

Meeting notes - 31st January 2013
Eric Atkinson Centre, Wellington Gardens, Bramley

1 Introductions

- 1.1 Cllr C Gruen welcomed 15 residents. 6 apologies were noted.

2 Police Update (Inspector Mark Wheeler)

- 2.1 Insp. Wheeler reassured residents that LS13 was not the UK's worst burglary hotspot as recently claimed in the media. The data published by MoneySupermarket.com was based on house burglary insurance claims rather than the number of burglaries. In 2012 there were a total of 176 houses burglaries across the whole area which was a reduction of 65.1% on 2011. There are 15 other Leeds wards with higher burglary figures than Bramley. Many victims in these areas have chosen not to claim or did not have contents insurance. Insp. Wheeler has written to the author of the article to request the article is enhanced to show a fair reflection.
- 2.2 Priority Crime update – between 29th Nov – 30th January there have been 50 house burglaries which is 15 less than 2011. Theft from vehicles has decreased by 8 to 19; theft of vehicles has increased from 5 to 9 and there has only been one robbery compared with 2 in the same period in 2011. There has been an increase in 'other' burglaries. Insp. Wheeler reminded residents not to leave anything of high value in their sheds, outhouses or garages. He thanked the forum for taking on board crime prevention advice and helping to reduce crime in the area.
- 2.3 A resident reported vehicles on Langley Crescent looking for scrap metal. Insp. Wheeler asked residents to report the vehicle registration number of scrap metal vehicles and report them to 101 or emailing Insp. Wheeler directly. A new law has been passed which means scrap metal dealers can only pay for metals by cheque or BACS and not by cash.
- 2.4 Due to the high number of burglaries on the Ganners, a resident enquired whether funding is available to install security measures. KS from the Area Support Team will arrange a site visit to assess what can be done. **KS**
- 2.5 Insp. Wheeler informed the forum he is leaving his position as Inspector from 21st February to take on a role with the response team at Weetwood Police Station. Nathan Franklin will be taking on the role of acting Inspector and will shadow Inspector Wheeler before he leaves. Acting Inspector Franklin can be contacted via email – Nathan.franklin@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk.
- 2.6 Cllr Gruen thanked Inspector Wheeler for all his hard work in the community and his excellent partnership working. Bev thanked Inspector Wheeler behalf of the Moorside TARA for all his work in the area.

3 Recycling (Rachel Charlton)

- 3.1 Prior to the forum RC handed out an evaluation form to gauge residents understanding of recycling. Another form will be circulated prior to the next forum and the results from both will be compared.
- 3.2 RC informed the forum that 59% of waste from black bins goes into landfill.
- 3.3 The following items can be put in the green recycling bin; all paper, glossy magazines, hard back catalogues, dairies, all cardboard except for pizza boxes due to the high fat content on the box, aerosols, dirty cans, plastics marked; 1,2,4, can be accepted i.e. bottle shaped that holds a liquid, or a plastic that will stretch – bread bag. Tetra packs can not be accepted due to the metal lining. There is currently a 15% contamination rate with green bins. Leeds City Council (LCC) currently can not recycle polystyrene.
- 3.4 LCC does not get the revenue from the green bins but has to pay a gate fee (tonnage). The recycling gate fee is considerably less than black bin waste.

- 3.4 Q: Why can you not buy the compost back from the garden waste.
A: All compost needs to be heat treated before it can be reused to kill any bacteria. This is an expensive process which LCC can not afford to do at present. Currently the garden waste is used on reclaimed land.
- 3.6 Q: What are the incentives for residents to recycle?
A: There is a land fill tax for any waste that goes in to the ground which goes up by £8 per tonne per year. The average household produces a tonne of waste a year so LCC have to reduce the amount that goes into landfill to help reduce the costs passed on to residents.
- 3.7 RC reminded residents to recycle all plastics from the home i.e. items from the bathroom, kitchen and shed etc. Lids can be left on bottles etc.
- 3.8 The current green bin contract is coming to an end. In the tendering process for the new contract LCC will ask companies to include additional services i.e. glass and textile collection. The new contract will be live at the end of summer.
- 3.9 The 80% of the city is proposing to go to an alternate week collection (week one - black bin collection, week two green bin collection). Bramley is expected to change over in the Autumn.
- 4 **Environmental Services (Martin Beaument, Enforcement Officer, WNW Locality)**
- 4.1 MB informed the forum that the service is in the final stages of a restructure. The service covers; bins on streets, graffiti, fly tipping, inspection of vehicle carrying waste, over grown vegetation, drop curbs, dog fouling, drainage issues and works closely with Streetscene.
- 4.2 Residents are responsible for taking in their bins after a collection and store them in an appropriate place. Residents can be fined for leaving bins on the street. If there is any rubbish left on the street after a bin collection, Street Services are responsible for clearing the rubbish not the bin operatives.
- 4.3 A resident expressed concerns over the length of time it take to get a bin installed once agreed. The WNW Locality Team now carry out this work which means the process has improve and is more responsible.
- 4.4 A complaint was raised about operatives are not picking litter up around the bins. The service is working closely with their supervisors to address this problem.
- 4.5 A resident enquired whether more bins could be installed at the entrance of Rodley Park. The WNW Locality team are responsible for the bins outside the park and Parks and Countryside are responsible for the bins inside the park. MB took the residents details and will carry out an assessment.
- 5 **Bramley Baths**
- 5.1 John Battle thanked the Forum on behalf of the Friends of Bramley Baths for their support in reopening Bramley Baths.
- 5.2 The Baths opened on the 1st January 2013 and Danny Whiteley has been appointed to the new role of Centre Development Manager. As well as swimming and the gym, Bramley Baths runs range of activities such as Zumba, Hula Hooping, sauna, steam room , a social area and the centre has rooms to hire. The gym and swimming pool are run by qualified and trained professionals.
- 5.3 The baths are setting up a life guard scheme which is looking to recruit locals aged 16-20 to be trained and gain a qualification at the end of the process.
- 5.4 Currently they are looking in to offering a discounted rate for the elderly and also allocating a number of hours a week to help and support vulnerable children.
- 5.5 Open hours are;
Monday – Friday 8am -1pm, 4pm - 8pm.
Saturday 8am – 1pm,

Sunday 8am – 12noon.

- 5.6 DW offered the forum a room to host one of the forum meetings in.
- 5.7 Residents asked for swim only price. DW explained that because the costs of the chemicals and the heating were so expensive it is not viable for the Baths to offer a swim only Membership. The classes e.g. Zumba are included in the Membership and they are looking to introduce mother and tots groups, kids Zumba, tumble tots and a baby gym.
- 5.8 JB invited forum members to attend the Friends of Bramley Baths meetings as they would welcome any suggestions made by the community at improving the Baths.
- 5.9 Residents can not use their bodyline card at the centre.
- 5.10 Both DW and JB reinforced the message - use the Baths or lose it.

5 **Area Committee Update (Kevin Ritchie – Bramley Forum Co-optee)**

- 5.1 KR gave an update on what was discussed at the last Area Committee, he also noted that the documents for the committee are available on the Leeds City Council website (www.leeds.gov.uk)
- 5.2 The deadline for applications for the Wellbeing commissioning round ended on the 2nd Feb.

6.0 **Any other business (All)**

- 6.1 Cllr Gruen talked through the forward plan and the forum agreed to a Crime themed meeting for the March forum. ZT to circulate the forward plan with the forum notes.

ZT

- 6.2 A resident requested an officer from the dog warden team to be added to the agenda.

6.2 Events for 2013:

- 1st June - Bramley Festival
- 2nd June - Bramley Music Festival
- 21st July - Bramley Carnival
- 29th Nov - Christmas lights switch on

- 6.3 Gloria Dawson the new Locality Community Organiser introduced herself to the forum and explained her role. She will help to promote the Forum through her community contacts,

7.0 **Next Meeting**

- 7.1 28th March 2013, venue TBC
6.30pm Housing forum, 7.30pm community forum.