

Minutes of meeting
7pm-9pm, 21th Sept 2011
Community Room,
Aireborough Leisure Centre

1.0 Introductions

1.1 Cllr Latty welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

2.1 None

3.0 Police Update

3.1 The Police updated the forum on crime and policing issues in the area over the last seven weeks.

3.2 There have been seven burglaries from dwellings reported. That is very good for the area, especially in the current economic climate. There were nine 'other burglary' offences (garages, garden sheds), eleven drugs offences and seventeen offences of thefts from motor vehicles. The Police reminded residents to remove all property on display in their vehicles.

3.3 Metal theft is still a problem in the area. Residents were reminded to take down the details (dates, times, registration numbers) of any vehicles they see taking scrap metal and report it to the Police. When scrap metal vehicles are stopped the Police are now taking pictures of the metal in the back so it can be identified and returned to its owner.

3.4 Speeding is still a problem in the area. More officers have been trained to use speed guns so there will a greater presence on Netherfield Road and the A65.

3.5 Drug dealing has been reported in the lane next to St Oswalds and Queensway ; again, residents were asked to report any suspicious activity or vehicles.

3.6 Residents were reminded as the nights are drawing in, to close their curtains, use light timers, lock doors or leave lights on an evening when they go out to help deter burglars.

3.7 Two men have been charged with two counts of handling stolen goods and are due to appear in court next month for the burglary at Spring Head Mills.

3.8 Thieves have started using garden canes to hook keys out through cat flaps. Residents were asked to secure unused cat flaps and keep all keys out of sight.

PACT priority - Rawdon

Youths are free style jumping and causing damage to the church on New Road Side. Details have been passed on to ASB Team (LCC) who are looking in to setting up a project to address the issue.

PACT priority - Guiseley

Youths in cars are congregating at Netherfield Road car park. Police are patrolling on a regular basis but reports have come through that they are there at 5.00am. The Police have the power to confiscate any vehicles if they persist. A resident informed the Police that the youths are now hanging around behind Nuffield Gym.

3.10 A resident reported that fencing had been taken down near the railway line in Guiseley.

3.11 Q: Can more camera's be installed to prevent speeding?

A: No. In the current climate it is difficult to balance priorities with the funding available. The PCSO's are out on a regular basis with speed guns so should help to slow drivers down.

3.12 Cllr Latty thanked the Police for their good work and for attending the meeting.

4.0 SLA (Service Level Agreement) – Claire Copley

4.1 CC is the Team Manager for the West North West Locality Team. Her team is responsible for street cleansing (mechanical and manual), leaf clearing, litter bin emptying, dog warden services, littering & flytipping regulation, domestic & commercial waste (storage & transportation issues), graffiti enforcement and overgrown vegetation controls (where the vegetation endangers or obstructs the free passage of pedestrians or vehicles).

4.2 The Locality Team has set out what services will be provided for the ward in the SLA e.g. how often the streets will be cleaned. CC's job is to monitor the service to ensure that it is delivering what has been set out in the SLA.

4.3 In the past, the service has been criticised for setting unachievable targets so all the routes have been reassessed to make the targets achievable. The service wants to be more responsive so capacity days (spare days) have been built in to the work programme which offers the service more flexibility, which in turn means they will be able to respond to residents complaints more quickly. The service works 7 days a week on an 8 day turn around, which means each week they start a day later which will help if access to certain locations is an issue. (weekend car parking obstructing a street for example)

4.4 CC emphasised there is a different culture in the service. Jason Singh - Locality Manager is keen to reinforce to his team that they don't avoid/walk away from issues.

4.5 Residents were asked to help identify priorities for the service delivery (both geographical and in terms of types of services delivered) to ensure the most appropriate approaches are being taken to achieve local environmental cleanliness and quality.

4.6 CC asked residents to report dog walkers who don't clear up their dogs mess. They were asked to make a note of times the walker walks, dates etc. If residents are willing to give a statement then the walker can be prosecuted. The same applies for fly tipping.

4.7 A new function to the service is Highways enforcement – abandoned & "for sale" vehicles on the highway, A-boards on pavements, mud on roads and placards on street furniture

4.8 Service resources can be moved around between the different areas to tackle specific problems i.e. leaf collection is more of a issue in ONW than it is in INW.

4.9 Residents reported that the gyratory needs sweeping at the bottom of Park Road and the gulley at the bottom of Butts Lane (opposite The Well) also needs clearing.

4.10 Q: Is there a policy regarding dog walkers depositing used dogs poo bags in resident bins ?.

A: CC didn't think so but would look in to it. The enforcement team could look at hot spot areas and help educate dog walkers.

4.11 Q: What happens to the cleaning/clearing of unadopted Highways?

A: The service does not have a jurisdiction on unadopted roads. The new culture within the team is to not walk away from issues and if there is a bit of extra work that needs to be done the Team should pick it up.

4.12 Q: Does the team have jurisdiction over owners of properties, to make them cut down overhanging bushes and hedges?

A: If it's an obstruction to the pathway/highway they can be asked to be cut back.

4.13 Contact details for the West North West Locality Team

Outer North West Enforcement Leads

Terry Robinson & Victoria Whalley 0113 2476238

Supervisors Street Cleaning Services

Steve Spencer Supervisor & Baz Ali Supervisor - 0113 214 214 6563

Residents can report an issues via email – wnwaction@leeds.gov.uk

5.0 Trading Standards – Rashad Basharat

5.1 RB - Education and Community Engagement Officer from West Yorkshire Joint Services.

West Yorkshire joint services

www.wyjs.org.uk

Consumer Direct (works in partnership with Trading Standards)

www.consumerdirect.gov.uk

08454 04 05 06

Textphone 08451 28 13 84

5.1 There are two type of door step crimes - distraction burglaries and rogue traders. 19,000 offences of distraction burglary against older people were reported in a single year. The figure is probably higher as the majority of people do not report incidents. A recent Trading Standards survey reported that up to 20% of householders have had a recent 'bad experience' with doorstep cold callers. Very few of these had reported the incident to 'the authorities'.

5.2 Trading Standards has a rapid response team so they can send someone out if the trader is still on the premises. They will be happy to take on the negations on behalf of vulnerable householders.

5.3 Residents can report any company or trades person to Trading Standards who ignores the consumer's request to leave or not return.

5.4 9,000 households showed that 96% of people did not want doorstep cold callers. Cold calling control zones (CCCZ) help to deter traders and also provide residents with support network i.e. links to reputable traders in the area to use. There needs to be a reason to set up a CCCZ. Trading Standards work with the Police, local Councillors and other bodies to identify areas which may benefit from a CCCZ.

5.5 Three laws which can help consumers are:

- Consumer Protection From Unfair Trading Regulations 2008
- Cancellation of Contracts Concluded in Consumers Home or Place of Work etc Regulations 2008 (excludes food and drink or contracts under £35)
- Companies Act 2006

5.5 Q: How large is a CCCZ?

A: It can be made up from a few streets or a whole village.

5.6 Q: Are charity collectors exempt from CCCZ?

A: Yes. You should be able to say no to them and they should walk away.

5.7 Q: Are charity bags exempt from CCCZ?

A: It's not always clear they are a charity. Residents were asked to check with the Charity commission.

5.8 If residents have subscribed to telephone preferences, UK companies

should not call them. RB recommended that if companies do persist, write a letter stating you do not want them to contact you again for sales purposes, send it recorded delivery and report them to Trading Standards.

6.0

AOB

6.1

Rawdon Library

Richard Taylor give an update on Rawdon Library. The Friends of Rawdon Library have been given to the end of the first half of next year to succeed. The library will be turned in to a community library, run by Friends of Rawdon Library. Richard took us through the extensive facilities and asked the Forum to support the library by using it. If you would like to volunteer at the library please contact junelongley@hotmail.com.

6.2

Parking on Renton Avenue

The legal order has been written. The last phase of signs are going up. Enforcement will begin in the next 8 weeks.

6.3

Neighbourhood forums

Cllr Latty explained a Neighbourhood Forum was needed in the area. The forum would be the voice from the community on where developments can and can't happen. A formal vote was held that supported the motion to set up a Neighbourhood forum through the Guiseley & Rawdon Forum

6.4

Moor Lane Allotments

LCC Planning department are investigating the possibility of the allotments expanding.

ZT

6.5

Jonathon Peate

ZT to liaise with Clive Woods and the Aireborough Civic Society regarding costs of the plaque.

ZT

6.6

Information board

Corporate City Signs to re quote and ZT to put in an Wellbeing application to ONW AC to fund it.

ZT

6.7

Traffic calming measures on Silverdale Avenue

Due to the lack of funding and a low accident rate, Silverdale Ave does not warrant any traffic calming measures.

6.0

Date & Time of Next Meeting

6.1

Wednesday 9th November, 7pm-9pm, Greenacre Hall