

Minutes of the North East Forum Meeting
10th October 2007, 10.30am
In The Haywood Room

Present

Brian Naughton	CALM TARA / SJC	(Chair)
Mary Menton	CALM TARA	
Val Jennings	CALM TARA	
George Hardy	Polton Close TA	
Dennis Wall	Thorne South TARA	
Michael Wilson	Oldfield Crescent TARA	
Tom Cunningham	SLHD - Community Liaison Officer	
Alan Hindson	SLHD	
Howard Lygo	SLHD	
Jonathan Exley	Community First	
Naz Hussain	Federation Support Officer	(Minutes)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Brian Naughton opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Mary Menton	CALM TARA
Ken Barley	Thorne South TARA
Helen Killshaw	SLHD

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes were read and passed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

Pg. 2 – Brian stated that the Doncaster Federation have received the licence to issue and sell raffle tickets to help raise money for the ‘Doncaster Flood Relief Fund’.

Pg. 2 – Dennis Wall asked if the Police had been invited to attend; Naz replied an invite had been sent but had no reply. Jonathan Exley agreed to contact the Police and invite them to the next meeting.

5. Managers Report

St Leger Homes Of Doncaster (SLHD)

Alan Hindson stated that the first advert to advertise properties for choice based lettings was due to go out on 1st November 2007 through various mediums including internet, offices and the Doncaster Free Press.

Dennis felt that the adverts need to be also advertised in the free newspapers as not everyone buys the Free Press.

Alan also informed the group of the relocation of Sarah Bell from the North East to the Choice Based Lettings team to help oversee the process. Zoe Muscroft has temporarily filled this position and is based at Stainforth Office.

There has been no date fixed as of yet for the closure of Thorne Hall and are still looking at alternative premises.

Community First

Jonathan Exley of Community First asked for any issues relating to his team / organisation to take back and look into.

Various issues were flagged up, which Jonathan agreed to follow up including:

- Grass on Maple Grove Communal Hall not cut and needs fencing off for security reasons;
- Tenants not being aided with 'assisted pull outs' with their bins;
- Issues of fly-tipping in Thorne.

Jonathan stated that green boxes (recycling) had been distributed in the North East areas

6. Performance Indicators

In the absence of Helen Kilshaw, the Performance Monitoring Manager, Alan discussed the various monthly performance figures for August 2007. He disseminated the performance information document and discussed each figure detailed and updated that an extra section has been included to highlight targets to give a clearer picture and to help compare data.

Alan also reported that a new rents arrears officer had been recruited and was due to start in a couple of weeks.

A discussion ensued on 'demoted tenancies' and Alan explained the process and stated that for SLHD to impose a demotion order they need to apply through courts. A tenant will lose certain rights if given a demoted tenancy such as right to buy and security of tenancy and any further breaches can lead to automatic eviction.

Rent arrears will not lead to demotion order being given, but a tenant that already has an order can be affected if in arrears.

7. Chairs Report

Brian reported that Standing Joint Committee members along with officers from St Leger Homes of Doncaster are to attend all association / club meetings to discuss 'Introductory Tenancies'. The purpose of this is to give tenants / residents a balanced view on 'Introductory Tenancies' to help them

make an informed decision as to whether they would like St Leger Homes to introduce this scheme.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 5th December 2007, 10:30am in The Haywood Room.