

Armley Community Forum

Date: Tuesday 21st March 2006

Present: Cllr J Harper (Chair), A Friebe, Roger Foyle, Patricia Ogunbor, Irene Broughton, J Grainger, Harry Shields, Allan & Isobel Stephenson, Richard Taylor, M Pugh, J Ramall, J Parsons, J Ford, A Covey, J Gill, H Gardiner, N Powell, B Holmes, W Gregg, D Peck, E Hey, T Maynard, H & D Boutle, E Bowes, Cllr A Lowe, C Clark, K Mulligan, E & B Rayworth, G Bickler, Mr & Mrs Dew, L Mann.

ACTION

1.00 WELCOME

1.01 Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting and sent the good wishes of the forum for Cllr McKenna who is still unwell.

2.00 APOLOGIES

2.01 Diane Maynard, K Mann, D Stead, M Stead, Cllr McKenna, B Holmes, G Shaw, S Guy, K Lemm, S Hellewell, K Donnelly, D Newsome, B & M Guthrie, P Ellis, M Woodward.

3.00 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3.01 Agreed as a correct record.

4.00 MATTERS ARISING

4.01 (4.03) The illuminated adverts for Bramley were passed but the Armley ones are not going ahead. Cllr Harper expressed the Armley forum's views to the panel and this is a success for the forum!

4:02 (6.03) Chris Sanderson still not been in contact with Cllr Harper as agreed. Carole Clark to chase up.

4.03 (6.02) Fence still up. Chris Sanderson not been in touch.

4:03 (6.07) Fencing has been made more substantial. Cllr Harper informed the forum that these may not be student accommodation now but ordinary residential.

CC

5.00 POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

5.01 The PCSOs warned the forum of a current spate of burglaries around Little Scotland/ the top of Armley Town St. They asked people to be as secure as possible.

5.02 There have been a number of crack house closures in Armley. The properties will be cleaned up and given to new tenants.

5.03 Cllr Lowe has contacted the NPT hotline with details of gang of young people who have started to hang around the Athlones. This same gang is known from the Cedars. The PCSOs will contact local Cedar PCSOs to inform them of this move.

PCSOs

5.04 Forum members asked if the LCC housing policy was to house certain types of tenant eg. alcoholics in certain areas. Cllr Harper and Lowe explained the LCC's housing of tenants is the Choice-based Lettings policy – so not one particular type in any one area.

5.05 Cllr Harper has written to all the residents at Westerley Croft to inform them that the problem tenant has left voluntarily.

5.06 Graffiti has started again around the Cedars. PCSOs know who is responsible – 1 individual who is covering a wide area - and are following this up. There was some discussion about the offenders clearing up graffiti but the chemicals used to remove paint are dangerous.

5.07 Piles of glass have been evident along Moorfield Rd suggesting car break-ins. PCSOs to check if any have been reported.

PCSOs

- 5.08 Parking on pavement is not illegal if not causing an obstruction ie. Wheelchairs, buggies can get past. However Police Officers use their own discretion on whether to follow up such parking issues.
- 5.09 The Police Surgery is held at Armley Library on Thursday mornings 10:00 – 12:00.

6.00 Armley - Heritage Lottery funding and Conservation Area proposals.

- 6.01 Richard Taylor (Planner in charge of historic buildings) discussed with the forum the possibility of Armley town centre becoming a designated Conservation Area. The area would have to be coherent and within a set boundary – but there are no size restrictions.
- 6.02 Once designated – a lead body eg The Armley forum can then apply for funding/grants through the Townscape Heritage Initiative (Heritage Lottery funded). The funding could be between £¼ M and £2M.
- 6.03 The Conservation Area designation would mean controls over building demolition and tree removal. The Listed Building regulations would not be affected.
- 6.04 The initial expression of interest has to be made to the Heritage Lottery fund by May 8th 2006. There is a longer period after this date for a detailed study. The front runners are Armley and Chapeltown.
- 6.05 The forum were in favour and agreed to be the lead body in the bid. Cllr Harper asked for more information and details as soon as available.

7.00 Waste Management Strategy – Roger Foyle, Patricia Ogunbor.

- 7.01 Patricia Ogunbor presented the draft Integrated Waste Strategy for Leeds as part of the agreed public consultation. Questionnaires were passed out to the forum for completion.

The strategy sets out Leeds City Council's vision of a *zero waste* city, where we reduce, re-use, recycle and recover value from all waste, and where waste becomes a resource. The European Union and our government are demanding that local authorities reduce the amount of waste that they bury in landfill sites. It is estimated that the Council could face fines of around £217 million by 2020 alone if we don't take action now. Leeds City Council's Integrated Waste Strategy for Leeds 2005-2035 sets out long term plans for dealing with our city's waste.

Comments/observations from the forum included:

- Cllr Lowe (as lead Member for Labour for City Services) added that LCC intended to reduce black bin collection to fortnightly to pay for the increased green bin collection. Also that no side waste would be collected and the black bin size would be reduced.
- Green bins/Recycling: These bins are taken to Peterborough to be sorted. They should only be available where there is a green collection route. A lot of these are not being used and are just left out in the street around places such as the Aviaries. Cllr Lowe pointed out that there is not enough LCC investment being made in educating people on how to recycle etc or on recycling schemes like composting.
- The most up-to-date information on recycling is on the website. Plastics of types 1,2,4 ; cardboard and paper; cans; can be put in green bins.
- Glass ie. Bottles should be put in black bins. Cllr Harper – bottle bank facilities should be available. Morgan Pugh requested one at the Grasmere. However these are hard to site as very noisy. RF to discuss possible site with Morgan Pugh.
- Litter still a problem at the Gang. RF to check.
- Cllr Lowe – is streetsweeper refuse recycled? RF – traditionally used as aggregate in cement.

RF

RF

- Binyards – maintenance of these is not the responsibility of LCC but LCC have to clear rubbish every 4 weeks.
- Inner West Area Committee paid for several litter bins at sites including Tong Rd. Area Management to check.

CC

8.00 Any Other Business

- 8.01 Radio masts have not gone to Planning yet. Cllr Harper reiterated that the forum are against those proposed for Stanningley Rd.
- 8.02 Forum okayed the date of the next meeting as the 18th April is a LCC holiday.
- 8.03 Cllr Harper has sight of plans for Mike's carpets – there is still no parking available. Cllr Harper has asked for a meeting with Planning.
- 8.04 The notice of Demolition for Mistress Lane flats has been received by Cllr Harper.
- 8.05 There is a 'Canal Clean-UP' planned for the 7th/8th April. Everyone is welcome – ring David Mackey 0113 395 0977 for details.

9.00 DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 25th April, 7.00pm, Armley One Stop Centre.