

Minutes of the North East Forum Meeting
8th November 2006, 10.30am
In The Haywood Room

Present

Ken Barley	Thorne South TARA
Tom Cunningham	Community Liaison Officer (SLHD)
Naz Hussain	Federation Support Officer (Minutes)
Val Jennings	Calm TARA
Mary Menton	Calm TARA
Brian Naughton	SJC / Calm TARA (Chair)
George Hardy	Polton Close TARA
Dennis Wall	Thorne South TARA

1. Welcome & Introductions

Brian Naughton opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

None received.

3. Purpose of Meeting / Forum

Brian and Naz Hussain gave a short background to the purpose of this forum, which is to share good practice, get to know each other and address issues in the area. Also it is a forum that was asked to be formed by the tenants. Tom Cunningham added that out of the six TARA's in the North East there were 3 present, which was a positive start for the newly formed forum.

George Hardy was disappointed that other than Tom and Naz there was no officers at the meeting, as they would help to answer various queries and concerns that the tenants and residents may have.

Brian asked if the venue was suitable and convenient for all to get to, if not other locations out in the North East area could be looked into.

The group felt that the Haywood Room was most convenient but could do with a map / directions to help get to the Haywood Room.

Naz agreed to send out a map with directions with all future correspondence regarding meetings at the 'Haywood Room'.

Brian also mentioned that the Haywood Room is a resource centre for all TARA's to use

4. Manager Reports

Tom pointed out that directors are attending estate walkabouts to ensure work is being carried out and that gardens can now be inspected, as previously this was difficult to carry out and enforce due to operational constraints.

He also added that 'Darlington Grove TARA' has now folded due to a lack of interest to continue on with it.

Val Jennings asked how you could expect tenants to keep their gardens tidy when Community First don't cut the grass and when they do they leave the grass cuttings leaving the place looking untidy.

George asked who monitors Community First to ensure they carry out their work.

Ken Barley felt that Community First were not completing their allotted tasks and then claiming they had completed them.

Naz agreed to invite a representative from Community First to help answer various queries on their tasks and remit.

5. Chairs Report

No report.

6. Any Other Business

Green Bins

Mary Menton stated that she has not got a 'green bin' as yet therefore can't recycle her waste, to which, Brian replied everyone is entitled to Green Bins and that all tenants and residents will eventually get one as part of the programme.

Tom added that the recycling programme is being rolled out over six months so every household will get one.

Repairs Phone Line

Mary said that a tenant informed her that they had no answer when they tried to ring the repairs phone number and when tried to get through herself she was 11th in the queue.

Brian added that that at times a message of 'no one here to take your call' is received when ringing the repairs line.

Securing of Alley ways

Brian raised the issue of an alley way on Lime Tree Avenue needs securing and has discussed this matter with Ian Wigglesworth of Community First but since has had no joy.

The tenant is willing to secure the area at his own expense but is finding it difficult to get permission to do so. Tom stated that he has looked into this and understood it to be a 'right of way' issue and agreed to follow the matter up with Alan Hindson, Rebecca Wilkie and Ian Wigglesworth.

Val suggested that updating tenants on such issues is important and that St Leger Homes were not doing this, which adds to the frustration as it appears that action is not being taken

7. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 10th January 2007 at 10.30am in The Haywood Room.