



**Outer East Area Committee
Minutes from Halton Moor & E.Osmondthorpe Forum
16 July 2013
Held at Halton Moor Community Centre**

Present:

Cllr Katherine Mitchell (Chair), Cllr Mick Lyons, PC Ian Phillips, PCSO Luke Toplis, PCSO Matt Rogerson, (WYP), David Davenport (Wyke Beck Forum/Dunhills Flood Action), Kevin Townend (Osmondthorpe Lane), Diane Gill (Save Our Homes), Gladys Townend (Save our Homes & Environment), Sylvia Marsh (resident), Simon Norman (SE Locality Team) Coullin Meikle (Youth Service), Phil Underdown (LASBT), Amanda Douglas-Smith (ENEHL) Pete Mudge (LCC – South East Area Support Team, minutes)

Apologies: Cllr Cummins, Ron Bool, Simon Jordan,

Item	Welcome, introductions and apologies	Action
1.1	Cllr Mitchell welcomed everyone, checked people had signed in and the apologies were noted.	
2.0	PACT meeting (Police And Communities Together) – PC Phillips	
2.1	Compared with previous figures, crime in the Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe area is comparatively low with 7 ASB calls in each area including 1 race hate incident and 1 seized motorbike. There have been 5 drug incidents, 5 burglaries and 14 thefts from motor vehicles.	Police /All
2.2	There have been reports of youths on motorbikes congregating around the Lombard Street area.	
2.3	Priorities: Motorbikes and speeding on Osmondthorpe Lane.	
3.0	Minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2013	
3.1	Approved.	
4.0	Matters arising from those minutes	
4.1	Any matters arising will be covered in the meeting	
5.0	10 minute open floor	
5.1	Since the new contractors started, grass has become overgrown in land adjoining Neville Garth. Simon Norman will speak with the manager of that service (Simon Swift) to investigate and resolve.	SN / PM / GT
6.0	Neighbourhood Plan	
6.1	The Planning officer overseeing Neighbourhood Plans was unable to attend the meeting but said he will be happy to attend a future meeting if invited. In the meantime Peter Mudge was available to give an introduction to the Neighbourhood Plan process.	
6.2	Cllr Lyons said any Halton Moor Neighbourhood Plan should argue against homes building until better infrastructure is in place. He said another 44 homes were being sought near the leisure centre yet there	

6.3	is already a shortage of places in local primary schools. Cllr Mitchell outlined the process for developing a neighbourhood plan and that it needed 21 leaders from the local community to launch and develop a plan.	All
7.0	Environmental Services – Locality Working – Simon Norman	
7.1	There have been 113 service requests this quarter and 4 court orders, 14 litter fines, 7 for dog fouling, 10 hedge cutting requests and 7 waste in gardens needing removal. Discussions are also underway with takeaways to ensure they are properly disposing of waste from themselves and their clients.	SN SN/PM
7.2	The mechanical route for street sweeping has been changed from every 48 days to every 24 meaning streets get cleaned every 4 weeks.	
7.3	Q) The road behind the shops at Wyke Beck needs cleaning following its closure to traffic. A) Simon Norman will deal with this,	
7.4	The problem of bins being left on the roadway was raised and it was agreed to invite someone from the bin collection team to the next meeting. Simon said he will notify a colleague of the problem in the meantime.	
8.0	Youth Service – Coullin Meikle (Youth Work Manager)	
8.1	Work is being targeted into priority areas under the youth service restructure which is likely to include a shift from management to workers and for funding of general projects to be led through Area Committee.	CM
8.2	Youth Service is progressing the NCS (National Citizen Scheme) from central government which is said to ultimately bring benefits to this area.	
8.3	Cllr Lyons said he had been told a £500,000 activity fund had been presented to get people out featuring facilities at Fernville Leisure Centre. Cllr Lyons had told senior officers it was not appropriate for local residents to travel all the way to Fernville and there should be facilities available through Halton Moor Leisure Centre.	
9.0	ENE Homes – Amanda Douglas-Smith	
9.1	There are 37 voids in the entire East North East housing stock which equals 0,79% of ENE homes.	ADS/All
9.2	Currently the turnaround for properties is 30.03 days compared with the last quarter's figures of 41.52 days if they need major work and 39 days for less. Despite this reduction, ENE feel this is still too long and needs to be brought down further. An example of a situation needing resolving is when tenants leaving a property let someone stay there in the hope they will be moved up the priority list.	
9.3	Q) Cllr Lyons asked what is being done to reduce this figure? A) Properties are being advertised prior to expiration of notice, tenants are encouraged to let people see the property while they are still in it,	

	sign ups are now taking place in the same week as acceptance and mutual exchanges are gaining popularity in light of the welfare reform bill.	
9.4	<p>Walkabouts: Tenants are needed to join in the walkabouts to identify issues which need resolving. Tenant's champions are also needed to raise issues.</p> <p>Cllr Lyons said he and residents had turned up for a walkabout (before Amanda came to the area) and no officers attended.</p> <p>It was agreed better methods of communication will be adopted.</p>	ADS
9.5	<p>The government's Welfare Reform (generally known as the Bedroom Tax) has been in force since April 2013. ENE has a specialist officer available to help with any difficulties in addition to mutual exchanges.</p> <p>Leeds Housing has introduced some major solutions to problems raised by Welfare Reform and other parts of the UK are following Leeds' example.</p> <p>However there remains a great deal still to be done and much anxiety surrounds the next government measure under which benefits will be paid to the recipient who must then pay the Council.</p>	
10.0	AOB	
10.1	Cllr Lyons said the pop festival Cocoon in the Park has never previously caused issues but they seem to be arising this year with music going till nearly 11.30pm and no residents only parking barriers.	
11.0	Date of next meeting	
11.1	The next forum meeting will be on Tuesday 8 th October 2013.	All