

Appendix 2 Outer East Area Committee

Garforth & Swillington Forum

Meeting held 24 January 2012 Garforth Academy

Present: Cllr Andrea McKenna (Chair), Cllr Tom Murray (LCC), Cllr Mark Dobson (LCC), Adrian Lee (LCC - Youth Service), Kevin Pease (Pease of Garforth), Susan Ashworth (GiB), Shirley Raisey (Garforth Residents Association), Sgt Goodwill (West Yorkshire Police), Tom Smith (LCC Env. Services), Sharon Elliott (School Partnership Trust) Graham Ambler (West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service) Catherine Hurdin (Garforth Childrens' Centre) Jane Anne Parsons (Garforth Traders Association) PCSO Rowley (WYP), Ken Woodhead (Garforth & District Lions Assoc) Carol Woodhead (Garforth in Bloom), David LeRoy (Garforth Traders Assoc), Ian Forster (Garforth Residents Assoc), Dave Evans (Garforth Academy), Anne Corry (Dorothy Anne's), Pete Mudge (LCC - Area Management).

Apologies: None received

1.0	Introductions and Apologies	Actio n
1.1	Councillor McKenna welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made.	
2.0	Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 September 2011 and matters arising	
2.1	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record. No matters arising.	
3.0	Community Safety	
3.1	PACT: Report from Police – Sgt Goodwill said a new monitoring method from central government meant that more records of crime are undertaken than ever before. However in comparable statistics, Garforth Swillington is 122 crimes below the same period last year. 48 of those crimes are in relation to burglary of dwellings.	
3.2	Sgt Goodwill thanked the Lions for such good organisation of the 2011 Christmas lights switch on. Those present echoed this thanks.	
	Questions Q. At a recent Pubwatch meeting it was reported that Garforth has a lot of drugs problems. Is it disproportionately bad compared with other areas of Leeds?	
3.4	A. Yes there is a problem. As there's more money available in this area there is always a risk the area will be targeted. However I would say it not worse than other areas at present.	
3.5	Q. At one time there was a problem of cars and suspicious activity in fields near Parlington Lane but it seems to have stopped now.	

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3.6	A. Unless the problem is solved, when it ceases in one area it is simply because it has moved to a new one. It is vital to keep reporting all suspicious incidents to the NPT.	
3.7	Report from Fire Service – Station Master Graham Ambler said that in the last 4 months there had been 115 calls of which 37 were fires, 4 were dwelling fires, 14 accidents, 24 other and 40 were false alarms – many resulting from tripping of warning alarms at places of work. Graham said the figures covered bonfire night and mischief night and showed a significant improvement on the same time last year. He said the fire station had four fundraising events planned around the area.	
	Q, If the number of fire stations in Leeds are reduced, will you still be able to do the preventative work with schools and groups in the area.	
	A. That is the intention.	
4.0	Services for Young People	
4.1	Youth Work Adrian Lee said that in Swillington the service was supporting work on the skatepark and is proving a good project to work on.	
	 Q. Cllr Murray said that when the planning application was submitted there was an objection on noise and they promised to resolve that. A. Before Xmas had 30plus people in youth club and things got broken however this has now been resolved and the numbers of attendees reduced to more manageable levels. Other projects the service has assisted with or led on include: working with Prince's Trust members to produce a film of the area using money from POCA (Proceeds of Crime,) sex and drugs advice, an anger management course showing how to be assertive rather than aggressive, a weekend high ropes event, a baby reality course where youths cope with a computer baby for a number of days. The youth service van has been stolen three times so it is now parked in the police station yard. The service now has 12 trained youth in the area and 8 more are signed up as inspectors of youth clubs. They will have an impact on future development. Since 1st April 2011 the service has worked with 556 young people outside school in the area. 	
4.2	Garforth Academy Sharon Elliott handed out leaflets showing the work at Garforth Children's Centre. She said that over the October half term their events had 140 children attending. Overall bookings at The Academy are going very well showing how important and well used it is.	
5.0	Environmental Services	
5.1	Tom explained that since the service has been split into refuse collection and street cleaning/enforcement there was much more enforcement and opportunities to resolve issues. As Locality Working is under the direct control	

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	of Area Committee's it is easier to deliver a good service in the local area. In street sweeping every eighth day has been left spare in order to undertake extra work and remedial jobs. The new contact for work in Garforth and Swillington is Simon Norman who is taking on this area in addition to Kippax and Methley. Since Octover 26 fly tips have been removed in the area and tyre removal has also been a large undertaking with the biggest load being 300 in one case. Several legal notices have been issued but all problems have been resolved by the perpetrators before reaching fines or court. Dog fouling is a particular problem in Garforth and staff are undertaking some enforcement and dog wardens are concentrating on the area. Particular problems occur around the Co-op, the ginnel by the allotments and between Cedar Ridge and Brearlands. Since 8 th January new control orders have been operational in Leeds including play areas, some parish council and private land and beside highways where	
	dogs must always be on a lead. Cllr Dobson said there had been some real improvements on streets and	
	especially key streets since Locality Working was introduced.	
6.0	10 Minute Open Floor	
6.1	SHLAA -Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – Cllr Murray said this is currently being assessed and one of the discussions concerned future use of the Thorpe Park site. He said there is a lot of talk about possible introduction of a retail offer. Cllr Dobson said the UDP set out development opportunities so everyone knew what was happening. However developers now often convinced planning it was	
	not viable for them to build on brownfield sites. Potentially the SHLAA could therefore lead to saturation of villages and sought after locations which could lead to them merging into each other and their replacement by new towns.	
6.2	Garforth Car Parking - Cllr Dobson said that a proposal is going to Highways Board to free up the capacity of parking in the town centre. This will bring in more shoppers and could reduce the number of spaces occupied by traders and people using it as a commuter spot. He pointed out people do not like spaces being filled up with long stay vehicles and we have a responsibility to keep the Main Street vibrant.	
6.3	Garforth Clinic - Cllr Dobson said he has been told the Primary Care Trust will keep the clinic open until they can find an alternative position in Garforth. Cllr Dobson said there should be a health and welfare blueprint for Garforth.	
7.0	Date of Next Meeting:	
	The next meeting will be set by the Area Committee meeting	