

Hyde Park & Woodhouse Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th September 2008, 7pm Blenheim Primary School

Present:	Cllr Penny Ewens	Chair, Ward Member
	John Cummins	Groundwork
	Joe Ledger	Local resident
	Jenny Stead	Local resident
	Jack Woods	Local resident
	Anna Hackett	Local resident
	Scott Blakeway	UNIPOL
	Sue Buckle	South Headingley Community Association
	Faye Fox	Foundation Housing
	Shannel	Little London primary school
	Marian Charlton	Little London primary school
	Jean Crowther	NHPNA
	Greta Parker	NHPNA
	Bill McKinnon	Friends of Woodhouse Moor
	Mercia Southon	Friends of Woodhouse Moor
	Ben McDougall	Leeds Metropolitan Students Union
	Rob Damiao	Leeds University Union

**Officers in
Attendance:**

Nicola Price	North West Area Management
Insp Frances Naughton	West Yorkshire Police
Sgt Lee Fletcher	West Yorkshire Police
Carly Grimshaw	Little London Housing Office

Apologies: Amit Roy, Janet Bailey and Andy Beresford

1.0 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

- 1.1 The minutes of 18th June were passed as a correct record of the meeting, but it should be noted that Insp Frances Naughton and Greta Parker's names were incorrectly spelt.
- 1.2 Cllr Ewens welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced Nicola Price who is the new area management officer covering the area and the forum and as there were a number of new people a round of introductions were carried out. It was also agreed that this new venue was acceptable for future use.

2.0 Graffiti Removal

- 2.1 NP reported that unfortunately Janet McHugh was unable to attend the meeting but posters were given out and a brief presentation given on the graffiti removal kits that can be borrowed by local communities to remove

graffiti in their area. Whilst the council do usually clean off graffiti, although they are not obliged to, due to the sheer amount in this area it often takes a long time to get round to all areas. The kits allow the community to act quickly and hopefully if graffiti is consistently removed it will eventually stop being done. If anyone is interested in the hire of a kit they need to contact Janine McHugh on 395 1765 or janine.mchugh@leeds.gov.uk.

2.2 To note there has been graffiti on the side of the Post Office for a long time, NP to refer through to the team for removal.

2.3 It was also raised that Greg Mulholland MP had held a very productive meeting on graffiti recently, NP to try and get a copy of the minutes.

3.0 Summary of Student Changeover

3.1 Rob Damiao introduced himself as the new Leeds University Union Community Officer and explained he is responsible for the implementation of the community strategy.

3.2 RD went through the Green Streets report that looks at how successful the recent changeover had been. A copy of the report will be sent out with the minutes from the meeting.

3.3 The main issues from the university's point of view were that:

- There was a lack of strategic planning from senior management.
- Skips provided were not clearly enough labelled, emptied frequently enough and used by landlords.
- Bag slashers were a big problem.
- Closure of Meanwood recycling centre.
- Problems with funding meant activities had to be scaled down.

3.4 RD reported they are looking at having street ambassadors this year who would be responsible for looking after a number of streets and the community guide has been reprinted and will be sent out again.

3.5 Scott Blakeway from UNIPOL also reported that they are trying to educate students and landlords on their responsibilities in the community and a number of mail outs, including of the 'Living in Little Woodhouse' guide, have gone out

3.6 Ben McDougall from Leeds Met University Union also reported that they are keen to work with the community more this year and also with Leeds University.

3.7 It was also raised that there is a problem with landlords not clearing out their gardens and bins before students move in, to pick up issues at Students and the Community group.

4.0 Fresher's Week Plans

- 4.1 NP reported that a letter has gone out to all promoters advising them they need to stick to the guidelines of acceptable behaviour, Operation Walksafe will be in operation again this year and the Environmental Action Team will have a number of staff working throughout the period looking at littering, licences etc. The education team are also distributing a large number of magnets advising people on how they can recycle in Leeds.
- 4.2 RD reported that the university are having a week of debates on social issues and a safety and crime campaign for the students at the end of October. BMcD reported they will also be running the community rep's scheme this week as it has been so successful at the university and the CALM team will also be again working in the community.

5.0 Neighbourhood Policing Team

- 5.1 Insp Naughton reported that following the recent operation 32 people have been charged with dealing class A drugs and £172k was seized. They are aware that there are still hotspots and will continue to work in the area. If anyone has any suspicions of any other activity please contact the police as all evidence helps. There has also been a problem with theft of lead and three people have been arrested last weekend.
- 5.2 To note the Neighbourhood Policing Team are happy to attend any resident's meetings to discuss local crime issues and they also have resources to remove graffiti from properties of elderly or disabled residents. The police do collect graffiti tags but if anyone suspects someone of doing graffiti they need to contact the police.
- 5.3 The police are tackling the street drinkers and beggars that congregate in the area and a couple of known offenders have conditions that mean they can't come into the area.
- 5.4 The issue of the proposed DPPOs was also raised and the police confirmed it a not an alcohol ban and if agreed would be policed sensibly.
- 5.5 It was raised that a large problem in the area is due to alcohol asb on a night and the police advised that there is often police in the area and all incidents should be referred through.

6.0 AOB and Key Messages for Inner Area Committee

- 6.1 Groundwork Leeds – John Cummins attended the meeting and explained they have been doing door to door consultation and group workshops in Woodhouse trying to find out resident's priorities for improvement in the area. Over 100 questionnaires have already been filled in and an environmental week was held last week collecting litter, painting, sweeping etc but anyone else who would like to fill in a form at the meeting was encouraged to do so.

- 6.2 The information will be collated and Groundwork's architect will draw up plans to be used in future for work to be carried out.
- 6.3 A couple of problem areas were raised by the forum including lighting and ginnels on Blenheim View and the back alley near Notre Dame school that is not passable.
- 6.4 Cllr Ewens reported that the sale of St Mark's Church has been completed and proposals for the undercroft of All Souls Church have been made and were being pursued positively.
- 6.5 A resident raised the issue of change of shops use at Hyde Park corner, the student flats and the licence for the sandwich shop at Eldon Terrace. It was agreed it would be a shame if the diverse range of shops disappeared. Cllr Ewens has asked Planning to take a comprehensive look at the whole corner area adjoining and including Eldon Court.
- 6.6 A resident also raised that they would like a key message to go back to Area Committee recommending that all change of use applications should go to plans panel.

7.0 Date of Next Meeting and Suggestions for Agenda

- 7.1 The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 26th November at 7pm. Notification of the venue will be sent nearer the time.