

**NOTES OF SENIOR PERSONS COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2006**

**Present:**

Alan Smith  
Carole Duffy  
Jane Hobbs  
John Hills  
Jim Cox  
John Dean  
Scheu-Ching Dean  
Joyce Narborough  
Frank Bockling  
Bryan Sunderland  
Nina Smith

Jean Agate  
Dorthea Cotton  
Bob Smith  
Connie Lucien  
Betty Ogdon  
Betty Whittonme  
Lesley Ainslie  
Julie Stone  
Matt Dakakni  
Douglas Banks

**Also present:**

Veronica James (Horsham District Age Concern), Shelley Denman (Horsham District Council), Clare Ebelewicz (Horsham District Council), Gill Daniel (Horsham District Council)

**Apologies:**

Ann Smith, Carole Stokes, Miss Lawson, Cllr Mrs Lyth, Mr Morris, Eve Matschy, Margery Hewitt, Mr and Mrs Cottis, Brenda Soltysik

**1. NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2005**

The notes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2005 were agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING FROM NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

- Mr Hills still had not received a response to his letter regarding public conveniences. **Shelley to chase.**
- Alan Smith advised the group that the old table tennis table at Broadbridge Heath Leisure Centre had now been replaced. **Shelley to thank Steve Hawker for picking this up.**

**3. DISCUSSION TOPIC: SAVING ENERGY AND REDUCING BILLS**

Gill Daniel, the Council's Environmental Co-ordinator had asked to attend the meeting to inform the group about the work that the Council was doing to try and encourage residents to save energy and reduce

their fuel bills. She also wanted to seek the group's views about the best way of communicating energy saving messages to residents.

A House condition survey which had recently been undertaken had found that a significant number of pensioners were living in energy inefficient homes. In order to address this efforts were being made to encourage people to install cavity wall and loft insulation. It was noted that Government grants were available for some energy efficiency improvements but that some measures, such as installing central heating were means tested.

The Council was also required to put together a programme of activities to disseminate information to residents. This included:

- sending out letters about energy efficiency with the flu vaccine reminders
- having stands at exhibitions such as the Life is for Living event
- writing articles for magazines and speaking at meetings
- giving out low-energy lightbulbs

Representatives had the following ideas for getting the message out to other residents:

- posting information with Council tax notices
- using Parish Council newsletters
- getting people to visit 'target' homes
- libraries, doctors surgeries and post offices were thought to be good places to leave information
- District nurses and organisations that visit/deal with older people could be asked to distribute information
- Representatives in villages could be trained to be 'energy efficiency agents' who could then visit people in their area

Gill said that she was currently putting together an information leaflet and asked whether anyone would be interested in looking at it before she sent it out. **Brian Sunderland, Nina Smith and Alan Smith agreed to do this.**

**If anyone wanted to contact Gill they could do so by calling 01403 215281.**

### **3. FIRST ANNIVERSARY NEWSLETTER**

The group had now been meeting for a year and a newsletter summarising what the group had achieved had been compiled. It was agreed that this would be circulated to Parish Councils and District Councillors to raise the profile of the group. **Shelley to action.**

### **4. IDEAS FOR THE NEXT JOINT YOUTH COUNCIL/SENIOR PERSONS COUNCIL MEETING**

Shelley advised the group that the youth council wanted to take pictures to illustrate Horsham through their eyes which could then be used to form a collage that could be displayed in various locations. It was suggested that some of the Senior Persons' Council might like to carry out a similar exercise so that two pieces of art would be produced that could be displayed together.

**Brian, Carole Duffy and Joan Dean said that they would like to be involved in the project. Shelley agreed to arrange a meeting with members of the youth council so that they could discuss their ideas together.**

## **5. IDEAS FOR PROJECTS/ACTIONS/DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR 2006**

It was considered that key topics for this year would be:

- lobbying registered social landlords to get on-site wardens in sheltered housing schemes
- information about how to claim welfare benefits / CAB and Age Concern
- Someone from the PCT to answer questions on the health service and the dental service.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Veronica advised the group that there had recently been an incident of bogus callers pretending to be visitors from Age Concern. It was noted that no genuine Age Concern visitors would call before making an appointment.

Clare distributed copies of the leaflet which had been produced listing Community Transport schemes in the District.

## **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the meeting should be held on **3<sup>rd</sup> May 2006**.