

JOINT CONSULTATION MEETING
between
THE STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE
of the
DONCASTER FEDERATION OF TENANTS' and RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATIONS
and
ST LEGER HOMES of DONCASTER
and
DONCASTER MBC
held on
29th April 2010 at 1.00pm
in the
DONCASTER FEDERATION'S TENANTS' & RESIDENTS' RESOURCE CENTRE

PRESENT

STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE

Andy Kerr	(AK)	Chair
Keith Jobson	(KJ)	Vice-Chair
Maureen Tennison	(MT)	Committee Member
Ken Barron	(KB)	Committee Member
Michelle Heeley	(MH)	Committee Member
Anne Pawson (AP)		Committee Member
Mavis Williams	(MW)	Committee Member
Brian Naughton	(BN)	Committee Member
George Hardy	(GH)	Committee Member

ST LEGER HOMES / DMBC

Judith Jones	(JJ)	Director of Customer Services SLHD
Meryl Liddell	(ML)	Community Liaison Manager
Alan Cunningham	(AC)	Neighbourhood Manager DMBC
Ian Fletcher	(IF)	Housing Policy & Partnership Officer (St Leger Homes Client Liaison)
Janet Walker		Community Liaison admin Support (minutes)

1. WELCOME

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending followed by a run through of the housekeeping rules.

2. APOLOGIES

Susan Jordan	Chief Executive
Jayne Tindall	Committee Member
Dave Maxey	Committee Member
Bob Snashall	Committee Member
John Bartkus	Committee Member
Bernadette James	Committee Member
Marion Baxter	Committee Member
Dave Rich	

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were passed as a true and accurate record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

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ML stated that the BME questionnaire was being sent out today.

MT gave an update on the Selective Tenancies in Edlington and that this worthwhile scheme was still being worked on.

ML explained that SLHD was still in the throes of new terms of usage for the communal halls. A meeting will be held in the coming weeks and it will be proposed to use the Bhatia Centre, Polton Close and or Latin Gardens as pilots for the new proposals. KB asked ML to elaborate. ML went on to explain that the documents so far produced for the usage and hiring of the halls had been sent to DMBC for approval. There was one more document to work on before this will be rolled out. The 3 schemes were chosen for their different attributes and any problems would be worked out before it was rolled out to the other schemes.

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AK reported that the raffle had raised £950 not £800 but with the pamper day expected to cost more than was anticipated a more accurate figure was not available at the moment.

KB asked JJ for any further clarification regarding the Management Agreement. JJ replied that once our position has been clarified then it will go out in HouseProud and a letter will be sent to TARA's. JJ stated she would welcome any feedback to see what the issues were.

AK asked how the Introductory Tenancies were progressing. JJ stated these would commence on 7th June.

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KJ stated the tenants of Cadeby house would like to pass on their thanks to JJ for her intervention with the guttering repairs. These repairs were completed in just 3 days. JJ accepted the "thank you" and was pleased the tenant's problems had been resolved.

A short discussion took place on the new alarm system monitoring system. BN explained to all present about the pendant and MT also explained the process. The increase in the charge wasn't to pay for the new system as money had been allocated for this. The increase was to bring us in line with everyone else. It was generally felt that this new system was a vast improvement and more reliable, but more information was needed. AC to take back and obtain an update.

JJ gave an update of the plans to update the 54 communal halls. Risk assessments were being carried out. The estimated time scales were till June 2010 and the estimated start time would be July 2010. MW stated that a lot of debris was being left on the floors after the workmen had left and had received lots of complaints from tenants. JJ to take this up.

ML explained that regarding the cold calling – the cold callers had a legal right to walk on the footpaths but could minimise the nuisance with no cold calling zone. This would

not totally stop the cold calling but would help to reduce it. Both KJ and AK shared methods of reducing the cold calling.

5. DIRECTORS REPORT

JJ spoke about anti social behaviour and how the new team was nearly in place. This team would be based at Unity House. Lynn Williamson is the member of staff who is already in post, Simon Riley is the manager and Julie Jablonski will also be working closely with the team. Any high level anti social behaviour case in any agency will be allocated to this team. Service on the ground will remain the same and it may only be a handful of cases that need multi agency partnering. AC's view is that this is a dedicated team who would be assisting the SNT.

BN informed JJ that he had completed a lot of forms regarding a problem in his area and no action could be taken despite people being willing to give statements. JJ responded that she would be happy to look at the case. AC stated that there was a big push to look at the Calm estate but there were difficulties over the layout of the estate.

AP reported to the meeting concerns with a tenant in her area and the fact that the tenant had invited all her friends to big party planned for the weekend. AP was extremely worried and asked for assistance on how she could proceed with this problem. JJ took all the details and would speak to Pat Hagan and Ian Bateman regarding this matter. AP was also given the number for the "Dawn Patrol".

KB expressed concerns on the monitoring forms for Anti social behaviour. He had sent some in previously but was aware that if none had been sent in for 2 months relating to the issue then it would be closed down as "no further action". JJ responded that different cases warrant different responses. Normally if there are no further occurrences in 3 months then it is closed down but it can be re-opened if problems restart. The whole process was explained. AC stated that a multi agency meeting occurs every month, problems are discussed and they will link into the new team.

JJ informed the meeting of the good news over the employment of a new director Julie Crook who is from Nottingham City Homes and prior to that worked for Kirklee's Also yesterday a new assistant director for Human Resources has accepted the post.

JJ stated that all had already introductory tenancies and they were now clarifying the rules and regulations. Also we are still finalising the self assessment for the inspection.

6. COMMUNITY LIAISON / DIVERSITY REPORT

ML went through the report. ML informed everyone that a local firm would be carrying out the training for us. They are Rossington Welfare Learning Centre. A meeting will take place to plan the programme for the year.

MT asked if the Food Safety certificates had arrived yet – ML to chase up. KJ asked if the training will all take place at Rossington instead of The Lyn Ralph Suite. ML replied no the company will travel to our choice of venue. ML went on to inform all that we would be adding 2 accredited courses to the programme.

ML spoke briefly about Goals UK. SLHD will be letting them use our communal Halls. It is proposed to run a one day course for staff so they can filter it to tenants of what it is all about having attended themselves.

MT spoke of the Motorbike Project and how Simon had moved to Sheffield and has started a similar project there but with BME children. ML to meet with MT to discuss this further.

7. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair stated that he and KJ had received a letter accusing a TARA of being racist. This had been investigated and the allegations were unfounded.

Another TARA had had concerns regarding the Chair of the TARA. They had been informed that the TARA committee runs the TARA and not just the Chair. The Chair had since resigned.

The Chair reported that during the first Tickhill Tara meeting some residents from an area in Tickhill called Orange Croft had complained about getting ignored when they require assistance and getting passed from pillar to post. They are not travellers but feel stereotyped because they live in the caravan residential site which belongs to DMBC. AC and IF to take this back.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

KJ stated that 15 months ago communal aerials had been erected at Middlegate but at the moment 27 of the properties were not receiving adequate reception. The problem was the company who had the contract was not going into each flat to ensure there TV's were set up properly and this needs resolving. JJ to take this matter up.

ML asked for the names of the SJC members who would be attending The Barnsley Federation Network meeting on May 11th and for the Harrogate Conference on June 24th. ML asked for the names to be sent by Tues 4th May.

10. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 27th May at 1pm in the Doncaster Federation's Tenants' and Residents' Resource Centre, 40 St James Street, Balby Bridge, DN1 3BB.