

## Armley Forum Minutes of meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**Chair:** Cllr Harper

**Present:** Cllr Lowe, Cllr McKenna, K Anderson, B Mason, B Davies, E Bowes, D&H Boutle, S Richmond, F Smyth, E Meadowcroft, X Chevillard, P Hannah, D Peck, B Draper, K Harrison, D&M Stead, P Kempster, D Gregory, A Willis, T Maynard, J Ford, M Pugh, J Ramell

**Apologies:** Mr & Mrs Lawrence, Mrs Lemm, Mr Lykski, Hon Ald B Nelson, Mr & Mrs Rayworth, M Quirke

### 1 **Welcome and introductions**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2 **Minutes of the last meeting**

- 2.1 Update on Environmental Enforcement issues (John Pearson provided post meeting)
- Dog fouling on Cedars & Carr Crofts: Increased patrols and dog wardens made aware
  - Environment Agency response to the waste site on Carr Crofts: awaiting update
  - KFC dumping commercial waste: 2 visits to this company spoke to management re responsibilities last visit 26/3/13
  - Beer cans and bottles on Fearnley Place: Reported for litter picking
  - Graffiti on Lay Lane sub station: Reported for cleaning
  - Rubbish dumped by the recycling centre behind Wilkinsons & Tesco: Reported for clearing to locality team
  - Rubbish and fly tipping by the Commercial pub on Wortley Road: It is in the car park area and land owners made aware of the need to clear
  - Over grown vegetation near KFC: Householder has now cut back

2.2 York Stone removed from Gotts Park – this had been stolen and will be replaced.

### 3 **Police Update**

3.1 Inspector Nathan Franklin introduced himself as Mark Wheeler's successor in charge of the local neighbourhood policing team. Overall, crime and anti-social behaviour has fallen by over 1000 incidents over the last twelve months.

3.2 In the first three weeks of March, there have been 12 fewer burglaries in Armley than the same period last year. Robbery is also down, and motor vehicle crime is about the same.

3.3 The NPT have carried out vehicle checks between Armley and Bramley to deter offenders.

3.4 Cllr Harper congratulated the police on the reduction in crime.

### 4 **Armley Town Street Heritage Scheme**

4.1 Wyn Jones from Leeds City Council attended to report on the evaluation study of the Town Street improvements. Most respondents said the area looks better, and the new shop fronts are particularly popular. The number of vacant properties has decreased and the advertising hoardings have been removed from the Mikes Carpets building.

4.2 Shoppers felt the area was busier, but local businesses disagreed. Chewing gum is a problem, and Wyn is organising a deep clean this summer.

4.3 They keystones are an attractive feature and there will be a new interpretation board installed to explain their significance by the compass feature.

4.4 The scheme to improve the Mikes Carpets building is going through planning to repair the roof and windows. The work is being funded through the Heritage Lottery but the owner has made a significant investment in the planning stages.

5 **Any other business**

5.1 Lots of cigarette ends around the Royal Pub on Town Street. K Sibson to report to Environmental Enforcement. KS

5.2 When will the canal towpath be re-opened? Cllr Harper commented that Ward Members hadn't been consulted on the works.

5.3 Will the Council lock the gates at the Rose Garden on Gotts Park? K Sibson to find out. Cllr Harper agreed there is a need to keep trying to improve the area, and the threat of vandalism shouldn't be an excuse as many improvements in the ward had been left alone. KS

5.4 Station Road Ginnel – The ginnel was cut back and the branches have been left piled up at the end. K Sibson to ask for their removal. KS

5.5 Cllr Harper reported that the Highways Agency will be carrying out safety work on the Stanningley By-Pass that will cause some delays.

6 **Next meeting**

6.1 Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm Armley Library  
Invite Chris Way from Highways.