

Armley Forum

Minutes of meeting
Tuesday 16th October, Armley Library

Chair: Cllr Janet Harper

Present: E Bowes, B Mason, B Davies, J Newsome, S Friend, L Cheney, D Peck, J Lynskey, S Shepherd, P Kempster, S Richmond, F Smyth, J Ramell, Cllr J Mckenna, A & H Boutle

Apologies: Cllr A Lowe, Brian Draper, D & M Stead, Keith Harrison, Margaret Quirke

1 Welcome & Introductions

1.1 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

2.1 The minutes were agreed.

2.2 7.1 - Former Medical Centre, Theaker Lane – A planning application for flats is expected soon. The owners have boarded up the insecure entry points and the site is checked regularly. Former Tizer factory site, Theaker Lane – Planning permission for houses and a care home was granted in March. New supermarket Carr Crofts – Planning permission was granted in January 2012 and lasts for three years. There are no current plans to build on the site.

3 Police Update

3.1 Sergeant Gother and PCSO Knowles attended and updated the forum on current crime figures for 16th September - 16th October 2013 (including the Wythers and Lower Wortley):

- Burglary – 12 reported (7 insecure properties, 1 x bogus caller, 1 x entry using mole grips, 2 x smashed windows, 1 x body forced)
- Theft from Motor Vehicle – 20 reported
- Theft of Motor Vehicle – 20 reported
- ASB – is down
- Damage – is down

3.2 Cllr McKenna has received numerous complaints about drinkers on Town Street. PCSO Knowles informed residents if anyone is caught drinking in the DDPO area their alcohol will be removed. The Police can only prosecute if they refuse to hand over. The number of street drinkers has improved due to the Police targeting the regular offenders.

3.3 Residents feel the 24hr licensed convenience store has a detrimental effect on the area. The Police have spoken to the owners to enquire when their license is up for renewal but they are not obliged to tell them. The Police are taking this matter up with the licensing team.

3.4 Residents have caught people going through the bins on the Claremont's and were concerned about identity theft. The Police have caught people on the Aviary's and Salisbury's but they were stealing discarded clothing and toys to cash in. Although items in the bin are discarded it is still classed as theft.

3.5 Cllr Harper thanked the Police for attending

4 Housing Leeds – Claire Smith

4.1 CS is the new housing team leader for Armley and has previously managed Bramley.

- 4.2 CS updated residents on reporting out of hours (OOH) noise nuisance in multi storey flats. The main points were:
- It is difficult for the OOH team to witness noise nuisance in flats as they are not always able to gain access. If they can record the noise it will be reported to the day team who will go to the complainant's home to witness the noise.
 - The OOH Neighbourhood Management Officers cover West Leeds, Monday – Thursday, 5pm-9pm and Friday – Sunday, 5pm-12am. They are not able to state what is a statutory noise nuisance but they can decide what is excessive.
 - All information is shared between the two teams. If the OOH team log a complaint, the following day the Neighbourhood Management Officer can investigate.
 - Some properties have been red flagged which means the OOH team cannot visit a property due to aggressive behaviour.

4.3 Cllr Harper informed CS that New Wortley experiences a lot of problems of noise nuisance in the high rise flats.

4.4 If residents are experiencing noise nuisance they should keep a noise log to record the incidents and report them to the Neighbourhood Management Officers. If it becomes more than noise nuisance then the Police can be called. The OOH team can be contacted on 07891 273 625.

5 Armley Keystone leaflet – Wyn Jones

5.1 WJ circulated copies of the Armley Keystone leaflet.

5.2 WJ informed the forum there is a consultation on the draft Keystone Pavement Scheme document. If residents have any grammatical/factual amends to the document or wish to suggested ideas for future publications they can contact WJ on wyn.jones@leeds.gov.uk.

5.3 The leaflet will be published in February next year.

5.4 Cllr Harper has enjoyed being part of the project and thanked WJ for his contribution.

6 Lifelong Learning at Leeds University – Fiona Chapel

6.1 The Lifelong Centre provides learning opportunities for adult students and young people who have not had the opportunity to go on to higher education.

6.2 FC's role is to connect the University with community groups.

6.3 The Centre offers a range of activities such as part time, evening, short and summer courses. An advice and guidance officer is on hand to provide free, impartial advice on any University or College. They can also provide financial advice.

6.4 University fees do not have to be paid up front. People are expected to take out a Government loan to pay for the tuition fees which are only paid back once they are earning over £21,000. Retired students do not have to pay it back. The debt is written off after 30 years so does not get passed on to family members. If a household income is £42,000 or less students are entitled to additional funding to cover child care, materials and travel costs.

6.5 Hazel Boutle invited FC to Armley Fun Day to talk to residents.

7 AOB

7.1 The Armley Lights switch on is on the 16th November, 5.30pm – 7.00pm on Armley Town Street. Cllr Harper encouraged all residents to attend. Cllr McKenna suggested inviting Will who has recently won a gold medal in wheel chair basketball to turn on the lights.

ZT

7.2 The Grand opening of the Hub is on 24th October, 4pm – 6pm. Everyone is invited. The Hub is now open 5 days a week, Tuesday – Saturday. For further information contact 0113 294 4080 or www.townstreethub.org.uk.

- 7.3 I Love West Leeds are hosting two film nights on the 1st & 2nd of November in Charlie Cake Park. Entrance is free. Films TBC.
- 7.4 The Clydes have arranged a clean up for Thursday 17th October.
- 7.5 A resident reported cars parked on the pavement outside the second hand car dealership opposite Barnet road. The Police are aware of the problem.
- 7.6 A resident complained about the lack of heating at Cross Grassmere Community Centre and weeds growing through the fire door. ZT
- 7.7 **Future agenda item**
Invite John Pearson from WNW Locality – overgrown hedges. ZT
- 8 Date and Time of Next Meeting**
- 8.1 Tuesday 19th November, 7pm Armley Library.
Please contact Zoe Tyler with any agenda items.