

Armley Community Forum
Date: 19th May 2009

Present: Cllr Harper(Chair), Cllr A Lowe, Cllr McKenna, H D Boutle, W Gregg, E Bowes, JK & JP Newsome , B & K Draper, M Bruce, A Willis, D Peck, B Holmes, G Atack, I Penman, J Waste, E Egan, J Gill, Wyn Jones (LCC), Mark Mills (LCC), Sally Dalton, M Hardcastle, D Smith, Mr & Mrs Richmond, F H Smyth , J Ramell , C Way (LCC), A Lamb, B & M Guthrie, P Kempster, J Ford, W Anderson, E & B Rayworth, S Charlton (LCC) , H Gardiner, West Yorkshire Police reps

		ACTION
1.00	Welcome	
1.01	Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting	
2.00	Apologies	
2.01	Mr Bruce, Mrs. Lend, Mr & Mrs Stead, Mr & Mrs Maynard, Dawn Newsome.	
3.00	Minutes of the last meeting	
3.01	5.01 – Third bullet point - A correction of the word ‘disposal’ which should read ‘dispersal’.	
3.02	Eighth bullet point – There were 3 incidents and 2 were reported to the Police.	
3.03	The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.	
4.00	Voting For Co-Optees for Area Committee and Armley Forum	
4.01	Sarah Charlton informed the meeting that nominations had been received for: Armley Forum Chair – Cllr Harper Armley Forum Vice Chair – Hazel Boutle Armley Forum Treasurer – Morgan Pugh Area Committee Co-Optees – Hazel Boutle and Morgan Pugh	
4.02	Cllr Harper thanked the meeting for the nominations, which were all agreed, and for electing her as Chair.	
5.00	Community Safety Update and Tension Monitoring – Local Policing Team	
5.01	Sgt John Glennon attended the meeting and gave an update on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Abbreviate – this operation has been ongoing for 18 months and focuses on drug misuse and prostitution around the high rise blocks in New Wortley, initially concentrating on the Clydes. There has been a total of 128 arrests throughout the process 	
5.02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Impact – This work focuses on the Wythers area and is being carried out in 4 phases. The first phase involved giving preventative crime advice in the community through the neighbourhood policing teams. This was carried out in early May and there was 9 arrests. The second phase works in particular with vulnerable victims including domestic violence and race hate crime victims. The third phase will be drugs action and lastly a vehicle initiative looking at all types of vehicle crime. 	
5.03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Champion – A 2 day crime prevention and awareness operation was carried out on the Aviaries and Salisburys. Over 300 door chimes were given out to residents which Police hope will reduce the sneak in burglary rates. 	
5.04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two crack house closures have been carried out recently for dealing Class A drugs. This had made a significant difference to the local communities. 	

5.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cedars Dispersal Order – This has been running for 3 months. Feedback from residents has been that an improvement has been noticed. Extra resources have been brought in to enforce the order. 	
5.06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture Houses – These are houses that are set up by the Police to tempt criminals, and include desirable goods such as laptops. The goods are trackable and when they are stolen the Police can trace the goods very quickly to the person who has stolen them. 	
5.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 8th – 14th will be a force wide drugs initiative. 	
5.08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle Crime – There has been a slight increase recently, however, some arrests have been made. 	
5.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics show that burglary and violent crime are down on last year, with anti social behaviour levels staying about the same. 	
5.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern was raised about parked cars at Nancroft Crescent causing an obstruction for bin wagons and emergency vehicles. Police to follow up. 	Police
5.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grasmeres - the issue of young people hanging around outside the sheltered housing was mentioned and was also raised at the PACT meeting. Police to follow up. 	Police
5.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armley Moor – reports of drinking during the day and evenings within the DPPO area. The Police noted that they would now be patrolling this area during the daytime as well as evening. The issue of signage about the DPPO was also raised, Sarah Charlton to follow up. 	Police Area Management
6.00	West Leeds Gateway – Mark Mills	
6.01	Mark Mills introduced himself as being a Project Manager from the City Projects Office working on the West Leeds Gateway.	
6.02	One of the key sites for the West Leeds Gateway work is 2 Branch Road (Mikes Carpets). Work has been ongoing for some time on this site which Leeds City Council is looking to acquire. It is a key location in Armley and should be a feature building which enhances the area, unfortunately it is not doing this at the moment.	
6.03	A number of alternative uses are being investigated including a possible enterprise centre which would include supported accommodation for start up businesses or small businesses. Other options include niche retail outlets and a restaurant facility.	
6.04	Mark will attend future forum meetings to give updates on the development of the West Leeds Gateway work.	
6.05	A question was raised about the issue of parking at 2 Branch Road. Mark noted that it was on a good public transport route and that if part of the building was used for restaurant use much of this custom would be in the evening when more parking was available locally.	
7.00	Streetlighting – Ian Moore	
7.01	Ian Moore introduced himself as being the streetlighting PFI contract manager from Leeds City Council. This project involves the replacement of over 51,000 streetlights around the city. A company called SEC are the delivery partners on this contract and have already replaced 34,000 streetlights.	
7.02	Work on replacing streetlights in Armley is due to start in late summer and will include the replacement of 3,200 lighting columns. The new lighting is a white light, not the traditional orange glow that is familiar in Leeds. There is less light pollution as the light is more focussed which often means that overall fewer columns are required.	
7.03	The replacement columns may be located in the same place that the old columns	

	were or may be in new locations. Each household will receive a leaflet through their door 2 weeks before the work starts, this will include a contact number for anyone with queries or concerns. The locations of the new columns will be marked on the footpath with a white mark. Following this a new column will be installed but the old column will not be removed until the new column is working. All footpaths will be reinstated to the same standard as prior to the new column being installed.	
8.00	Townscape Heritage Initiative – Wyn Jones	
8.01	Wyn Jones introduced himself as the Project Officer for the Townscape Heritage Initiative which is a 5 year project within the Armley Conservation Area which covers most phases of the town's development from the 17 th to the 20 th century. It will strengthen the heart of the town by repairing and replacing the shop frontages to commercial properties and reviving the Town Moor. This will help to complement the work planned under the Town and District Centres scheme, which focuses on improvements to public realm surrounding the THI targeted shops frontages. Shopkeepers will have to make a financial contribution towards the scheme if they wish to be involved	
8.02	A question was asked about maintenance of the rear of the shops, some of which are in poor condition. It was noted that enforcement are aware of this issue and are looking into it.	
9.00	AOB	
9.01	A question was asked about when the leisure centre was closing. Cllr Harper explained that it was due to close in July for 10 months whilst the new centre is being built.	
9.02	Anybody over the age of 60 who can play an instrument is welcome to attend the Citizens Orchestra held on Mondays between 3 and 5pm at the Interplay theatre building on Armley Ridge Road. Anyone who would like more information on this can contact Harry Hamer on 07976 900621.	
9.03	D Boutle noted that there were a number of locations where Highways cones and signage is being left on site after Highways work has finished. Anybody who wants to report similar issues can do so on 0113 222 44407.	
9.04	Armley Branch Road – consultation has been completed on the proposal to put up an 'access only' sign. The scheme is due to be approved by the end of May.	Highways
9.05	Hall Lane- Highways are looking into putting double yellow lines on the corners.	Highways
9.06	Strawberry Lane Field of Dreams – Work is due to start on this in the summer, all local residents will receive a letter explaining what works will be carried out.	
9.07	Church Road/ Coach Road – issue around parking outside the autistic society.	
9.08	A cul de sac sign has been ordered for half way up Station Road.	
9.09	Flowers for Armley – anyone wishing to put together a hanging basket can do so on Saturday 30 th May at Armley Moor.	
9.10	The next Area Committee meeting is on the 23 rd June, 5pm at Armley One Stop Centre	
10.00	Date & time of next meeting	
10.01	Tuesday 16th June, 7pm, Armley One Stop Shop	