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BEESTON COMMUNITY FORUM

Beeston Forum General Meeting - 1st May 2014

Agenda

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Guest Speakers- James Bailey and Dean Stratton, White Rose Shopping Centre
4. Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Forum held on Thursday 3rd April 2014
5. Police Report
6. Report of the subgroup dealing with a Neighbourhood Plan for Beeston
7. Report of Committee meeting held on Thursday 17th April 2014
8. Correspondence
9. Any Other Business

Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Community Forum held on Thursday 3rd April 2014

Attendance:- Christine Thornton (in the chair), Mr. J.K. Adamson, K. Adamson, Mr. R. Almond, Mr. W.J. Birch, Mr. D. Blackburn, Mrs. J. Blackburn, Mr. D.C. Bottomley, Mrs. D. Brooke, Mr. K. Burton, Mrs. S. Burton, Mrs. R. Casserley, Mr. S. Casserley, Mr. J. Cunningham, Mr. S. Francis, Mr. J. Hodgson, Mr. J. Hook, PCSO K. Johnson (West Yorkshire Police), Miss P. Johnson, Mrs. D. Kenny, Mr. A. Kirby, A. McGrath, Mr. M. Parry, Mr. F. Swift, Mr. G. Turton, Mr. P. Whitehead and Mr. R.J.W. Winfield **When the minutes of were considered for approval at the following meeting, it was noted that Edna Newton and Councillors David Congreve and Angela Gabriel each attended the meeting**

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks- Christine Thornton welcomed those present to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. She noted that as Mary Mason, who normally serves in the kitchen was unwell, Doris Brooke would be on her own and would therefore require assistance
2. Apologies for absence were received from Mary Dinsdale, John Fenton, Mary Mason, Rev. Lindsey Pearson and John Peckham
3. Christine Thornton introduced the guest speaker, Yvette Sheldon, of West Yorkshire Trading Standards.
 - 3.1 She noted that she works specifically in education and community engagement and is not directly involved in enforcement, for example, the prosecution of offenders. She is part of a team which seeks to educate people about unsavoury business practices and stop them falling victims to scams. Within the team, there are a number of projects. Yvette Sheldon noted that she is part of a financial fitness project which has attracted funding from the South and Outer East Leeds Area Committee. The project offers people who are being paid less money as a result of reductions in benefits help in managing money. There is also a focus on scams and the rights of people when buying goods and services. The aim is to prevent individuals losing money as a result of a lack of awareness of their rights.

Yvette Sheldon explains that she has a leaflet explaining five workshops including :-

- i) scams

- ii) Welfare Reform including the changes which were made last year , notably the replacement of the Disability Living Allowance by Personal Independence Payments
- iii) Consumer Rights- In this connection Yvette Sheldon noted that there are some myths in connection with rights. She noted that there are some shop signs , for example 'no refunds' , 'no return of sale items' which are misleading. The aim of the workshop is to dispel myths

There is also a session advising residents as to how to get the best deal from energy companies, and energy efficiency (for example, turning down heat by one degree can save 10% on energy bills. It is also intended to point people in the direction of free energy efficiency measures , such as those promoted by the Green Doctor. Information is also given as to how to switch supplier.

Yvette Sheldon added that some workshops being with the taste test in which people are asked to taste branded and unbranded goods and are then asked which they prefer. People are often surprised by the price differential.

Yvette Sheldon noted that she recently saw a newspaper article about a prosecution for a computer scam. This involves a business contacting a computer owner saying that they are from Microsoft , saying that there is a problem with the computer and explaining the supposed risks if the owner does not allow them to 'help'. Additionally, there are also some staff selling software which is actually available free of charge. The scam involves the use of call centres in India, but the offender was tracked to Luton , UK. Yvette Sheldon added that some scams involve the installation of spyware on the computer. Thus, it is possible for criminals to obtain details of computer users' online banking, online shopping and paypal account details. She advised members of the Forum not to engage with people if they have any doubts. If anyone has concerns, they should carry out research. She noted that there is a sheet with appropriate contact details.

Yvette Sheldon noted that two people set up businesses which are designed to look like government organisations. When the phrase 'passport renewals' is typed into google, this bogus business comes up. Yvette Sheldon noted that a private company checks personal details of passport or driving licence applicants and submits them to the DVLA or passport agency. In the case of this scam, many people wrongly believed that they had accessed an official government website. They were then charged more than they had expected to be charged. Yvette Sheldon noted that search engines such as google give the highest listings to organisations prepared to pay the most. She added that this issue has received extensive press coverage recently. She noted that the search engines had recently taken action since the bogus passport renewal company is now listed seventh in a google search. She added that the Advertising Standards Authority is unhappy about the conduct of this company. The website did not make clear that they offer only a submitting and checking service. It was felt that a person using the company's services could be caught out if they are in a hurry. She pointed out that any genuine government website will have gov.uk as part of its address; the websites used by the company which she had described do not.

Yvette Sheldon then referred to the bank card courier scam, in which individuals receive phone calls which pretend to be from the bank or card issuer claiming that their card has been used overseas. They claim that someone will need to take the card as part of the investigation of this matter. People who put the phone down and then ring back get through to the scammers, not the bank. The card holder is asked to type the PIN number onto the telephone keypad. Yvette Sheldon pointed out that the act of pressing a button on the telephone keypad makes a specific noise which enables the scammers to identify the PIN number. The scammers then send a courier to collect the card , informing the card holder that a new card would be issued. In fact, no new card is issued and the card holders bank account is emptied.

A further scam involves second hand mattresses. Scammers obtain ten year old mattresses from rubbish tips. The mattresses are then given new covers and sold as new door to door. These mattresses give rise to hygiene concerns , as well as concerns about non-compliance with fire regulations.

Yvette Sheldon noted that distraction burglaries are carried out by people claiming to be officials of Yorkshire Water. She pointed out that identification badges can be copied or stolen from Yorkshire Water. Such badges will also include a fraudulent telephone number; people dialling the number will get through to an associate of the burglars, rather than to Yorkshire Water. She suggested that people should get the telephone number of companies such as Yorkshire Water from the telephone directory.

3.2 The meeting then opened up to questions and comments from the floor. Ken Burton noted that there are scammers who send e mails explaining that the recipient is being fined for illegal parking. One stated that the recipient was being fined £70 for parking across gates and this would rise by a further £40 if it is not paid within 14 days. There is also an attachment to the e mail which corrupts computer data if it is opened. Yvette Sheldon noted that she recently received an e mail, ostensibly from Tesco, which did not address her by name but referred to her as a 'valued customer'. The e mail offers recipients £60 for taking part in a survey , but in fact has an attachment which can install spyware on the recipients computer. She noted that authentic e mails from Tesco address customers by name.

3.3 Greg Turton noted that at 9.30 a.m each morning, he receives a phone call inviting him to take part in a survey. PCSO Kirsty Johnson stated that individuals can prevent unsolicited telephone calls by registering with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS). Robert Winfield noted that he is an employee of a market research firm. He pointed out that although Market Research is commonly associated with selling, market research firms which are members of the Market Research Society are strictly prohibited from any activities which involve selling or marketing. Anyone who has any doubts as to whether a caller claiming to be from a Market Research Firm is genuine can contact the Market Research Society. Robert Winfield added that the TPS does not prohibit all unsolicited calls, only calls where the intention of the caller is selling or marketing. Thus, market research calls are not prohibited by the TPS , a fact which Robert Winfield

explained is stated very clearly on the TPS website. Robert Winfield added that a market research firm would not telephone an individual who has previously made clear to them that they would not wish to participate in research.

3.4 Edna Newton referred to a buy one get one free offer for shoes. She was told to obtain the pair from another place as the original supplier had gone out of business. She wrote to both suppliers and obtained a refund.

3.5 John Hook noted that he had eliminated 98% of unsolicited phone calls by switching his regular phone to an answer phone mode. A member of the audience wondered whether anyone has encountered problems with continuous payments after buying something at a reduced price. It was noted that this issue has been mentioned on the BBC Watchdog Programme. It was noted that the RAC had sent out an offer for 50% off the price of breakdown cover. After the first year, it was noted that they could charge what they want. It is not possible to exit the arrangement without their position. Yvette Sheldon said that she could not comment about this situation as she is unaware of it. She said that such terms are normally included in small print. It is normally possible to get out of such agreements but this depends on the precise terms and conditions. Richard Bell noted that he had been unable to cancel a continuous authorisation with a credit card. A member of the audience who had taken out a credit card with Saga was offered the chance to make the arrangement continuous but declined. Yvette Sheldon noted that any agreements which had been taken out by telephone are accompanied by a cooling off period during which the consumer can cancel the contract without penalty .

3.6 Rosemary Casserley noted that she had been trying to renew her car insurance. She looked on the renewal which stated that there had been no claims for eight years. In fact, the period during which there had been no claims was considerably longer. The company which took over her car insurance said that they had no claims for only five years. She asked what she could do. Yvette Sheldon said that the matter could be raised with the Financial Ombudsman Service. She added that Trading Standards had not received intelligence about this matter. Richard Bell noted that insurance companies lock people in and make it harder to move.

3.7 A member of the audience asked whether a person who places an order online can return the item to a retail shop owned by the same firm if it is found to be defective. Yvette Sheldon said that this depends on the terms and conditions. The member of the audience had ordered a Playstation online. She returned the item to a shop and was told that they cannot accept the return because the contract is with Sony, the manufacturers. Yvette Sheldon noted that a consumer has certain rights under the Sale of Goods Act, from the seller. Bill Birch noted that a friend had brought a dress in a store in a town which is not her town. When she took it back to the store in her home town , the store refused to accept it. He asked whether this is okay. Yvette Sheldon said that this depends on the Terms and Conditions. Sometimes, it is made clear that returns may only be made to the actual shop from which the item was purchased. However, if a large high street store attempts to enforce such a requirement, this might be considered to be an unfair contract term.

3.8 Rosemary Casserley noted that she had been telephoned by Virgin Media asking whether she would like to take up a particular offer. Within one month, the price had increased. It was stated in the small print that Virgin Media could increase their prices whenever they wish. Yvette Sheldon suggested contacting the consumer advice line. A term in the contract could potentially be considered to be unfair.

3.9 Christine Thornton wondered whether the Forum would wish to book a workshop with Trading Standards. Yvette Sheldon noted that funding would run out at the end of June. It was agreed to arrange a workshop in the evening.

4. The minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on Thursday 6th February 2014 were accepted as a fair and accurate record of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising- Bill Birch asked for an update in relation to the planning application for the Ice Pak site. Councillor David Congreve noted that the application has been withdrawn. He noted that this situation normally happens when a developer learns that the application is likely to be refused. Robert Winfield read an e mail from Jillian Rann who dealt with the planning application. She explained that having received some additional information that the applicants provided a few weeks ago in relation to the proposed use and concerns raised by highways, she spoke to the applicant's architect and advised that highways still had significant concerns about the scheme and it was consequently her intention to recommend the refusal of the application to the plans panel. She explained that after further discussion, they had withdrawn the application. She added that she had been advised that the applicants would like the opportunity to submit a revised scheme at some time in the future, but would like the opportunity to discuss revised plans before doing so . Jillian Rann added that she will advise them of the need to ensure that local residents are consulted as part of any revisions to the proposals and that she would keep ourselves and ward members updated. David Congreve noted that he had received a similar e mail. A member of the audience asked whether any of the original objections would apply if a revised planning application is submitted. David Congreve said that one would think that Aspiring Communications would have to submit a planning application on a smaller scale. Any application would go through the process and anyone wishing to object would need to object again. He noted that any developer whose application is refused has the right of appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. John Hodgson noted that Aspiring Communities have stated, both in the Press and on South Leeds Life, that they would wish to go ahead with some development of the site. He noted that as the original planning application had been submitted in November 2013, they would be able to apply again at no expense until November, 12 months after the original application. He added that Aspiring Communities have said that they will have consultation. He said that the Forum should make people aware of the situation and reinforce their objections on the basis that the development envisaged would be in the wrong place. He said that Aspiring Communities seem to believe that they can do what they want. He suspected that a planning application might be submitted in August. He noted that if Aspiring Communities have stated publicly that if they are knocked back, they would repeatedly lodge planning applications for the site. He noted that the proposals are opposed by locals but feared that they

would get through on the blind side. Richard Bell said that we must be careful about talking about objections to a planning application when we do not know what they now wish to do

6. Minutes of the Forum meeting held on 6th March 2014. John Hodgson noted that he had congratulated Leeds United FC, the Forum, and our councillors for providing bins in the area. He noted that if this had not occurred, the provision of bins in the area would have been minimal. He added that he has pictures of bins which we no longer have. He noted that Tom Smith had said that Leeds City Council has no money for bins. He congratulated the organisations to which he referred. It was agreed to accept the minutes, as amended as a fair and accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

7. Police Report. PCSO Kirsty Johnson noted that there had been three handbag snatches in the area in the past few weeks. This had been reported in the Yorkshire Evening Post and E fits of the suspects had been published. No one had been caught yet, but it was hoped that someone would recognise the suspects. It was noted that two of the handbag snatches had occurred on Town Street; one in the area of the Church/Co-op; the other on Back Lane. Richard Bell wondered whether the crimes had been committed by the same person; the pictures look similar. He also wondered whether the police have a specific suspect in mind. Kirsty Johnson said that the police do not have a suspect in mind. Kirsty Johnson added that with regard to other crimes, there had been seven burglary dwellings in the past month compared with 20 in the same period last year. A member of the audience asked what the clear up rate for this is. Kirsty Johnson said that she does not have the relevant detail. Christine Thornton noted that her next door neighbour had been burgled. Kirsty Johnson said that the detail of how the burglars entered the houses was different in each case. She noted that all the break ins had occurred through doors, windows and cellars; for example, in one instance, the burglar had inserted a screw driver into a set of patio doors and snapped the lock. Kirsty Johnson added that there had been 15 burglaries from buildings such as sheds and garages this month. She noted that it seems that the thieves are looking for cycles, and urged forum members to secure them in some other way. If a shed contains nothing of value it can be left unlocked. She added that the police have a supply of shed alarms. Doris Kenny noted that her son had had his bicycle stolen recently. John Cunningham wondered whether it might be possible to get photographs of suspects onto the notice board at the Co-op, as many people do not see such photographs in the Yorkshire Evening Post. Kirsty Johnson remarked that the Co-op notice board had been moved into a corner, whilst Asda do not permit the display of notices not authorised by the company. Christine Thornton suggested displaying such photographs in doctors surgeries and church halls. Richard Bell wondered where the thieves are offloading bikes. He wondered whether they are selling them on. Kirsty Johnson said that she suspects that they spray the bikes and move them to a different part of Leeds. When the police stop people riding bikes they check which bikes people are using. She added that many people do not record bike serial numbers so that when a bike is stolen the police have nothing to go on except the description. It is thus impossible to return the bike to the owner, as it is impossible to prove ownership of the bike. It is thus important to retain serial numbers. Kirsty Johnson was asked whether the houses which were burgled were alarmed. It was noted that Leeds has a motorway system. Kirsty Johnson noted that generally houses which are burgled do not have alarms and pointed out that alarms deter burglars. Burglars are looking for easy targets; if anyone seems to have an awareness of security, for example stickers saying that items of property are police protected, the burglars will go elsewhere. There are also fewer burglaries of houses with dogs. She added that a number of burglaries occur as a result of breaking into windows. Sash jammers, which can be bought for around £3. Roy Casserley asked whether the police have checked bicycle recycling shops. He noted that he had taken a couple of bicycles to a shop in Headingley, which offered a small amount for them. It was also noted that Kirklees Council renovate bicycles and have advertised this service on television. Kirsty Johnson said that anyone concerned about their security can get a visit from a PCSO although this would not necessarily happen the next day. Doris Brooke wondered whether the thefts of bicycles are occurring over a wide area, or whether they are clustered. Kirsty Johnson said that bicycle thefts are occurring over a wide area. Christine Thornton asked about the location of burglaries. Kirsty Johnson said that these had taken place on Town Street, Cross Flatts Row, Cross Flatts Avenue, Parkwood Road and two burglaries on Allenby Road. None of the burglaries were easy; there are always improvements to security which can stop break ins. Rosemary Casserley noted that she is a resident of the Southleigh Estate where a neighbourhood watch scheme had been set up. Kirsty Johnson said that anyone wishing to set up a neighbourhood watch scheme can contact the police. Participants can obtain attachments to lampposts, and stickers on windows both of which deter burglars. Additionally, participants receive a weekly e mail describing crime types including burglary and how the burglars secured access to the property. She added that there is an increase in the number of people noticing crimes when there are gypsies in the area. It is more difficult for criminals to sell scrap metal as those selling scrap metal are now required to produce photo ID, and to have the proceeds of sale paid into a bank account, rather than in cash. There had been a theft of bronze from an industrial estate on Dewsbury Road. The thief was caught as he had traded it in with photo ID. Rosemary Casserley noted that she had been advised to double lock doors and not to walk down ginnels. She said that we should reclaim communities rather than allowing criminals to have the run of the area.

Christine Thornton noted that there had been an increase in children riding on motorcycles in Cross Flatts Park. She had noted such a bicycle coming out of a ginnel on Cross Flatts Park leading to Robb Street. The child involved looked around 14 or 15 years of age and was riding a bike, not a quad. Kirsty Johnson said that if anyone sees nuisance motor bikes, on a road or in the park, they should ring the non-emergency police number. She noted that there are two off-road bikes dedicated to South Leeds

8. Report of Subgroup dealing with Neighbourhood Plan for Beeston. Christine Thornton noted that she and Greg Turton had recently attended a Neighbourhood Planning Conference. As a result of advice given at the Conference those attending the Forum are being asked to complete a form with details of their age, sex and postcode. Greg Turton noted that a decision had been taken to expand the membership of the subgroup so as to include all members of the Committee, due to the volume of work which the process had generated. The expanded subgroup had met the previous evening. Greg Turton noted that he had attended a meeting on 11th March in relation to the grant application. He noted that he had been required to give information about certain matters. He noted that if the grant

is awarded, the money would have to be spent before December. He suspected that this is due to the General Election. He had applied for precise sums of money totalling £2940. It is necessary for the money to be held by an incorporated body (which the Beeston Forum is not) on our behalf. He noted that the planning conference was wonderful. Sessions had taken place between 9am and 6pm. He noted that he and Christine Thornton were able to access all aspects of the neighbourhood planning process. They had each attended useful workshops and engaged in networking. He had spoken to a person from Tottenhall, Wolverhampton whose neighbourhood plan is at the referendum stage, and who had undertaken a lot of work with schools and Jennifer Kirkby, the project manager for Aireborough's neighbourhood plan. He had also spoken to people from County Durham, Altrincham and Hackney. On the second day of the conference, he visited a housing development at Derwenthorpe on the outskirts of York. This is a mixture of social and private housing with no separation between the two run by the Joseph Rowntree Trust. He added that Christine Thornton had seen a different aspect of the scheme; she went around the houses. Greg Turton looked at the energy aspects of the scheme, notably a biomass boiler. Residents are charged 10% less than they would be charged by the big 6 energy companies. The company is only permitted to make 12% profit. Any more is ploughed back into the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, although not necessarily on that site.

Greg Turton then spoke about the organisational plan for the subgroup. He noted that the subgroup had used the same model since it was established in July 2013. The Neighbourhood Area was designated in February 2014. He explained that the new structure would involve strategic leads. Richard Bell would be responsible for the website and leaflet design. Greg Turton would co-ordinate with the Department of Communities and Local Government and Leeds City Council, and be responsible for processing the documentation, particularly the constitution which would need to be drawn up when we apply for the designation of the Beeston Neighbourhood Forum. Mark Parry would be responsible for publicity. He would send out leaflets and letters to the community and pick up on community engagement. Christine Thornton would be the strategic lead for community engagement. The remaining members of the committee would be able to assist. It was noted that the first stage of a project plan had been drawn up, since when Mark Parry has made the information more accessible. This shows what we should do in a particular order. The neighbourhood plan logo would be used on all posters going out to shops. These would also show that the Beeston Forum is sponsoring the Neighbourhood Plan. The subgroup had examined the possibility of advertising on bus shelters but concluded that this would be too expensive. Instead it was intended to produce community updates to place in shops. People would be able to collect these and see what is going on. There would be letters to shops accompanied by the leaflet, and a poster, which could be displayed, with letters to schools. It is intended to start gathering the names of people who are interested in serving on the Neighbourhood Forum. When we apply for the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum in 2 to 3 months time we would need to send in the details of people interested who could be residents, or connected with businesses and voluntary organisations. It is intended that there will be such a register at the next meeting of the Forum. Those interested would be asked to say how they qualify for membership of the neighbourhood Forum (i.e. a local resident, carrying on business in the area etc). There would be no commitment to attend all the meetings of the Neighbourhood Forum, just to play a part. Greg Turton noted he had been involved in discussions with Galina Yukova who is employed by East Street Arts as a community worker who works in Beeston and Holbeck. She wanted to know about the plan and had a lengthy discussion about the consultation process. Greg Turton noted that her boss would be attending the next meeting of the Committee. Roy Casserley asked when the Neighbourhood Plan would start if everything goes to plan. Greg Turton noted that the plan could go through consultation in September 2014 although this view is possibly optimistic. It was noted that two months had been wasted on the designation of the area and he observed that there would be no purpose in having the necessary referendum in the summer as many people would be away. Angela Gabriel said that it was hoped that the referendum on the Holbeck Neighbourhood Plan would take place on the day of the General Election in May 2015. Greg Turton noted that it was hoped that this would happen with the Beeston Neighbourhood Plan. Angela Gabriel noted that discussions about the Holbeck Neighbourhood Plan had been taking place for two years and that Beeston is doing very well with its discussions. Richard Bell noted that the plan is only legitimate when agreed by the referendum, and felt that the referendum must fit in with other elections. Greg Turton suspected that Leeds City Council would bear the costs of the referendum and examination, and might give us a directive. Greg Turton added that other ways of funding the process were being examined. He noted that he had spoken to a woman from Locality dealing with the grant application. He noted that the grant must be used by December. He observed that neighbourhood planning is supported by all three major political parties. Seven neighbourhood plans had passed the referendum stage whilst 800 plans were in the pipeline.

9. Report of Committee meeting held on 20th March 2014. Christine Thornton noted that there had been a discussion about the Neighbourhood Plan; the substance of the discussion had been dealt with by Greg Turton in his report. It was noted that Bensons Funeral Services had offered their services as a guest speaker at a future Forum meeting. A vote was taken in which seven members of the Forum supported inviting them whilst nine members opposed this. It was noted that South Leeds Community Radio, in partnership with an organisation named Think Big South Leeds are promoting and showcasing volunteering opportunities. It was noted that meetings of the users committee for the community centre had stopped, at least in the short term as Brian Pine, the Facilities Manager for Health for All (Leeds) which leases the building from Leeds City Council, had left Health for All. It was noted that Bill Birch had raised concerns about the Leeds City Council Planning Department looking at planning applications for Beeston individually, rather than cumulatively. It was noted that Edna Newton had given the Forum £150 from the proceeds of the raffle, that International Fun Fairs had made a donation and the Councillors had made a donation to the Forum from MICE money. There had been a discussion about the recent consultation meeting involving De Puy. It was noted that the Head Teacher of Hugh Gaitskell School would like the Beeston Village Community Centre building to be used as a nursery for two year olds. Angela Gabriel expressed strong opposition to this. **When the minutes were considered for approval at the following meeting, Angela Gabriel emphasised that this idea was opposed by all the councillors but felt that the minutes, as drafted might convey the misleading impression that the other councillors were not opposed to the idea.**

10. Correspondence. Robert Winfield noted that there is one item of correspondence not already dealt with. Robert Winfield had

received a letter from Philip Bartram of Asda Stores Limited regarding their plans for the site on Old Lane. Philip Bartram noted that outline planning permission for the store had been granted in June 2013, since when Asda had been working to finalise certain details of the scheme. Philip Bartram confirmed that a Reserved Matters planning application is being submitted to Leeds City Council. He reminded us that the plans involve a new store with 20484 square feet of space with a 195 space car park on the site of the existing store. This will greatly increase choice and competition for local consumers as well as creating up to 140 new job opportunities for local people.

11. Any Other Business

11.1 John Hodgson wondered whether there had been any developments in relation to the large wagon which had been entering and leaving the Ice Pak premises. Robert Winfield acknowledged that he had not yet written a letter about this matter. It was noted that the wagon was carrying steel. A member of the audience wondered whether planning regulations were being infringed and wondered whether someone can contact the Planning Department about this. David Congreve noted that anyone can raise issues with the Planning Department if they feel that regulations are being infringed.

11.2 Roy Casserley noted that he had raised the state of the gardens at Ring Road Beeston Park meeting which had been attended by Tom Smith of Leeds City Council. He wondered what the outcome of discussions about this matter is. David Congreve noted that there had been a litter pick on the site, and had written to the Chair of the Southleigh Residents Association in relation to the matter. He had also expressed the view that the beds on the garden are unkempt; the daffodils take too long to die and are an obstacle to grass cutting. He felt that crocuses would be a lot better. He noted that when traffic lights had been installed in the area, this had made it a much better junction for the Southleigh Estate. Before that, it had been a nightmare. He explained that he is waiting for Tom Smith to revert to him in relation to the gardens.

11.3 A member of the audience raised the speed and the frequency of the Hunters buses travelling up Town Street. He noted that there are around a dozen such buses per day. He had phoned Barclays Bank and had been fobbed off; he had not given a satisfactory answer.

11.4 Doris Kenny raised the issue of the state of the site of Parklees, which she described as a disgrace. She explained that cans had been thrown down close to the far corner bench; additionally, on the far site of the site where no brown bins had been provided, people had been tipping rubbish. She noted that children aged around 16 to 17 had been slinging bottles and making the area look like a tip. Angela Gabriel said that she would arrange for litter pickers to visit the site. It was also noted that there is a grate 2 to 3 feet deep on the site with an open cover surrounded by grass. This was described as a trap and there were fears that an accident could occur. Angela Gabriel noted that the Asset Management Department of Leeds City Council are responsible. It was agreed that we would write to the Asset Management Department about this matter.

11.5 Rosemary Casserley wondered whether it would be possible for a Speed Indicator Device to be installed on Town Street

11.6 PCSO Kirsty Johnson noted that the police would be moving into their new Headquarters on 14th April

11.7 It was agreed to have a stall, with a table and two chairs at the Beeston Festival. This would be used to promote the Beeston Forum and the Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted that we would need people to man the stall