

Combined Armley Community Forum and PACT meeting minutes

Date: 18th September 2012

Chair: Cllr Janet Harper

Present: Nick Vaughan (Mansell Construction), Alistair Wood (Int construction), B Mason, K Anderson, B Davies, R Bruce, E Bowes, J Ramell, H & D Boutle, S Friend, L Cheney, D & D Armitage, S Myers, E Handley, B Holmes, A Willis, E Meadowcroft, T Maynard, B & G Lancashire, A Haigh, F Smyth, S Richmond, Cllr Alison Lowe, D Peck, K Lemm, B Draper, D & M Stead, M & M Hogg, X Chevellard, J Gill, J Lynskey, I Renman.

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from S Betts, Mr & Mrs Rayworth, B Nelson, Father I Wright and Inspector Mark wheeler.

2.0 Matters arising

2.1 Cllr Harper referred to point 3.6 of previous minutes regarding nuisance off road motorbikes, a number of members of the forum also raised their concerns regarding off road bikes.

Police made note of these concerns and agreed t look into these complaints.

Police

3.0 Mansell Construction

3.1 Nick Vaughn, Alistair Wood and a number of colleagues involved in the project attended the meeting to present the proposal of 50 affordable homes and a residential care home planned to be built on a private site off Theaker Lane, to meet the housing needs in the area.

Responding to a number of questions, following answers were provided by Nick and Alistair.

- Out of 50 residential units 45 will be two story homes.
- The rent will be set at 80% of the normal market rent.
- All the houses will be for rent and not for sale.
- Care home will comprise of 64 bed facility, with a communal room, which will be available for community events.

3.2 Everyone present favoured the proposal, however some concern was raised regarding the lack of provision of a zebra crossing in the plans.

Representative of the construction company agreed to look into this.

NV /
AW

4.0 Police update

4.1 Sgt. Needham and community support officers attended the meeting and reported

- Reduction in housing burglaries by 49 compared to the figures for 2011.
- Reduction in theft from vehicle by 45 offences, compared to same time in 2011.
- Reduction in robbery by 2 offences, compared to same period in 2011.
- Theft of vehicle however, has gone up by 2 to 12 compared to 10 last year.

4.2 32 year old male from Armley caught on CCTV committing 2 burglaries, identified by local PCSO, was arrested and sentenced to 3 years imprisonment.

4.3 37 year old male from New Wortley was stopped and searched by mounted police in The Clydes, found to be in possession of stolen goods, he is now on tagged curfew until next court hearing in November.

4.4 High visibility patrols are continuing to tackle street drinking and other anti social activities.

4.5 In response to Cllr Harper's mention of seeing street drinkers in New Wortley the night before, Sgt Needham informed that there is no DPPO in place in that area, so street drinking is not an offence, however a drunk causing a nuisance should be reported to the

police.

- 4.6 A resident praised the police stating that his house was burgled while he was on holiday, his TV was taken, however the police took the finger prints and a few days later police phoned him to informing him that the burglar been caught matching the finger prints.

5.0 West Leeds Debt Forum

- 5.1 Norah Gibson attended to present this item and informed the meeting that West Leeds Debt forum was set up in 2004, with the aim of promoting health and well-being through sounder money management.

Main objective of the forum are

- Raising awareness of dangers of loan sharks and where to go for help;
- Promoting affordable sources of credit, highlighting handy loans;
- Informing the local community of local sources of help for family money matters, budgeting and emergencies.

This will be done through a campaign in West Leeds. The project is in partnership with the Illegal Money Lending/Stop Loan Sharks Project. It will include briefing of: local agencies; local professionals/frontline workers; Family of Schools; police; GPs; TARAs and Neighbourhood Forums. There will also be special events in Bramley, Armley, New Wortley, where different agencies will have stalls to inform on issues such as energy saving, credit unions. An information strip will be displayed on the Life Channel in surgeries/clinics. It is also proposed to hire a bill board in Armley for one month. An interactive drama will also be organised with the Shontal drama group. Flyers (approx 25,000) with information about sources of help on a range of issues will be widely distributed

- 5.2 **Sally Dodgson from Trading Standards** also attended the meeting to promote the Scams And Frauds Education For Residents (SAFER) scheme, stating that SAFER initiative is a community education programme, working with older adults in local communities, raising awareness and empowering residents with the knowledge and skills they need to protect themselves against rogue traders, scams and frauds. A flyer containing details of the scheme was also distributed.

6.0 Any other business

- 6.1 Cllr Lowe informed the meeting that some of the Yorkshire stones on Armley town Street will be moved and asked for Chris Way to be invited to the next meeting to provide detailed information. SE
- 6.2 A resident mentioned that grass cutters are not using the openings to get to the grass verges and damaging the walls on Stanningley Road Cllr Lowe agreed to look into this Cllr Lowe
SE
- 6.3 A van parking on pavement was mentioned Police to look into this and report back at the next meeting. Police
- 6.4 Cllr Lowe informed that Morbaine construction can't sell the proposed market until the decision on Morrison's application by the planning.
- 6.5 A request for a contribution of £500 from the forum money for Armley Christmas Lights was approved unanimously.

7.0 Date of next meeting

- 7.1 **Tuesday 16th October 2012 –
From 7.15.p.m.**