



Neighbourhoods & Housing Department
North East Area Management Team
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Harewood & Wetherby Town and Parish Council Forum
Thursday 21st July 2011 – Scarcroft Village Hall

Attendance:

Cllr Ann Castle	Harewood Ward Member – in the chair
Anna Turner	East North East Area Management
Tom Mycock	Thorner
Lesley Hoff	Shadwell
Gwen Brown	Thorner
Steven Wood	Thorner
Judith Pentith	East Keswick
Derek Armitage	Collingham with Linton
Gaynor Anning	East Keswick
Glyn Robins	Collingham
Debbie Potter	Shadwell
Chris Hassell	Barwick and Scholes
Nicholas Fawcett	Clifford
George Hall	SHLAA Partnership
David Thomson	Boston Spa
Ruth Reed	Aberford
Margaret Smith	Thorp Arch
Steve Morrith	Boston Spa
Marcus Griffiths	Wetherby Police
Dan Suckall	Harewood
Peter Hart	Scarcroft
Val Whitebread	Bramham
Kevin Vedman	Harewood
Graham Castle	Thorner
Paul C Thompson	Scarcroft
Janet Thornton	Rural Action Yorkshire
John Woolmer	Environmental Services
Cllr Mathew Robinson	Harewood Ward Member

Apologies:

Colin Pool, Linda Flockton, Barbara Ball, Ron Aitken, Paddy Procter,
Cllrs G. Wilkinson, A. Lamb, R. Procter, J. Procter

ACTION

1. Introductions made
2. **Apologies** given as above.
3. **Minutes of last meeting** agreed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising**
 - 4.1 Paul Thompson and Peter Hart to be added to apologies for the April meeting.
 - 4.2 Boundary negotiations are in progress.
Decided – parish councils to arrive at some decisions among themselves. Those suggestions to be sent to Area Management Office by the end of September to be used as a basis for future boundary changes.

Check – what should happen with non-parished land in the revision of boundaries.

All
 - 4.3 A1 (M) issues – clarification required from Cllr J. Procter

Area management (AM)
Cllr J. Procter
 - 4.4 Area delivery plan – a copy of refreshed Community Charter required by East Keswick. To be send out once councillors' photographs are added.

AM
5. **Participatory Budgeting (PB)**– Janet Thornton
 - 5.1 Janet explained the background and meaning of participatory budgeting. It is a democratic process of decision making on spending of a budget, involving local residents. It can refer to any amount of money designated for that purpose. Rural Action Yorkshire produced a toolkit, which is available on their website;
<http://www.ruralyorkshire.org.uk/project/participatory-budgeting>.
 - 5.2 POCA funding could be used to establish an initial PB pot. Information can be obtained from the Area Management office – contact leanne.manning@leeds.gov.uk
Post-meeting note: there is no POCA funding available in the current quarter. Applications can be sent to be added to the list.
 - 5.3 A DVD presenting the PB in action was made available to the participants to pass round.

6. Digital switchover – Janet Thornton

All

A handout with information on the digital switchover was distributed and the meeting was urged to help vulnerable residents in their areas to prepare for this. A scheme is available for over 75's, who for £40 can be given practical assistance, a tv remote control with large buttons and 12 months technical support; incl. adjustments of tv in own homes.

7. Environment issues – John Woolmer

John
Woolme
r

John gave a presentation on the new responsibilities of Area Committee for environmental services and enforcement.

Issues raised:

- From September telephone numbers for supervisors will be made available to key contacts (i.e. not members of the public but PC will be able to use them)
- Frustration with the time it takes to remedy problems; especially unpicked litter and uncollected bins.
- Litter bins – v expensive. Looking at cheaper options. PC purchased bins can be added to the pick-up routes.
- Flytipping – different departments responsible for different aspects of clear-up. For now, John will be the link to co-ordinate the services.
- Dog waste thrown over hedges in plastic bags has been known to poison sheep.
- J. W. will check why there are no bins on posts. They are better for narrow pavements.
- Litter bins in Clifford – not emptied often enough in the last 3 months.
- Shadwell – never had a litter picker; nowhere to put rubbish collected by village volunteers; In-Bloom group expected to pay for the disposal of garden rubbish when taken by van; In-Bloom judging will take place on **9.8.11** – requested to help clean up the village.
- A plea to consult with PC's before a schedule of street sweeping is set.
- Appreciation of Bev Kirk's work in the area.
- John's email – john.woolmer@leeds.gov.uk. John undertook to email his presentation to the members of the Forum.

8. SHLAA – Gorge Hall

8.1 George thanked all for PC's support for his nomination to continue to represent the Forum on SHLAA partnership, now that he ceased to be a parish councillor.

8.2 George distributed information about the last partnership meeting. He will inform all PC's and ward members about each meeting of the partnership.

8.3 Some concern was expressed about green belt development.

8.4 George encouraged the T&PCF members to attend 2 housing seminars organised via SHLAA.

9. Updates from Parish and Town Councils

- 9.1 Collingham:
There is no change with the Tesco proposal.
Jubilee Pageant being organised – need information on possible sources of funding.
Post-meeting note: POCA funds are not available in the current quarter.
- 9.2 Bramham:
There are 5 new councillors following the elections.
Sports and Leisure assoc. – money for the sports pavilion.
Bramham Gala – was very successful
Organising a Jubilee celebration.
- 9.3 Thorner:
Whinmoor cemetery – no initial consultation and it was referred to scrutiny.
The development has been stopped and a public meeting has been organised w/c 25.7.11. Due to the passage of time, an alternative option may now be better.
- 9.4 Scarcroft:
Castle Mona planning application – a lot of public meetings have taken place.
Council doing a lot of community development in the village.
Planning a Diamond Jubilee event.
- 9.5 Boston Spa:
Taylor Wympey – to build 153 new homes on Church Fields starting next year.
Street lighting – hoping to see them installed soon.
Need to organise a PC election.
- 9.6 Shadwell:
Library remains a problem. Looking for a possible community asset transfer. There is a lot of interest and prospective volunteers to run the library. Timescales – May 2012.
Diamond Jubilee committee – in place.
Worries about lack of consultation on planning issues expressed.
- 9.7 Barwick and Scholes:
Maypole celebrations – v successful.
Village design statement – completed.
Funding required for an archaeological site.
- 9.8 Clifford:
New play equipment installed.
Regrets that there was so little notice of the SHLAA housing seminars.
Also, it would be better if they could be at weekends or in the evenings.
- 9.9 East Keswick:
Thanks expressed to a long standing councillor (32years) who stood down at the last election.
Village received 2 grants – for a footpath and for the village wildlife trust.
To deal with the speeding through the village, will be booking SID for September.

- 9.10 Aberford:
Lotherton Hall – continues to be contentious.
Parish Plan – completed.
Mobile library will operate on Sundays.
- 9.11 Harewood:
Land on the site of the old filling station is an eyesore which needs to be developed.
On going problems with dog waste and litter.
PC want to install a welcome sign – a stone.
PC want to develop an website and would appreciate some advice / help.
Would appreciate if meetings could be held in a venue with a loop. (hearing aid)

10. **Any Other Business**

- 10.1 Day Centres for the elderly – to discuss after the meeting with Cllr A. Castle
- 10.2 Grit bins – to discuss after the meeting with Cllr M. Robinson
- 10.3 As Anna Turner is leaving the authority, the Chair thanked her for her involvement with the Forum.
- 10.4 Ins. Marcus Griffiths announced his successor; Insp. Paul Dwyer. They will both attend the October meeting.

11. **Date and Time of Next Meetings**

Thursday 20th October 2011 – venue in the Wetherby ward.

All meetings start at 7:30pm and are to be chaired alternatively by a Harewood and Wetherby ward councillor.

Contact Leanne Manning email: leanne.manning@leeds.gov.uk with any suggestions for venues or agenda items.

Thanks to everyone for attending.