

Doncaster Federation of Tenants' and Residents' Associations.

Annual General Meeting

13 March, 2010

Present

Brian Naughton	Chair (Standing Joint Committee – Doncaster Federation of Tenants' and Residents' Associations)
Mavis Williams	Secretary (Standing Joint Committee – Doncaster Federation of Tenants' and Residents' Associations)
Andy Kerr	Treasurer (Standing Joint Committee – Doncaster Federation of Tenants' and Residents' Associations)
Susan Jordan	Chief Executive (St. Leger Homes of Doncaster)
Judith Jones	Chief Executive (St. Leger Homes of Doncaster)

TARA Representatives:

Latin Gardens & Emley Drive TARA (Scawsby)

Coronation Area TARA (Warmsworth)

Edlington Royal TARA

Craganour TARA (Denaby)

Middlegate TARA (Scawthorpe)

Poets Corner TARA (Mexborough)

Polton Close TARA (Stainforth)

Black Minority Ethnic TARA (Borough Wide)

Ennerdale TARA (Wheatley)

Blowhall & Stubbins TARA – (Edlington)

CALM TARA – Armthorpe

Model Village TARA – Woodlands

Radburn Estate TARA – Rossington

Redhouse Community TARA – Woodlands

Rossington Central TARA

The Homestead TARA – Bentley

Westbourne and Mallard TARA

Highfields TARA

Intake Central TARA

Wheatley Park Comm. Act. Net. TARA

Apologies

Frank Knapton Poets Corner TARA (Mexborough)

Linda Teasdale Poets Corner TARA (Mexborough)

Brian Naughton opened the meeting by announcing a one minutes silence to be held in memory of Lyn Ralph the former chair of the Standing Joint Committee who passed away in October, 2009.

Health and Safety

The chair informed members of the meeting, that there was no planned fire alarm, so if an alarm was raised members of the meeting were to make there way to the fire exits and follow the exit routes displayed.

Welcome and Introductions

The chair extended a warm welcome to all members of the meeting and the representatives from Rotherfed – the federation which supports tenants and residents in the Rotherham area. The chair also apologised if he appeared to be nervous- as this was the first time he had chaired this meeting. He then went on to introduce the people on the head table – Susan Jordan, Judith Jones, Mavis Williams and Andy Kerr.

The Chair also informed the meeting that it was his pleasure to announce that Mavis Williams was to be made an honorary lifetime member of the Standing Joint Committee in

recognition of the work she had done in the past 18 years. Ian Ralph (Son of the late Chair Lyn Raplh) presented Mavis Williams presented with a certificate.

Election of Standing Joint Committee Members

Each of the candidates for election were then introduced to the members of the meeting, and their profile summaries read out. The election process was discussed and clarified to ensure that the voters understood how the votes would be counted and what terms of office were available.

The election then took place and TARA members selected new members to sit on the Standing Joint Committee.

Election Results:

Tenant Members:	George Hardy – 3 years
	Bernadette James – 3 years
	John Bartkus – 3 years
	Elaine Fleming – 2 years
Resident Members:	Jayne Tindall – 3 years
Leaseholder Members	Dave Maxey – 2 years
	Bob Snashall – 3 years

Launch of Tenants Compact 2010 – 2012 and Tenant Participation Strategy

Meryl Liddell (Community Liaison Manager) advised the members of the meeting that although they were two separate documents, they work very closely in partnership with each other. The Strategy is the overriding document which illustrates St Leger Homes of Doncaster commitment to Tenant Participation and the Compact follows this by clearly showing the ways in how tenant participation can and will be achieved.

Meryl said that all Tenants would receive a copy of the summary document. The meeting then unanimously agreed that they supported the documents and that they were happy for them to be released into the public domain.

Minutes of the Last Meeting (March 2009)

The minutes were checked for both accuracy and amendments.

P1 – Andy Kerr is the current Treasurer not secretary.

The members of the meeting then unanimously agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

Constitution Amendments

Brian Naughton explained that there had been some changes made to the Standing Joint Committee constitution, these had been clearly highlighted on the handout members had been given. The meeting unanimously agreed with the amendments to the constitution.

Keith Jobson (Middlegate TARA) asked if these changes would be actioned immediately? Brian advised that the amendments would come into action in March 2011.

Marie Lane (BME TARA) addressed the meeting stating that if the amendments have already been formally agreed, would it not be good practice to formally adopt them with immediate effect?

A discussion was held with regards to this and a proposal was made by Marie Lane that all changes should take immediate effect. Margaret Hickson (CALM TARA) seconded the proposal and a vote was held. It was unanimously agreed that the changes should come into effect immediately.

This decision is to be written into the constitution for the next Annual General Meeting.

Chairs' Annual Report.

Brian explained that the last 5 months have been very difficult for the Federation. Lyn has been very much missed and he thanked all members of the Standing Joint Committee, Community Liaison team and St Leger Homes for all of their support. He then requested that the members of the meeting formally adopted the Annual Report, this was unanimously agreed.

Treasurers' Annual Report.

Andy Kerr gave a brief report with regards to the finances of the Doncaster Federation of Tenants and Residents Associations.

Costs for the running of the Tenants and Residents Resource Centre were on the increase due to the installation of broadband, longer opening hours of the centre and building costs.

Andy explained that the facilities at the centre were becoming much more widely used, and were often booked by external organisations for both room hire and lunches.

Donations had also been given to support the family following the tragic fire in Highfields and to the soldier who had been stabbed to death.

Jim Tierney thanked all members of the meeting for both their physical and financial support following the fire in Highfields.

The meeting unanimously agreed that the financial report was a true and accurate record.

Brian thanked the members for their support and said that the organisation becomes stronger and stronger each year, and that by standing together and united we can achieve.

St. Leger Homes – Directors Questions

David Evans – Ennerdale TARA

With regards to the address of the community hall, would it be possible to have a new sign?

It was agreed that the issue would be looked into.

Jayne Tindall – Coronation Area TARA – Warmsworth

The TARA would like to thank Heather Saunders (seconded Community Liaison Officer) for all of the hard work she has done whilst covering the position.

Keith Jobson – Middlegate TARA – Scawthorpe

Keith commented that most people are aware of the conflicting press that St Leger Homes have received in the last few weeks with regards to the length of contract given by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council. He said that the Doncaster Federation of Tenants' and Residents' Associations fully support St. Leger Homes and would individual TARAs to echo this support.

Susan Jordan thanked Keith for this support and informed the meeting that the decision had been called in by the Scrutiny Panel to be reviewed as a majority of the councillors had been in support of granting a further 5 years to St. Leger Homes.

Brian closed the meeting and thanked all for their attendance. He reiterated that by working together great things could be achieved.