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BEESTON COMMUNITY FORUM

Beeston Community Forum- General Meeting 13th May 2010

Agenda

- 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Guest Speaker; Emma Rooney, Groundwork Leeds**
- 4. Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Community Forum on 1st April 2010**
- 5. Correspondence**
- 6. Report of Committee meeting - 15th April 2010**
- 7. Beeston Village Community Centre**
- 8. Possible community leaflet**
- 9. Beeston Festival Stall**
- 10. Raising the profile of the Forum**
- 11. Any Other Business**

Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Community Forum held on Thursday 1st April 2010

Attendance- Christine Thornton (in the chair), Mr R. Almond, Mr. R. Bell, Mrs. D. Brooke, Mr. K. Burton, Mrs S. Burton, Sgt. D. Chapman, PCSO Cockayne, Councillor A. Gabriel, A. Hepworth, R. Kitson, Mr. G.M. Mason, Mrs M.E. Mason, Mr. M. Parry, Mr. J. Peckham, Mrs E. Newton, Mr. F. Swift and Mr. R.J.W. Winfield

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks- Christine Thornton thanked those present for their attendance at the meeting

2. Apologies for absence were received from John Cunningham, John Fenton, Kathleen Fenton and Greg Turton

3. Guest Speaker- Christine Thornton welcomed Insp. Damien Miller of West Yorkshire Police. Insp Miller made a number of introductory remarks , before taking a number of questions from the floor. Amongst the issues raised were:-

- the activities of the Neighbourhood Policing Team
- burglaries and other theft

- Anti Social Behaviour
- The Policing Pledge
- Surveys of customer confidence and satisfaction
- locks on UPVC doors
- Proceeds of Crime Act
- traffic offences
- parking on match days

4. Sunnyview House- Christine Thornton noted that no representatives of Hadrian Healthcare, the operators of Sunnyview House, who had been invited as guest speakers, were present at the meeting. Christine Thornton, however said that she had been impressed with the building, and noted that the rent is £525 per week. Councillor Angela Gabriel said that she was disappointed that the local councillors had not been invited to the official opening of Sunnyview House, which had recently taken place. Robert Winfield noted that he had been asked by Hadrian Healthcare to pass on an invitation to the event to any representatives of the local community whom he felt should be invited, but pressure of work on his part had prevented him inviting anyone. He felt that Hadrian Healthcare should have invited the Councillors directly. Angela Gabriel said that the building makes Beeston Road look better , whilst John Peckham said that the building had enhanced Beeston Road. Richard Bell wondered who can afford £525 per week, and whether this is the actual cost of looking after someone. Angela Gabriel said that this is in fact one of the cheapest establishment of this type, the issue was currently being debated in Parliament . She added that it is impossible to employ staff for less than £250 per week, and there are other costs, such as electricity.

5. Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Forum held on 4th March 2010. Robert Winfield apologised for not having stapled some of the agenda papers (on which the minutes were printed). He pointed out that he had produced the photocopies of the agendas immediately before the meeting. Difficulties in operating the lock on the building meant that there was insufficient time to staple the copies. Christine Thornton noted that the contact telephone number for the fire service had not been included in the minutes. The minutes were accepted as a fair and accurate record of the meeting.

6. Matters arising:-

6.1 Christine Thornton wondered whether Robert Winfield had written to Mr Roberts (paragraph 7.1 of the minutes). Robert Winfield explained that he had not yet done so.

6.2 Christine Thornton reminded members about the volunteering session (paragraph 7.4 of the minutes). Angela Gabriel pointed out that free tea and cakes would be served.

7. Correspondence-

7.1 Robert Winfield had received a copy of a letter sent by John Lawlor, the Chief Executive of NHS Leeds, to Hilary Benn, MP, regarding the provision of NHS Dentistry in Holbeck, Beeston and Hunslet. He explained that NHS Leeds has no plans to commission additional NHS dental places in these areas. He said that current levels of dental provisions in these areas do not indicated that they are underprovided for . Beeston and Holbeck has 1249 Units of Dental Activity (UDA) per 1000 population; the figure for City and Hunslet being 3309, compared to an average for the City of 1540. Mr Lawlor added that he recognises that these areas have oral health challenges and that it is part of their strategy to encourage better self care and overall oral health hygiene. He added that

Leeds NHS is continually monitoring demand for NHS dental services in all areas of the City through the dental advice line and are pleased to say that they are able to allocate all requests for dental treatment through the advice line to a dentist within a reasonable period of time. Mr Lawlor added that the NHS cannot restrict dentists who wish to go into private practice.

7.2 Christine Thornton had received an e mail forwarded by Councillor Angela Gabriel regarding the proposed road alterations at Tommy Wass junction. The e mail stated that the Chair of Beeston Community Forum had been invited to a meeting about this matter, but had not attended as a result of ill health. Christine Thornton noted that she had never been invited to such a meeting, nor had suffered from any 'ill health'.

8. Report of Committee meeting- 18th March 2010- Christine Thornton noted that the Committee had resolved to ask the Forum to make a £50 donation to SPLASH. It was noted that the Forum has £1125.56 in the bank. The donation was agreed. Councillor Adam Ogilvie pointed out that there is a sponsored swim at South Leeds Sports Centre on 24th April in order to raise funds and raise the profile of the SPLASH campaign. Christine Thornton added that the committee had discussed the affairs of the Beeston Village Community Centre Steering Committee. It was noted that the cupboards had been acquired. Mick Mason has two keys. It was noted that the sound system owned by the Forum which had not been used for some time, is currently at Christine Thornton's home. It was noted that Richard Bell had been thanked for his assistance in acquiring the cupboards. John Hodgson thanked Richard Bell and his employers (who had presented the cupboards to the Forum), John Hodgson also praised Victor Cardiss, who had given us a good deal on transport. Robert Winfield noted that he had, at Richard Bell's request, sent a letter of thanks to the facilities manager of his employers. Christine Thornton also noted that the committee had discussed a possible invitation to Pat McGeever, the Director of Health for All (Leeds) which holds the lease on Beeston Village Community Centre.

Christine Thornton noted that the committee had considered the flyer drafted by Greg Turton. Damien Miller suggested that the police could assist with the delivery of such a flyer. Angela Gabriel suggested that this be delayed until after the election because of the volume of leaflets being delivered by the various candidates.

9. Any Other Business-

9.1 Christine Thornton referred to the recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Renewal Residents Forum, at which those attending had received an update on the demolition in the area , and had also dealt with flytipping hotspots and bus routes in the area

9.2 Robert Winfield wondered whether anyone had any issues which could be raised at the next meeting of the Beeston Village Community Centre Steering Committee which would take place on 15th April. No issues were raised

9.3 Richard Bell queried the relocation of the polling station in his area. Angela Gabriel pointed out that the present administration of Leeds City Council had reduced the number of polling stations.

9.4 Robert Winfield explained that he had recently had contact from Councillor Gareth Beevers of Morley Town Council (which is legally a Parish Council) , who had expressed strong support for the efforts to set up a Parish Council in Beeston and had offered to attend a meeting of the Parish Council steering committee.

9.5 Richard Bell noted that the potholes on Old Lane are quite bad, and pointed out that there is a form on the Leeds City Council website to report potholes. He had used the form for reporting a pothole, which was fixed next day. He noted that once the council is aware

of a pothole, they are legally responsible for any damage resulting from it.

9.6 John Hodgson suggested that the Forum should consider affiliating to the National Pensioners Convention at a cost of £30. He noted that there is a national body, as well as an area organization covering Yorkshire and Humberside.