

Farnley and Wortley Forum

Date: 10 July 2008 – Highfield Methodist Church

Present:

Chair: Cllr David Blackburn

Sam Woodhead (WL Area Management), Andrew Miller, GJ Manual, J Wildon, Andy Parnham, Cllr Ann Blackburn, Jez Watson (WYP), Helen Tipping (Strategic Design Alliance), Sue Wood (WNWHL), Christine Morton (Extended Schools Co-ordinator), Margaret McKean (Youth Service), Julie Moore (WYP).

		Action
1.0	Apologies: Cllr Luke Russell.	
2.0	Matters Arising	
2.1	Headcams are with the police now. Police are receiving training on how to use them. A member of the forum asked if there was any news on the withholding of building on Benson Gardens. Cllr Blackburn said that with the current climate, development is in progress but at a slower pace than anticipated, however, everything should progress as planned. Concerns were made by the forum members that the limited building may fall into extreme disrepair without building work. Cllr Blackburn stated it was in the developers' interest to make sure the building doesn't get too damaged, as they need to use the existing infrastructure and materials. Cllr Blackburn said he would keep residents informed of any progress and would mention the issue of missing tiles from the roof of the old school to the developer. Cllr Ann Blackburn to look into why stone boulders had been removed from near Chestnut Rise.	Cllr Blackburn Cllr A Blackburn
2.2	Cllr Blackburn said the issue with Blue Hill Crescent path has been resolved.	
3.0	Police issues	
3.1	Jez Watson introduced himself and said he normally covers Farnley but was happy to take any items back to his colleagues.	
3.2	Regarding the surgeries at St John's on Dixon Lane, the NPT are currently looking at where they are being held across the area. Cllr Blackburn said they would definitely continue, however venues are currently under review.	
3.3	Cllr Blackburn to speak with Inspector Horner about where the surgery can be advertised in the area.	Cllr Blackburn
3.4	The issue of parking on verges at the Connaught factory area was raised. Cllr Blackburn stated this was in hand. Sue Wood stated that Connaught do a lot of work for the ALMO, and therefore she would speak to them about resolving these issues and try and get the company to speak to some of the residents personally.	
3.5	Forum members raised the issue of parking on the pavements at the bottom of Benson Gardens. Cllrs Blackburn to raise this with Highways.	Cllr Blackburn
3.6	Cllr Blackburn raised the issue of restricted visibility at the bottom of Greenhill	

3.7	Lane near the mini roundabout. Highways will look into resolving this. Cllr Blackburn asked the police to look at the issue of lorries driving over the pavement and endangering pedestrians near the old police station at the top of Upper Wortley Road, and also asked if PCSO's could chase up the issue of parking on the pavement on Benson Gardens.	NPT
4.0	Housing	
4.1	Sue Wood – Neighbourhood Team Leader for Wortley Office introduced herself. Sue outlined her role and the area which she covers and invited any queries from the forum.	
4.2	Cllr Blackburn informed the meeting that each ALMO has any Area Panel who are soon to be matched up with Area Management / Ward member areas.	
4.3	Sue informed the meeting that Housing is run as an independent organisation of the Council, and that they are due to be inspected in September and the outcome of this inspection will determine how much money can be borrowed for investment.	
4.4	Sue also informed the meeting that tenants sit on the ALMO's Board and Panel, who ensure that any work in the area is sufficiently required within the community.	
5.0	Lower Wortley Road Improvement Plans	
5.1	Helen Tipping informed the meeting of the draft plans for Lower Wortley Road and Branch Road and stated that the rationale was to regenerate the area and give it an identity of its own.	
5.2	Christine Morton offered help with consultation in her role as Extended Schools Co-ordinator and design of artwork for Bull Ring. Sue Wood and Helen Tipping welcomed this suggestion.	
5.3	The forum suggested organising a competition to design an image for signposts etc, to give Lower Wortley an identity.	
5.4	The forum thanked Helen for her presentation.	
6.0	Extended Schools – Christine Morton	
6.1	Christine introduced herself as Extended Services Development Officer and described her role and how the Cluster Of Schools idea works: Five care offer – 1/ Responsibility is to provide child care 8am-6pm (includes breakfast club and after school clubs). To look at what is in the area and identify need. 2/ This summer have activities for all 5 weeks of holiday. 3/ Parenting and support eg computer courses: helping in schools course and in addition look at career and training opportunities. 4/ Swift access to services eg healthcare. 5/ Community access – making sure schools are available to community out of hours.	
7.0	Grotspots	
7.1	Sam Woodhead asked the forum to report any grotspots, an example being the old entrance to the school at the top of Benson Gardens, which has been reported to EAT.	
8.0	Tension Monitoring	
8.1	Sam Woodhead spoke of this item and asked the group to report any tension if they knew of any.	
9.0	AOB	
9.1	St Wilfreds No 5 bus stop – parking over gate of church. Cllr Blackburn to	Cllr

9.2	<p>Speak with PCSO about this.</p> <p>Issue of the bus to Bramley was raised – Cllr Blackburn advised that enquiries be made by writing to Steve Graham at Metro, to copy Cllr Blackburn into the letter and he will pursue the matter when he meets with Metro.</p>	<p>Blackburn Cllr Blackburn</p>
10.0	Future dates of forums	
10.1	<p>Cll Blackburn queried why the next meeting is not at Old Farnley and asked Area Management to check when the last one was held.</p>	<p>S Woodhead</p>
11.0	Future Forum Dates	
	Thursday, 10 July – to be arranged	
	Thursday, 25 September – New Farnley CC	
	Thursday, 27 November – Greenhill Primary School	