



West Area Forum Minutes

Minutes of Meeting:

Date: 10 January 2011

Time: 10.30am

Venue: Tenants & Residents Resource Centre

Present:

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| Ken Baron (Chair) | - | Poets Corner TARA |
| Jim Tierney | - | Craganour TARA |
| Joyce Tierney | - | Craganour TARA |
| Maureen Tennison | - | Edlington Royal TARA |
| Carol Sellars | - | Oval TARA |
| Margaret Cook | - | Poets Corner TARA |
| Frank Knapton | - | Poets Corner TARA & Mexborough TARAs Together |
| Linda Teasdale | - | Poets Corner TARA & Mexborough TARAs Together |
| Helen Kilshaw | - | SLHD Senior Performance Analyst |
| Heather Saunders | - | SLHD Community Engagement Officer |
| Paul Lightfoot | - | SLHD Assistant Director Property Services |
| Carole Regan | - | SLHD Team Leader |
| Chris Mills | - | DMBC Councillor |
| Georgina Mullis | - | DMBC Councillor |

Apologies:

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| Jayne Tindall | - | Coronation Area TARA |
| Katrina Walker | - | Coronation Area TARA |
| Margaret Adamson | - | Edlington Royal TARA |
| Julie Adams | - | Latin Gardens & Emley Drive Area TARA |
| Michelle Heeley | - | Latin Gardens & Emley Drive Area TARA |
| Roy Lund | - | Mexborough Common TARA |
| Anne Coates | - | The Oval TARA |
| Mary Mayhew | - | The Oval TARA |
| Lisa Swainston | - | DMBC Neighbourhood Manager |
| Mick Werritt | - | St Leger Homes of Doncaster Director Property Service |
| Dave Wilkinson | - | St Leger Homes of Doncaster Area Manager |
| Elsie Butler | - | DMBC Councillor |
| Sandra Holland | - | DMBC Councillor |
| Ray Mullis | - | DMBC Councillor |
| Kevin Rodgers | - | DMBC Councillor |
| Craig Sahman | - | DMBC Councillor |
| David Holland | - | DMBC Councillor |
| Deborah Hutchinson | - | DMBC Councillor |

| Item No | Item | Action |
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| 1. | <u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Ken welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting. | |
| 2. | <u>Health and Safety</u> Ken advised the members of the meeting where the toilet facilities | |

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| | and fire exits were located. | |
| 3. | <p><u>Matters Arising from Last Meeting</u> Page 2 The road safety sign outside of Windhill Primary still needs to be changed for easier visibility. Maureen Tennison agreed that she would discuss this with PC Scott Christie. She went on to advise that after speaking to Scott she had found out that 2 of the banners had been removed during the snowy weather, it is believed that these were used as impromptu sledges.</p> <p>Maureen added that there were now a small number of entries (50) to the design a 'PC Bumble Logo' competition. Only four schools took part in the logo design competition, it is hoped that a panel will be formed by members of the West TARAs and funders to choose a winner, members were advised that Heather Saunders would contact each of the TARAs with a time, date and venue for the meeting.</p> <p>Page 3 Selective Licensing – Maureen Tennison advised the members unfortunately selective licensing will not be going ahead Edlington, TARA is not happy. Meeting with mayor 2.5hrs, the whole project is brick walled, Members of the Edlington Royal TARA are to organise a date with the mayor for a walk around the area.</p> <p>Page 4 Performance – Helen Kilshaw Helen advised the members of the meeting that at the last forum meeting she had requested members took the Performance Indicator information back to their TARAs and look at ways in which they would like the information to be displayed. However, there had been very little feedback received form across the borough.</p> <p>Helen commented that the call answering time rose in December due to the inclement weather. There were reports of some people not being able to get through to the call centre, however Paul reassured the members that this was down to the volume of calls on the number of lines available and that a message was relayed to the caller.</p> <p>Helen Kilshaw reported that ASB Issues are currently reported en masse per area, however it is possible to break down the statistics to demonstrate what types of ASB are happening in the area. Frank Knapton asked if there was co-ordination between agencies Carole Regan informed the members that the estates teams do liaise with the Safer Neighbourhood team to ensure that cases were thoroughly investigated. Maureen Tennison added that there is a lot of multi-agency work both frontline and behind the scenes.</p> <p>Frank Knapton raised a question with regards to whether tenants were offered the option to convert to gas central heating if their solid fuel system was condemned, and whether it would be possible for figures to be supplied on the number of properties failing the service. Paul agreed that he would look into this and report back at a future meeting.</p> | <p>HS Completed</p> <p>PL</p> |

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| | <p>Helen advised the members of the meeting that the current re-let statistics for vacant homes are still set to the old definition, in order for the information to be more relevant this has to be amended to have the same criteria as other social housing providers. Cllr Mills asked if it would be possible for two statistics to be provided – short and long term empty properties.</p> <p>A number of issues were raised by the members with regards to Pathfinder initiatives in both Edlington and Mexborough, especially with regards to who pays for properties to be re-secured if they are broken into after being vacated by the tenant. Paul commented that he would look into this and report back at a future meeting.</p> | PL |
| 4. | <p><u>Neighbourhood Manager Report</u> <u>Carole Regan</u> Carole advised the members of the meeting that as part of the Operation Alliance initiative that has took place in Edlington 70/ 80 tenancy verifications have been completed. As part of this Customer Profile Questionnaires have also been updates. The rolling skip in the area had been successful and this will be moving down to the Royal estate on Wednesday</p> <p>Jim & Joyce Tierney comment that on Bolton Street, Denaby there is currently a steep path which leads to the road and unsafe. Paul agreed that he will look into the legalities as to whether a barrier should be erected.</p> | PL |
| | <p><u>Directors Report - Paul Lightfoot</u> Paul advised the members that operatives were still under pressure owing to the high volume of issues that had occurred due to the inclement weather. He commented that around 40 tenants were moved out of their homes whilst work was being completed, it may be the end of January by the time these properties are back on track.</p> <p>Cllr. Georgina Mullis asked Paul if a system could be put in place where councillors were kept in the loop of problems they had reported on behalf of the tenants?</p> <p>Linda Teasdale commented that it may be beneficial for tenants to have an information leaflet explaining to them how pipe work can be disconnected from the boiler to ensure the system continues to run and does not freeze up, Paul advised that this would not be suitable for all tenants as it can be very difficult for some tenants to undertake this kind of work.</p> <p>Carol Sellars asked if there was anything the TARA would be able to do with regards to issuing (Advice Sheets) to local tenants? Paul advised that he was currently speaking to boiler manufacturers and that advice would be issued with future boiler services. Helen Kilshaw also commented that it would be a good idea for an article to run in HouseProud and information to be also available on the SLHD website.</p> | |
| 8. | <p><u>Any Other Business</u> A question was raised by a member of the meeting with regards to what work was being carried out to a property on Hirstgate, Mexborough. Paul advised the members that he would look into this issue and report back at a future meeting.</p> | PL |

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| | <p>Maureen Tennison enquired when the work for the additional parking at Coronation Gardens will commence. Carol Regan agreed to look into the issue and advise Maureen of the proposed date.</p> <p>Jim Tierney commented that a new tenant had recently moved into a property on Craganour. The tenant has 2 handicapped children and although decency has already been completed in the area, the previous tenant had refused the works. Paul agreed that he would have an inspector look at the property.</p> | <p>CR</p> <p>PL</p> |
| 10. | <p><u>Date & Time of Next Meeting</u> Monday 7 March, 2011 Tenant's and Resident's Resource Centre, St James Street, Doncaster, DN1 3BB</p> | |