

Neighbourhoods & Housing Department Outer East Leeds Area Committee

Garforth & Swillington Forum

Meeting held on 4th July 2007 Garforth Community College

Present: Councillor Andrea Harrison (Chair), Martin Hackett (LCC ELAM), Lynne White (LCC ELAM), PC Nick Genn (West Yorkshire Police), PC Tony Milligan (West Yorkshire Police) PC Ian Hopkinson (West Yorkshire Police), PCSO Graham Reeves (West Yorkshire Police), Sue Prior-Fox (NET), Clive Deighton (Gt & Little Preston PC), Sandra Fowler (Community Safety Co-ordinator), Nick Clarkson (ELAM), Aileen Larsen (GCC), Jayne Davies (Resident), Jack Hewitson (GCC), Patrick Wilson (Firthfields Community Assoc), Thomas Nicholls (GCC), Jim Pearson (NHW), John Scott (GCA), Siobhan Lendionawski (East Leeds PCT), Jane Lambert (GCC), Councillor Mark Dobson (LCC), Peter Wyatt (Garforth Lions Club), Cllr Murray (LCC), Byron Godfrey (Garforth Book Shop)

Apologies: David LeRoy, Paul Edwards, John Johnson

1.0	Welcome/Introductions and Apologies	Action
1.1	Councillor Harrison welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions made and apologies noted	
2.0	Minutes of meeting held on 23 rd April 2007 and Matters Arising	
2.1	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record	
2.2	JP re: Item 5 – said Simon Frosdick rejected 2 proposals for Barley Hill Car Park and this wasn't shown in the minutes,SF had agreed to send details to Ward Members (5.6). Cllrs said they hadn't received them. MH would request these details for the members.	МН
2.3	JP re: Traffic lights on Lidgett Lane expressed concerns they are not in place yet. Cllrs agreed to investigate the timescale for this project.	
2.4	Additional Item – Rural Transport Issues – PCT	
2.5	Siobhan Lendzionawski from the PCT gave a presentation and information sheets on Rural Transport Issues. SPF said this area is not usually classed as rural from past experience when applying for funding. CD mentioned transport for people with Mental Health problems needs looking into. Issue also raised on travelling from village to village being a problem. AL said it is difficult for young people to attend school activities through problems with transport.	
2.6	Financial exclusion and dept – SL informed of door collectors charging high interest – a meeting has been arranged with Credit Union for 1 st July to discuss. JP suggested speaking to Cllr Parker who has looked into this previously. Cllr Murray said there was money from the College linked to Credit Union to help people with debt. Cllr Dobson said there were many avenues open to people e.g. officers in LCC who will go out and discuss with people benefits they were entitled to.	
2.7	Cllr Harrison thanked Siobhan	

3.0	10 Minute Open Floor	
3.1	Cllr Harrison thanked Cllr Murray for chairing the forum in the past and for allowing her	
	to take over as Chair.	
4.0	Community Safety	
4.1	Police apologised for there being no stats available. SF explained the reason for this was due to the merger of Police Stations and start of new computer system. SF had been assured by the new Superintendent that stats will start coming out next month. JP asked if the lack of stats applied to all of Leeds and SF said this was not the case because they weren't undergoing a merger and the new system had not been rolled out to other divisions yet. Cllr Harrison thanks SF	
4.2	JP asked if there were problems with drinking, drugs etc at the skate park. Police informed they had produced two reports and carried out door knocking. Ramps will be filled in at the skate park; Acting Inspector Sullivan and Cllr Dobson have discussed the situation which is still troublesome.	
4.3	Young people are still obtaining alcohol and they need to find out where and how. A series of test purchasing had been and another one has been requested.	
4.4	Cllr Dobson had met with Garforth NPT and felt bicycles should be provided for the PCSO's to enable them to get from A to B quickly. MH to look into this.	MH.
4.5	Police informed that new forms with more details for the Off Licence premises were being issued. There were new ideas in the pipeline to make the Off Licenses more cooperative.	
4.6	Cllr Harrison gave the Police and officers a special thank you for all the work done in Swillington	
5.0	Town and District Centre Update	
5.1	MH passed information sheets round. With regard to the Pocket Park MH said it was suggested this would be enclosed but Aire Valley Homes weren't in favour. There would be phasing of the project with the MWH and street lights in phase 1. Cllr Murray set a target of this work being completed by mid November 07. The pocket park will need maintaining, possibility by community involvement.	
5.2	MH passed out information on street furniture. The new furniture needs to match. PW said that the furniture supplied by Garforth Lions could possibly be moved.	
5.3	Gateway feature – top and bottom of Main Street to signify/promote the main shopping street – There is scope for some public art – once design stage 3 is reached there will be consultation across a wide selection of the community	
5.4	Cllr Murray has not seen any information on parking. MH informed the meeting that an increase in parking could not form part of the programme.	
	A debate ensued about the lack of adequate parking in Garforth.	
5.5	SPF expressed concern and danger on parking and problems at the crossing on the Main Street. Cllr H said in the villages it is a major problem. Cllr D said the whole parking issue needs looking at and a possible small charge to park would stop parking all day by commuters, workers etc.	
5.6	Street Furniture – CD suggested that metal benches would be more appropriate than wooden as they would not take as much maintaining.	

5.7	BG Garforth Book Shop – mentioned his concerns re: parking and will do a survey with his customers. Asked whether there was any funding to help upgrade the front of his book shop. MH said he didn't know of any schemes or grants available.	
	PW said maintenance of the Pocket Park may fit in with Garforth Lions environmental scheme.	
5.8	Cllr Dobson informed the meeting that there was interest in establishing a Garforth 'in bloom' group. MH said the new street lights on Main Street would include brackets for holding hanging baskets.	
6.0	Services to Young People	
6.1	SE – Youth Worker thanked Ward Members for the grant to set up student forum and also for the visit to Parliament. JH & TN confirmed that their visit was enjoyable particularly the London Eye.	
6.2	JP brought up the subject of alcohol with the young. SE said parents are buying kids alcohol and this is a problem because parents don't see this as an issue. Cllr D asked can we do flyers through the school, JD feels there is a lack of knowledge, SE will speak to AL. SL will look for some leaflets and sent to JL at the College	
6.3	SE informed Youth Service will be doing a restructure and there will be vacancies SE will keep Cllr up to date.	
6.4	SE informed Party in the Playground has been arranged for Saturday and there will be a stall with information on alcohol etc	
6.5	SE – A youth shelter is presently being looked at to be provided.	
6.6	SE informed that the holiday program has been given out to the students and there will be an open evening for parent to book them on to the events	
6.7	CD asked about youths with motorbikes - is there a track at Micklefield? No, but there is one at Birstall (Bumpy). Is there a possibility that the farmer could be asked if they could use a field? SE said no as nobody would want to take the responsibility. Cllr H asked could the PC fund a day out at Bumpy, CD will look at the possibility. Cllr H said he can come back and discuss this. BG said the book shop will advertise	
7.0	Date of next meeting	
	11 th October at 6pm, Swillington Primary School.	