

**Armley Community Forum**

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006

**Present:** Cllr Harper (Chair), Cllr Lowe (part), C Clark, A Friebe, W Shearman, E Bowes, W Gregg, K Mulligan, H & D Boutle, T Maynard, S Guy, M & D Stead, B & K Draper, I Broughton, J Grainger, M Putt, M Jameson, C Kerrigan, J Kerry, H Gardener, S Towler, G Eastwood, K & W Anderson, J Parsons, J Ford, A Covey, J Ramell, M Ramza, A Aziz Beig, M Metcalfe, K Donnelly, J Gill, K Morris, B Holmes, I Stephenson, P Fathers, D Peck, K Lemm., M Pugh.

**ACTION**

**1.00 WELCOME**

1.01 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2.00 APOLOGIES**

2.01 Dawn Newsome, Alderman B Nelson, Cllr J Mckenna, D Maynard, J Scroggie, Alan Stephenson, Peter Barnett, Nigel Hunter.

**3.00 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

3.01 No minuting of Morgan Pugh's report on Inner Area Committee meeting OR Alderman Nelson's report.

**4.00 MATTERS ARISING**

4.01 (8.01) There is a Public meeting Thursday 23.11.06 – this isn't the same as the working group for whom the forum has elected reps. The Ward Cllrs will be invited to these in future. The PFI funding has been agreed for a new leisure centre in Armley and one in Morley. Cllr Harper stressed the importance - for local people – of the existing centre remaining open while the new one is under construction.

4.02 (9.06) The residents of Back Aviary Rd would prefer bollards to fencing – unfortunately this will have to come out of next years budget.

**5.00 POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES**

5.01 Latest Crime Stats show Armley not a hotspot for Burglary etc.

5.02 There has recently been a Tenancy sweep of Wortley Towers/Height as part of the Multi-agency Tasking approach.

5.03 St Mary's Park/Armley Grange area: Nighthawk Security leafleting offering a patrol for £3.20/month. Are these legitimate? PCSO – individual's responsibility to check. If however if there is a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the area this should be as effective. PCSOs will try and find out more re. this company.

5.04 Comments made that PCSO patrol doesn't include ginnels/side roads around Cross Grasmere St and Community Centre.

5.05 If calling Police – MUST tell operator if you want feedback AND if you want Police to call at your house for this.

5.06 Cedars bike problem much reduced – Thanks to PCSOs/Police.

5.07 Biffa bin fire at Armley Liberal Club.

**PCSOs**

- 6.00 Building Schools for the Future – Dan Devine (delegating for Peter Barnett)**
- 6.01 Cllr Harper declared an interest as a member of the West Planning Panel.
- 6:02 DD showed the forum a map showing the proposed siting for the new West Leeds High School. The outline planning application has been made regarding eg. The site and site access. This is basically an indicative proposal to demonstrate that the proposed site is adequate for a school. There will be an update meeting with Members in December. In January a full and detailed report will be brought back to the forum with recommendations for application. Cllr Harper – this will be on January agenda. Questions/discussion followed:
- 6:03 Why merge 2 schools? Cllr JH – this is an education issue rather than a planning one – the merge has already been approved.
- 6:03 Will the playing fields remain or become housing? Cllr JH – this is a Greenfield site and therefore can't be built on.
- 6:04 DD – there are several vehicular and pedestrian access roads planned. Forum showed concern over volume of traffic around Congress Mt. Are any traffic-calming measures or crossings included – DD there is a crossing in the plans.
- 6:05 The capacity of new school will not keep up with demand given the new residential sites being built in the area. Cllr JH has already expressed concern over this.
- 6.06 Is it a PFI school? Yes. Forum expressed concern that there are no 'green' features/policies included in the PFI schools plan. These should also be included in the new Leisure Centre build.

DD

- 7.00 Armley; Future Plans. Discussion groups led by Carole Clark (delegating for Steve Crocker, West Leeds Area Manager)**
- 7.01 The Area Delivery Plan is produced every year and guides the work of West Area Management in that year. There are 5 key areas of service delivery – Streetscene, Community Safety, Children & Young People, Regeneration, Community Involvement & Cohesion. The forum split into groups to discuss these in depth and to put forward any further ideas. CC will collate these and report back to the forum when ADP is further forward.

CC

**8.00 Armley Town and District Centre Update**

- 8.01 The T&DC bid has been agreed for £700,000– while this isn't enough for all the improvements intended – this limited amount will fund the first stage. This will include resurfacing of pavements; tree planting; upgrading lighting columns, CCTV columns painted; information boards & new signage; street furniture eg cycle racks, railings, hanging baskets; Gelderd Rd one-way system; Hall Rd/Town St corner improved.
- 8.02 Comments/discussion included:
- removing railings and if this would be safe
  - road-narrowing to reduce traffic speed
  - new car park
  - increased traffic warden presence – Cllr Lowe has written to Parking Service
  - Cllr Harper suggested Area Committee paying for a traffic warden for a day/week
  - Armley Lock-up – CC to try and get Groundwork involved in restoring?
- 8.03 **CC** – Heritage Lottery Bid for Armley: Stage 1 has been approved. This means there is approximately £25 thousand to pay towards Stage 2 detailed plans and the public consultation.

CC

<b>9:00</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
9:01	Amber Taxis have been parking on Church St pavement. Cllr Lowe to write and complain.	<b>Cllr Lowe</b>
9:02	Members of the forum complained re. the new Billboards on Mistress Lane site. The agreement was for 2 of these to be used for advertising (revenue goes to LCC) and middle one solely for publicising Armley. Cllr JH opposed this. Planning permission was not necessary as seen as a minor change (Dan Devine). View of traffic lights is also blocked by boards. DD to liaise with Cllr Harper.	<b>DD</b>
9:03	Cllr Harper and the Forum thanked the Armley Town St Cleaner for his work.	
9:04	Tong Rd is being resurfaced so road markings will need replacing.	
9:05	Phone/cable boxes broken into on Hall Rd – Cllr Lowe to check who these belong to.	<b>Cllr Lowe</b>
9:06	ACE reps gave out leaflets for the West Leeds Environmental Network – people to complete please.	
9:07	Charlie Cake Park pavilion burnt out – there are definitely plans for a replacement.	
9:08	Forum members were asked to sign the Breeze petition.	
9:09	Gelderd Rd barriers have gone.	
<b>10.00</b>	<b>DATE &amp; TIME of NEXT MEETING</b> – Forum voted to have December free and for the next forum to be 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2007 @ 7.00pm, Armley One Stop Centre. Cllr Harper wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.	