

Armley Community Forum

Date: 17th July 2007

Present: Cllr Harper (Chair), R Boon, A Friebe, Cllr A Lowe(part), H & D Boutle, E Bowes, D & T Maynard, E & B Rayworth, G Shaw, F Zagajewski, B Holmes, J Grainger, J Gill, B & M Guthrie, P Kempster, M Southwell, J Parsons, J Ford, M Smith, Bernadette Azari, G Eastwood, W Eastwood, Aisha Iqbal, K Anderson, K Powell, H Gardiner, A Powell, J Macleod, Tonia Jones, M Bruce, H Shields, J Ramell, S & B Richmond, FH Smyth, M Litherland.

ACTION

1.00 WELCOME

1.01 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.00 APOLOGIES

2.01 Morgan Pugh, Cllr J McKenna, Dawn Newsome, I Penman, John Preston, K Donnelly, Amanda Willis, M Woodward, D Smith, D & M Stead, Sgt Boyes, I Broughton.

3.00 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3.01 The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record with no amendments.

4.00 MATTERS ARISING

4.01 (4.01) Road not minuted as Nancroft Crescent. Cllr JH – the existing sign is attached to a private house so it may be that a further sign would entail extra prohibitive costs from Highways.

4.02 (5.06) Isabel Stephenson – the forum’s representative at West Leeds Gateway Board - not present. Cllr JH will contact her to ask if in her absence Tom Maynard can attend Board meetings if the forum agree to this. The forum agreed.

5.00 POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

5.01 Area has been reasonably quiet of late : Police have paid particular attention to Salisbury’s recently. No Salisbury residents present to comment.

5.02 Cllr JH passed a message on from Cllr JM about a knife attack on a young girl on Ley Lane. PCSO was aware and understood the matter to be in hand.

5.03 Report of a prate radio station at Burnsalls – linked to drugdealing. PCSO not aware and will investigate.

PCSO

5.04 Red Court fire: This is being investigated – however planning permission is going through so the site should be made secure soon.

5.05 Empty property on Arnley Grange Mt (ex-nursing home) is being used for drugdealing/taking. This has been reported to Neighbourhood Watch but no action taken. PCSO to follow up.

PCSO

5.06 Reports of ‘lively’ activity around Little Scotland inc. joy-riding. PCSO aware that there are 2 families who are being evicted shortly and this may be an attempt at going out in a ‘blaze of glory’. PCSO to pass details on to traffic.

PCSO

6.00 Library Service: what’s on offer to the local community - Bernadette Azari

6.01 BA – is a new Development Librarian – tasked to ask community what they want from the service. The service is not just access to books but also free access to information of all kinds. There are many on-line services/resources available and also free training etc.

- 6.02 Directgov – help to access public information eg finding child care, pay road tax.
www.direct.gov.uk
- 6.03 Enquiry express: based in Central library – also provide public information – can ring 0113 247 6016 or email enquiry.express@leeds.gov.uk
- 6.04 Job Seekers advice: there will be advice sessions on Saturdays at Armley giving help with CVs etc. There is also a job board in the library.
- 6.05 Computer learning Sessions: including internet and email use, WORD etc.
- 6.06 Leodis.net: This website contains information about old Leeds including photographs, history, newspapers.
- 6.07 The library is also accessible 24 hrs a day via the internet – and if you don't have a computer at home the library has PCs you can use.

7.00 Farnells – An International Company working in the local community – Frank Zagajewski

- 7.01 FZ gave a brief introduction on Farnells: They have 2 sites in Armley – Armley Rd and Maybrook. Globally they employ approx. 6,000 staff and their turnover is approx \$1 billion. Locally they employ 900 of whom 80% are from the Armley/Bramley area. The stock is held at Maybrook site and the electrical components are delivered within UK and Europe within 24 hrs from here. The distribution site is very large and impressive – tours can be arranged.
- 7.02 As a company Farnells are keen to become involved with local community. They already employ local offenders. They have also been involved in a garden project with AHH and a clear-up at Charliecake park. They have a volunteers who are willing to become involved in other projects eg can offer marketing resources to local groups. They are also renovating a derelict building on Forge Lane which may then be available as a local resource. Please contact FZ for more information: FZagajewski@Premierfarnell.com
- 7.03 Work experience placements/getting back into employment: FZ – at the Maybrook site they are considering similar themes – again contact Farnells for more detail.
- 7.04 There are no plans to expand either site at present – there will be internal refurbishment at Maybrook however.
- 7.05 Volunteers to help set up at Armley Funday: FZ will ask workforce but given short notice may not be possible. AF to email FZ with flyer.

AF

8.00 Linton Homes – Malcolm Moss (Late item)

- 8.01 MM explained the plans that Linton have for the site of the old Theaker Lane Clinic. Linton were hoping to build 21 apartments but due to the statutory requirement for affordable housing – 14 seems the only viable way forward for them now. These will be ½ bedroomed and sell for under £100K. The apartments will fit into the exact footprint of the old clinic and will also include 6 internal carpark spaces. The build will be 1 – 2 stories high and if planning permission is granted in August 2007, work will commence in Spring 2008.

9.00 Any other business

- 9.01 Cllr JH showed the plans for the new build at 37 Moorfield Rd : 30 crash pads/15 carpark spaces. The forum felt this was too much for such a small site and too high ie 4 stories. Cllr Harper sent the following email to Lynsey Brownutt:
'I took the above plans to the Armley Forum where there were about 50 people present. Cllr Lowe was also there. There was a unanimous feeling that this is too intensive. Armley is an Area where we could be building Family homes and it was felt that 2 and 3 bed appts/town houses would be more acceptable. There was tremendous opposition to the 4 storey element and the blank gable end. I think it would be helpful to have a meeting with all 3 Councillors when you have had a word with the developer and, hopefully come back with a smaller scheme'.

- 9.02 Cllr JH – The Malt Shovel Public House has applied for permission to erect 2 canvas canopies for ‘smoking’ in the ‘beer garden’. This was voted on – 3 in favour, 1 against.
- 9.03 Hazel Boutle gave feedback from Inner West Area Committee. This was the first in the new financial year – the elections to the committee were covered. There were also reports from the Police, Parks & Countryside, Area Management and WNW Homes. Wellbeing fund: 2 projects were commissioned.
- 9.04 Armley Funday is Wednesday 25th July at Armley Moor – 1-4pm
- 9.05 There has been a lot of new graffiti appearing in area – to email Cllr JH with details.
- 9.06 Grow your own Food Day is Saturday 11th August 10-1pm at Armley moor.
- 9.07 20mph zone – Colton Rd/Hall Rd – needs signage.
- 9.08 Mistress Lane – speeding cars reported. PCSOs to inform traffic.
- 9.10 Cllr AL – has had complaints from a resident of flats over Anyans (Town St) re lack of parking. Cllr JH – when applied for Planning permission – they agreed to lack of parking spaces.
- 9.11 Taxis still using The Gang – this is an ongoing issue.
- 9.12 The Cedar binyard improvements will hopefully improve the recycling situation. The walls will be lowered but with railings will still be 2m high. Residents will also be invited to contribute towards the cost of their binyards being restored meaning all can be done.

PCSO

**10:00 DATE & TIME of NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 18th SEPTEMBER 7pm AOSC
PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO FORUM IN
AUGUST.**