

## **Outer East Area Committee**

Halton Forum Minutes from 14 April 2011 St Mary's, Whitkirk

## Appendix 8 Present:

Cllr David Schofield (Chair), Cllr Mick Lyons, Cllr Bill Hyde, Martin Hackett (LCC - South East Area Management Team, minutes), Colin & Denise Wilsher (Woodland & Whitkirk Neighbourhood Watch), Margaret Blenkhorn (WW NW), Heather Sanderson (resident), Jackie Flannagan (resident), Thelma Dixon (resident), P & B Huison (WW NHW), John Pearson (LCC - Environmental Action), Michelle McGill (LCC - EA), R Fisher (Field End), M Fisher (Field End), Margaret Blenkhorn(W&W NHW), Alan Wakefield (Templegates NHW), Edward Fryer (Birch Hill), Mona Illingworth (Templegates), Michelle Bell (New Templegates), Giles Jeffs (LCC), Stacey Campbell (LCC), Clare Deacon (Halton PO), Maria Thornton (Field End Gdns), Mr & Mrs Boucher (Field End Green), Gwen Green (Oak Crescent), Patricia Wragg (Oak Cres), Mrs M Ward (Templegates), Coullin Meikle (LCC), Rashad Basharat (WYTS), PC 3888 Becky Healy, PC 4518 Simon Jarvis.

## **Apologies:**

Terry Dennis

1.0	Welcome, introductions and apologies	
1.1	Cllr Schofield welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced officers that had items on the agenda.	
2.0	Minutes from 20 January 2011	
2.1	Agreed as an accurate record.	
3.0	Matters arising from those minutes	
3.1	(3.1) <b>Issues regarding Incinerator proposals</b> – it was clarified that Biffa had not yet submitted a planning application for an incinerator. It was anticipated that one would be submitted for commercial waste but it could take domestic waste but there would be a charge. This would be a private venture.  Leeds City Council also has a proposal to build its own incinerator. This is still being progressed and this would deal with domestic waste.	
4.0	10 minute open floor	
4.1	Litter and parking issues around Temple Moor High School	
	Mr Fisher expressed thanks to the environmental officers that had helped improve littering around the school and surrounding streets.	
	There were still concerns about parking near the school with parents parking up for up to 1 hour to wait for children. At the same time parents and children continued to litter around that area.  Action – JP and MM from Environmental Action Team agreed to patrol around the school from 2pm.	
5.0	Community safety	
5.1	Trading Standards  RB attended from Trading Standards to consult residents on existing 'cold	

calling' zones. He provided background informing the meeting that 19,000 in West Yorks are victims of crime because of cold calling each year; many are roque traders who intimidate; many victims are elderly and vulnerable.

- RB reinforced the message that incidents needed to be reported to Police and invited residents to attend a meeting it was holding on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April at Whitkirk Primary School, 7.30pm start.
- 5.3 **West Yorks Police.** The Police have been using a lazer camera to catch those speeding on the 30MPH section of Selby Road. They also have speed indicator devices that log registration plates.
- 5.4 Although burglary had reduced in recent months car crime had increased.
- 5.5 | Several questions and issues were raised:
  - Youths drinking in Temple Newsam fields Police reported that they do spot checks on alcohol outlets.
  - Travellers going around the streets in a van collecting scrap metal JP would check for scrap metal licences if he gets car reg number.
  - Cars parking on grass verges and zig-zag lines WYP and Env Officers agreed to monitor
  - Problems with motorbikes on golf course WYP reported that off road bikes were now operational and would be sent to this site.

## 6.0 Temple Newsam Farm

- 6.1 TS from Parks & Countryside attended for this item. He reported that:
  - There had to be budget savings for the farm in 2011/12
  - He is consulting with partners about where those savings can be made
  - There will be a focus on rare breed conservation and maintaining this as a quality visitor attraction
  - There will be a new children's park built by the summer
  - Commercial farming will be reduced
- 6.2 | Several questions were raised:

**Q** Why have no large funding been bids been applied for?

A The emphasis for Parks and Countryside is to arrive at the end of this process in a position where the farm is in a better financial position in terms of operating costs. From a farm perspective the focus moving forward is on maximising income from agro environmental schemes and providing an excellent and education visitor attraction. Notwithstanding that, Temple Newsam is a key site for P & C in terms of present and future priorities for investment, as is demonstrated by the investment in the new Children Play area.

**Q** Have numbers gone down since the farm has started charging? **A** At this time it is unclear what impact the new entrance charges have had on visitor numbers at the farm given the lateness of Easter and other factors. Our intention as a service is to monitor this situation over a longer time frame to gain a clearer understanding of the trends in terms of footfall.

**Q** Why reduce commercial farming when budgets are being cut? **A** Operating as a commercial farm within the constraints of a local authority working practices is difficult and one is not compatible with the other. It's better to run it as an efficient visitor service that specialises in rare breed conservation.

7.0	Youth Service Work	
7.1	CM reported that the youth service was working 7 days a week in the area and	
	had 2 full time and 2 part time members of staff.	
7.2	Much of the work was informal social education i.e. When school ends they step in a do work with young people such as Duke of Edinburgh awards, volunteering, getting involved in community activity etc.	
7.3	The youth service work with the police and other partner agencies. It has a	
	mobile provision and during holiday periods provides confidence building	
7.4	activities, training and fun activities.	
7.4	A question was raised about young people involved in ASB. CM replied that the youth service has outreach workers that will go to hotspot areas and talk to	
	young people to encourage them to improve their behaviour, offer help etc.	
8.0	Environmental Issues	
8.1	<b>Dog Control Orders.</b> SC attended from environmental services and reported	
	that:	
	There were 5 dog wardens across the city	
	There were 3 dog wardens across the city     They deal with fouling, strays and to some extent dangerous dogs	
	(although this is primarily a police responsibility)	
	<ul> <li>There are 400 requests for the dog warden service per month</li> <li>1,000 stray dogs are picked up per year</li> </ul>	
	1,000 stray dogs are picked up per year	
8.2	The new legislation provides for the following:	
	£75 fixed penalty fines for fouling	
	Dogs are not allowed in play areas	
	<ul> <li>Wardens can direct an owner to put a dog on a lead</li> <li>Exclusion areas can be extended</li> </ul>	
	CESO's etc can also issue fines	
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8.3	Dog Wardens do not deal with banned breeds. That is a police function.	
8.4	A query was raised about dog bins not being emptied in parks. JP agreed to contact P&C about this.	JP
٥٦	Community Franciscomment Community Officers (CECO/s) ID has been weathing	
8.5	<b>Community Environment Support Officers (CESO's).</b> JP has been working with McDonalds to reduce littering around its Colton outlet. They are now	
	holding monthly meetings to action the problems associated with its litter.	
8.6	JP distributed a report that detailed many of the activities undertaken by the	
0.0	CESO's in recent months. MM informed the meeting that it will be having an	
	action week in Temple Newsam ward to address the issue of dog fouling and	
	littering. A recent similar project in Garforth saw a total of £525 in fines being	
	handed out.	
8.7	Grounds Maintenance Contract. GJ attended the meeting to report on the	
	new contract that will start in 2012. He informed the meeting that:	
	The 2 concurrent grounds maintenance contracts are with 4 clients:	
	highways and the 3 ALMO's	
	<ul> <li>Next years contract will be for verges to be cut 13 times per year and rosebeds twice per year</li> </ul>	
	A price has been requested for collection of grass after cutting	
	The improvements to the contract will be subject to affordability	

Any other business and date of next meeting	
No other business.	
Date of next meeting: to be set by Area Committee	
	No other business.