



**Central Area Forum Meeting
26th May 2010**

Intake Community Centre, Shaftesbury Avenue

Minutes of Meeting:

Date: 26th of May
Time: 10.30am
Venue: Intake Community Centre, Shaftesbury Avenue

Present:

Judith Jones	SLHD Director Customer Services
Dave Willis	SLHD Neighbourhood Manager
Gavin Shawcroft	SLHD Community Liaison Officer
Katie Dorricott	SLHD Admin Support

Cllr. Jameson
 Cllr. Champson
 Cllr. Bosmans
 Cllr. Stuart Exelby

Mavis Williams	Chairperson	Wheatley C.A.N TARA
Karen Roper		
Pat Sull		
Johnathon Sims	Intake High Rise TARA	
K. Doyle	Intake Central TARA	
Ruth Davies	Ennerdale TARA	
David Evans	Ennerdale TARA	
N. Ritchy	Ennerdale TARA	
Marion Baxter	Intake Central TARA	
Rodger Haldenby		

Item No	Item	Action
1	<p><u>Welcomes</u></p> <p>Mavis welcomed the group and hands over to Kim to explain Health and Safety and Housekeeping.</p> <p>Kim highlights all exits in case of a fire.</p>	
2	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Apologies are made for Kim Nousekeeling, Mark Thompson, Patrick Wilson, Lucinda Cocking, Alan Dean, Roy Dean, Eva Hughes, Stephen Coddington and Moira Hood.</p>	

3	<p><u>Minutes of Last Meeting</u></p> <p>Ruth points out that on page one of the minutes, it refers to 26 flats should be 26 bungalows.</p> <p>David adds that Rob Chappelle did not mention decency work to him at/after the last meeting. This is noted and will be followed up by David W.</p> <p>No more issues with last meetings minutes.</p>	DW
4	<p><u>Judith Jones – Director of Customer Services</u></p> <p>Judith explains that this is the second time St Leger Homes of Doncaster has been invited to a forum and the following presentation is to inform the group about St Leger Homes of Doncaster, what they do and what they have achieved. It is also an opportunity to ask any questions.</p> <p>(Please see leaflet handed out at meeting for reference)</p>	
5	<p><u>Managers Report</u></p> <p>David Willis reports.</p> <p>St Leger Homes of Doncaster have been working with the Fire Service doing safety checks around the Balby Bridge area. Any outstanding properties which have not received this safety check are due to no access being given. Letters have been dropped to inform these tenants and visits will be given to ensure all properties have received this safety check.</p> <p>Alison Douglas has been taking part in a joint investigation with the Police in order to tackle two cases of anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>There have been 10 bids for improvements by SLHD.</p> <p><u>Hyde Park</u></p> <p>Although reportages of houses broken into have fallen recently, the number of tenants leaving their properties and not informing SLHD or DMBC has risen. There has been a letter drop to inform people of this and investigations are being made to identify culprits.</p> <p>A New Opportunities centre has been opened on Carr House Road, offering services such as debt counselling and back to work support. This is being promoted with drop in letters.</p> <p>St.Leger Homes of Doncaster are currently working with DMBC to organise a cleaning operation on Clarke Avenue, regarding dirty alley ways.</p> <p>Intake Fire and Rescue are currently working with St.Leger Homes of Doncaster and tenants in order to find a suitable,</p>	

	<p>empty property in the high rise flats to train in.</p> <p>Dave Randerson is currently organising a fencing scheme for vulnerable tenants on Milo Close in order to combat anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Unity Flats has organised a gardening scheme for Primary School children in order to engage with people and take pride in the area. Currently going very well.</p> <p>Safer Neighbourhood Team and a key partner (Neighbourhood Alliance) removed 20 tons of household rubbish in 4 days. Both private and council rented gardens were cleared by Estate Officers Dale Fox and Dave Randerson. HMP prison team also helped and paints and materials were provided to the Community Pay Back Team.</p> <p>More parking spaces were created at Unity Flats.</p> <p>No issues on Clay Lane.</p> <p>At Hexthorpe House a former allotment site has been cleared (rubbish removed, trees and plants pruned, etc) which in turn has reduced anti-social behaviour and improved local environment.</p> <p>Balby South has conducted a door knocking exercise to stop issues. There have been problems with wheelie bin fires and alleyways. Letters have been sent out and a street cleanse has been arranged.</p> <p>Following the issues on Windsworth Road regarding motorbikes, warnings have been handed out to all offenders caught.</p> <p>From 07/06/2010, introductory tenancies will be introduced to all new council house tenants. This will be a 12 month probationary term ensuring all new tenants stick to existing rules and policies. If these are broken, legal action can be taken and future housing can be refused. It is possible to apply for the 12 month term to be extended another 6 months in certain circumstances. During the 12 month term it will not be possible for the individual to buy their house but the 12 months will count as a discount towards it. No existing tenants will be held to this probationary period, it will only be new tenants.</p>	
6	<p><u>Performance Indicators</u></p> <p>Please refer to the sheet handed out.</p>	

7	<p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>Mavis reported that the work done by the Neighbourhood Alliance has made a huge difference.</p> <p>The British Heart Foundation made a visit, checking the health of individuals. Job Helpers have also been visiting the centre.</p> <p>DMBC have been visiting and surveying properties for heating, helping tenants to save money on gas and electric.</p> <p>Rodger discusses the Estate Improvement Fund and explains that they are currently looking for tenant input. They have been budgeted £80,000 for the year and the closing date for all suggestions will be 30/06/2010.</p>	
8	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>After receiving a leaflet in the Doncaster Free Press offering a "Have Your Say in the Neighbourhood" meeting, an individual (name not given) chose to attend and share an issue he had with a property on Westminster Crescent (76A). According to the individual, this property had been empty for around 6 months, despite being repeatedly reported to St.Leger Homes of Doncaster. He sensed there could be an issue when he noticed the curtains and windows in this property had never been opened. After reporting this to St.Leger Homes of Doncaster again, he was informed that the property was indeed occupied. He contacted the Police to check on the safety of the tenant and it took them around 30 minutes to check whether the house was occupied or not.</p> <p>Individual wanted to know why this continued for so long and why the house was considered lived in.</p> <p>Judith replied that she could not answer at that point but she would get Dave's team to investigate the issue. She asked the individual for his address and contact details and added that a follow-up would be written in the next minutes.</p> <p>Malcolm added that he had offered the use of the Community Hall for the next meeting, in order to save money. When the poster was printed, the wrong address had been written meaning there had been issues finding the Community Hall.</p> <p>Judith offered her apologies and stated that it will be followed up.</p> <p>Gavin adds that he will pass the information onto his team to ensure all existing details are changed on the system.</p>	<p>JJ, DW.</p> <p>JJ, GS</p>
9.	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting</u> <u>TBC</u> Tenant's and Resident's Resource Centre St James Street Doncaster</p>	

