

Notes of Meeting held 26th July 2012
Eric Atkinson Centre, Wellington Gardens, Bramley

1 Introductions

- 1.1 Cllr C Gruen welcomed 22 residents and Cllr Taggart to the meeting, 4 apologies were noted including Cllr Hanley.
- 1.2 Cllr Gruen explained that Stephen McBarron, the previous Chair of the forum had stepped down. The Forum wished good luck to Stephen and thanked him for all his hard work.

2 Elections of Chair, Vice Chair and Co-Optee to the Inner West Area Committee

- 2.1 No postal nominations were received, the following were received at the meeting - 1 nomination for Co-Optee to the IW Area Committee, 1 nomination for Vice Chair and 2 nominations for Chair. It was agreed that Elections would take place at the next meeting.

3 Police Update (Inspector Mark Wheeler)

- 3.1 Priority Crime update - House burglaries have dropped from 76 to 19, theft of vehicles has increased by 4 to 23, theft of vehicles has dropped from 10 to 3 and again there have been no robberies. The successful reduction in house burglaries is partly due to visible patrols; a convicted 17 year old burglar was recalled back to a Youth Offender's Institute for a breach of early release conditions and also the good advice given out by Officers to ensure doors and windows are shut and locked.
 - 3.2 Officers have seized 2 vehicles after stop and checks revealed no valid insurance, 1 male was arrested for not stopping at a red light, a male was charged with driving while disqualified. PCSOs have undertaken community speed watch and used the "Smiley Sid"
 - 3.2 Following a question from a resident Insp Wheeler confirmed the stats are inclusive of all incidents in the area.
 - 3.3 It was requested that Smiley Sid be deployed in various places including Moorside, Insp Wheeler agreed that it would continue to be deployed throughout the area when other priorities allow.
 - 3.4 A resident asked if it would it be possible to have a day of action checking for cars with no insurance? Insp Wheeler opened the request to the floor and a show of hands showed a clear majority wanted an action day. Insp Wheeler will arrange and report the findings back to **MW** the next meeting.
 - 3.5 Thanks were offered to Insp Wheeler and his officers for their support to the West Leeds Debt Forum, support for Bramley Carnival, and from Moorside TARA for his work with young people who are noticeably respecting the Police more. Insp Wheeler thanked all for the positive feedback. Please contact Insp Wheeler if you have an event you would like the Police to attend.
- 4 Bramley Shopping Centre (Paul Smith – Centre Manager)**
- 4.1 New River Retail Ltd own the Centre and employ a managing agent. New River are intending to invest in the Centre and to attract a greater range of good quality retailers. Investment will include the View Point Building potentially to be social housing or a community building; potential building on the front near Freeman's Opticians with a major high street store interested; and the grassland to the side of Farmfoods.
 - 4.2 Questions from the floor: will communities have the chance to influence what happens with the View Point Building? New River will be holding a forum to give residents the chance to

comment alongside other engagement plans. Cllr Gruen noted that New River are a business and wish to make a profit. Parking for social housing would depend on the design but there will be parking provisions.

- 4.3 The car park will be look at and will improve the current one way system. The building will be cladded, the greenery re-landscaped and the current lettering removed to improve the look of the building.
- 4.4 New River are trying to attract a range of shops but some of the national chains are not interested in this type of centre, however New River are keen to attract the right retailers. Local and independent shops need to be attracted. It was agreed that pawn shops and betting shops should be discouraged to help those with debt issues in the area.
- 4.5 Cllr Taggart was not aware of any plans for Tesco to withdraw from Bramley. A suggestion was made for a shoppers bus from Rodley to Bramley, this is a bus company issue.

5 **Community First (Cathryn Thom - Barca)**

- 5.1 Community First is a government funded initiative that will run for three years; Barca are panel partners for the pot of money managed by a team of local groups in Bramley. Funding is available up to £2,500 and there is £8,500 available per quarter. Any projects must match the priorities for Bramley which are –
- Improving employability, financial well being and key skills.
 - Promoting sustainable communities through environmental projects and the reduction of carbon footprints.
 - Promoting health and wellbeing across the generations including celebrations and fun.
- Applicants need to ensure their application answers the specific questions, details exactly what the money is to be spent on and links to the priorities. The form is quite simple.

- 5.2 The next deadline for funding is 31st August 2012, for information and access to the forms the website is www.bramleyfirst-leeds.co.uk, or contact Mark Law at Barca on 0113 255 9582
- 5.3 Questions from the floor: how were the panels set up? There was a short deadline for panel creation and local people were approached. Hopefully in the future panel members will be elected.

6 **Any other business**

- 6.1 K Ritchie, Co-Optee to the Area Committee gave an update on the recent Area Committee meeting and spoke of the way the Committee worked including the various reports (Community Engagement, Area Update Report including the Bramley Forum Notes and the Wellbeing Report). Issues KR raised related to Grass Cutting and Overgrown Vegetation and Jason Singh is to follow up these issues.
- 6.2 Bramley in Bloom is now a growing group; the next meeting is 13th August, 7pm at Moorside TARA, all welcome to be involved and to put ideas forward.
- 6.3 Moorside TARA are holding a drop in session about job applications and are looking for workable computers that can be used to access the internet.
- 6.4 Bramley Carnival was a great success despite the weather K Ritchie has had a letter published in the Evening Post about the success of the Carnival.
- 6.5 It is hoped that a music event can be initiated on Bramley Park, potentially to be 28th October 2012. Cllrs will look into the process for agreeing new events. **Cllrs**

7 **Next Meeting**

- 7.1 4th October 2012, Eric Atkinson Centre, Wellington Gardens, Bramley 6.30pm Housing forum, 7.30pm general forum. *** NOTE CHANGE OF DATE ***