

Farnley and Wortley Forum

Date: 11 June Lower Wortley Methodist Church

Apologies: Cllr A Blackburn

1.0 Previous Minutes:

1.1 Minutes were agreed as a correct record. No matters arising.

2.0 Police Issues / Community Safety

2.1 Unfortunately, the police did not attend the forum on this occasion

3.0 Housing WNW ALMO

3.1 Housing issues were dealt with as part of the Gambles Tenant & Residents Association meeting which occurred before the forum.

3.2 Cllr Blackburn stated that he has asked the police to not arrange PACT meetings on the same nights as forums where possible.

A resident requested the possibility of more police patrols on the estate. Residents raised their concerns about the number of burglaries in the area recently.

3.3 The issue of small attendances at PACT meetings was discussed, and queries made about how well publicised they are. Cllr D Blackburn stated that he was aware of the fact that the police had no additional budget to publicise these events.

4.0 Implementation of Brown Bins

4.1 Roger Foyle of Streetscene introduced himself, and asked the meeting if they thought the brown bins were worthwhile, the prevailing response to which was affirmative.

4.2 Roger pointed out that the brown bins are designed to take waste (garden) out from the black bins, in order to reduce landfill and create compost.

4.3 A resident asked if communal collection points could be arranged, as not each home will fill their bin monthly. Roger informed the meeting that, where current communal areas for black and green bins are in use, this could be looked into.

A resident raised the query of boxes being put into green bins whole at Gamble Hill Croft, thus reducing the space available for others. R Foyle to get a letter (reminder) sent to residents to squash their waste.

4.4 A resident asked how residents who don't have a brown bin or green recycle etc (those who live near steps) should dispose of waste. R Foyle said that unfortunately waste (brown bin) could not be put into bags (collection) as they ruin the load, ie it would be seen as contaminated. However, Roger did say that if these people contact Streetscene they can collect free of charge: the no is 2224406.

4.5 Cllr Blackburn asked when Roger envisaged the roll out of brown bins to those who can have them (space / garden). Roger confirmed that the department is currently nearing the end of the roll out.

Action

**Sam
Woodhead**

R Foyle

4.6 A resident asked if there is anything in a binman's contract stating that they can't wheel a bin. Roger confirmed that there is nothing to that effect in their contracts, however the binman who stated this to the resident probably meant that the contract states they cannot wheel a bin an unreasonable distance.

5.0 New Council Telephone Numbers

5.1 Nicola Grosvenor introduced herself to the meeting. Nicola told the meeting that the 0845 numbers for the council had gone, due to the fact that many people had inclusive telephone packages which meant that they were having to pay for what should be free phone numbers.

5.2 A more memorable no (2224444) has been set up for members of the public to contact the council.

5.3 Nicola left copies of the new numbers.

6.0 Grot Spot Areas

6.1 No issues were raised.

7.0 Tension Monitoring

7.1 No issues were raised.

8.0 AOB

8.1 A resident raised the issue of people who live alone in flats only getting the standard 25% discount on council tax when it is cheaper to provide service in one place. Cllr Blackburn stated this was government legislation.

8.2 A resident asked why two contractors are needed to cut the grass. Other residents stated that one was needed for the flat areas and one for the hills. Cllr Blackburn stated that it would probably have been better if each ALMO had prepared their own contract to pick up on differences in land.

8.3 A resident asked about the five trees on Wicks roundabout and why the roundabout had no sponsorship to make it attractive. Cllr D Blackburn to pursue this matter with the appropriate department.

**Cllr
Blackburn**