cobbles. Ropewalks will remain cobbled (not tarmacked).</p> <p><b><u>DOG FOULING ON THE STREETS</u></b></p> <p>TM iterated at the amount of dog fouling on the streets whilst taking her children to school (between Colquitt St. and St. Vincent De Paul's School) is extremely unpleasant. WH to investigate but iterated that as you need evidence to take action, it is often quite difficult to catch the culprits. WH also iterated that uniformed officers will contact the Head Teacher of the school.</p> <p><b><u>RECYCLING</u></b><br/>The Council have been successfully pushing for recycling within blocks/buildings and if you still require recycling bags please contact Kay Bailey (<a href="mailto:kay.bailey@liverpool.gov.uk">kay.bailey@liverpool.gov.uk</a>).</p> | <p>WH</p>            |
| <p><b>4. <u>ROPEWALKS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES</u></b></p> <p><b><u>HIGHWAYS REVIEW UPDATE</u></b><br/>HW iterated that it is hoped the consultation in regards to this review will be done in March 2018 but a date has yet to be confirmed, once done HW will provide an update.</p>  | <p>HW</p>            |

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| <p><b><u>UPDATE ON ROPEWALKS CIC</u></b><br/>           PS will provide an update once he receives it from Jo Wright / Andi Herring regarding the BID extension plans for wider Ropewalks.<br/>           CIC put a proposal forward to improve the public realms between Hope St. to Paradise St. which will cover Duke Street (animated and heritage trail through Duke Street); which fits in nicely with the Highways Review. It is currently going through the Section 106 process.</p> <p><b><u>LOCAL PLAN</u></b><br/>           The Local Plan has been approved by the Council and is awaiting National Government approval.</p> <p><b><u>ROPEWALKS COMMUNITY LITTER PICK</u></b><br/>           Confirmed for Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> April (meeting for induction at 9.45am @ FACT).</p>   | <p>PS</p> <p>HW</p> <p>HW</p> |
| <p><b>5. <u>LICENSING / PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>PENDING APPLICATIONS</u></b></p> <p>AB confirmed there are 3 pending applications at the moment. They have been approached by a developer about the Lyceum regarding a bar and grill concept. The premises did not hold a licence in the past. Fine dining with small area of a bar would tidy that building up.</p> <p>Potential small bowling alley in Duke Street. AB has seen the plans. If application goes in its hours are 12 midnight, which shouldn't be a problem (with a host of conditions). If they want later hours, it will be objected. The application will go on the website if submitted. Potential parking-related issues for this venue would fall under Planning.</p> <p>Empire – developer wants to re-open up as a restaurant. Not supported at the moment. If it did open it would be another licence as held by another developer on that premises. PS will go and see the Sisters to keep them updated on likely developments.</p> | <p>PS</p>                     |

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| <p><b><u>44 BERRY STREET</u></b></p> <p>MH complained that there are three big pipes on this building which she is having to look out onto. Health &amp; safety concern. WH to investigate.</p> <p><b><u>NOTICE / SIGN FOR CAMPBELL SQUARE</u></b></p> <p>GPF could not attend this meeting but asked for the following to be raised. A notice/sign went up on Campbell Square (behind The Salt Cave on Duke Street) for a café / restaurant. AB will look at the Notice.</p> <p><b><u>BRUNCH CLUB (DUKE ST.)</u></b></p> <p>AB iterated that someone looked at it again. Previously it was open for a long time breaching the conditions. The conditions made it unworkable for them to operate that size of premises. No one will likely make it work as a licensed premises with current conditions.</p> <p><b><u>GREEN SPACE SPENDING</u></b></p> <p>£300K still going through (bit off Argyle St.), planning application already gone in. Council own this land.</p> | <p>WH</p> <p>AB</p>  |
| <p><b>6. <u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Stephen Hardy forwarded an update as follows (as unfortunately Merseyside Police were unable to attend on this occasion); 'What I can say to reassure you is I monitor crime pattern and trends and whilst I note your concerns over the recent incidents such as the murder of the young</p>  |                      |

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| <p>man at Empire, the disorder involving the German football fans and the linked serious assault and the murder at Maya bar from the weekend. It may, on the face of it, appear that there is increasing levels of violence - I am not seeing this or any changes in crimes levels. I cannot comment on the exact circumstances of the murder from the weekend directly at this stage. We are reviewing if there was anything that could have been done to prevent this terrible event especially as it took place inside a venue and what if anything the venue could have done. This does appear an isolated incident and is not linked to any other ongoing problems. Given other incidents recently I can understand yours and the communities concern.'</p> <p>The overall number of crimes has not increased. What has happened has been high profile/ fatal. Empire will remain closed as they lost their licence. The community is understandably unsettled. Merseyside Police are happy to meet the Group separately to discuss what can / cannot be done. Our thoughts go out to all families affected.</p> <p><b><u>STUDENTS</u></b></p> <p>CH iterated that we all should be very proud of the 'Purple Flag Status' that the city has been awarded / retained. Liverpool is one of the safest cities and we should be proud to push this award; the universities are. Liverpool has beacon status and was one of the first cities to be awarded Purple Status. LJMU had African open days and the Purple Flag Status helped sell the city as a wonderful place to live. CH iterated that you are always asked if you yourself live in the city and feel safe and she explains she does; lots has happened and you do still feel safe but you must always be aware.</p> <p>JE iterated that there are community safety managers across the country and our city is seen as a relatively safe city. We are concerned about the use of knives, etc. Looking at multi agency plan to buy knife wands and get nurses/doctors working with the schools showing people the consequences of knife crime. There is also to be a Knife Crime</p> |                      |





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| Campaign across Merseyside. Also developing work around vulnerable people in the night time economy, including sexual exploitation and recognising men being victims in the night time economy. Door staff and front line police are aware of the signs. |                      |
| <b>7. <u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b><br>Wed. 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at 10am (FACT, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor).  |                      |