

**Minutes of the North Forum Meeting
5 August 2008, 10.30am
In The Haywood Room**

Present

Brian Naughton	SJC (Chair)
Ann Pawson	Highfields TARA / SJC
Jeanette Austin	Highfields TARA
Laura Bulmer	Highfields TARA
Len Thomas	Trafalgar TARA
Jack Parks	Trafalgar TARA
Keith Jobson	Middlegate TARA / SJC
Richard Bailey	Toll Bar TARA
Carole Bailey	Toll Bar TARA
Henry Mooney	Campsall TARA
Rosemary Lambert	Woodlands New Estate TARA
Mary Paton	Woodlands New Estate TARA
Tracy Ager	Team Leader for North of Borough
Ian Bateman	Neighbourhood Housing Manager for North of Borough
Lynne Harrison	Community Liaison Officer
Heather Saunders	Community Liaison Admin Assistant (Minutes)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Brian Naughton opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Kath Trickett Kirkstone Close TARA

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Page 1 – Harold expressed his opinion on a nuisance dog. Brian suggested he contacted Community First.

Page 2 – Keith Jobson thanked Tracy Ager, Mel Wallace and Ian Bateman for their help with the clearance of waste.

Page 2 – Carole Bailey has now had a meeting with Pat Hagan and local councillors with reference to having the community hall refurbished.

Page 2 – With reference to Wellingtonia Communal Hall, fencing has now been erected to the rear of the building. However, this is a fire hazard, as you cannot get out of the gates due to shrubbery and weed overgrowth.

Page 3 – Harold Trickett thanked SLHD for looking into the heating problems at Kirkstone Close communal hall.

Page 3 – It was reported that the Sprit of Toll Bar Network Group were now providing meals for £1 on Wednesdays. They also reported that funding for £4000 had been secured.

Page 3 – Keith Jobson reported that the Middlegate TARA were still looking for premises.

Page 3 – Harold Trickett reported that the public toilets in Bentley Park are disgusting. He was advised to put all the information in a letter and send to the DFTRA.

4. Matters Arising

Mary Payton informed the meeting that the grassed area of Lawn Avenue (Woodlands) was not been cut as regularly as the SLA requested. She was advised to put this complaint in writing on TARA headed paper and forward to the DFTRA.

5. Manager's Report

Ian Bateman requested that members of the meeting advise him on the issues that they want more information on. This will enable him to prepare the information prior to the meeting.

6. Performance Indicators

Helen Kershaw took this part of the meeting. She explained the information sheets she had distributed pertained to May 2008 as she does not yet have the June 2008 information. This is because it has not been sent to EMT yet for approval due to the Decency work being stopped. Also at present the information refers to the South West of the borough even though we have changed to 5 areas from 4 quadrants.

Helen then ran through the information sheets comparing the April figures to May's. The 'outstanding gas servicing' figures have increased due to mailing issues as some tenants weren't receiving their appointment letters. The figures referring to completed decency refurbishment to homes need amending from 146 to 179 in April 2008, and from 207 to 315 in May 2008.

It was established that all the statistics for this monthly information comes from the Estates Module on Saffron. All ASB reports are also recorded on Saffron.

Helen was requested to report on how effective bidding for three properties has been in comparison to the old system

7. Chairs Report

None.

8. Any Other Business

Keith Jobson asked if any decisions had been made with regards to the funding application. Ian said that he would chase this matter up and see if any decision had been made. Keith said that even if funding was not secured a certain amount of remedial work would need to be done.

Keith also enquired regarding external funding for fencing. Ian replied that there was an environment fund, and officers decided on the neediest projects.

The communal hall at Campsall appears to have a heating problem, the room is always hot even though the heating is not turned on.

Appleton Way (Bentley) – It was reported that there is an SLHD bungalow that had been let in March and the new tenant had not yet taken up residency. Tracy Ager said she would look into this matter once it is officially reported.

It was reported that the Kirkstone Close TARA had split, and that there had been a new group formed called 'The Drop-Outs'. Kath and Harold Tricett had been accused of fiddling the books, but this was declared as nonsense as the books had been checked over and no discrepancies had been found.

Carole Bailey reported that in the Toll Bar area, there are a number of problems with pavements and paths (to properties) following the 2007 floods. Although they have contacted the repairs centre, they have been advised that repairs would only be made in the next 2/3 months.

Len Thomas (Trafalgar Estate TARA). The TARA committee is worried that SLHD is not dealing with anti social tenants. He informed the meeting that anti social tenants tend to fit into 5 categories:

1. The complete anti-social package
2. The loud music player
3. Baseball bat carrier/ car 'rever
4. Drug peddler
5. Tenant leaving teenagers alone in a property for months on end.

Tracy Ager said that SLHD are working with the police as many of the problems constitute as criminal activity. Ian Bateman suggested that someone from his team should attend a TARA meeting to advise on how incidents can be reported on an anonymous basis.

Henry Mooney – Campsall TARA. Henry requested a list of all TARA meeting times and venues. Lynne Harrison said that this had already been posted out.

9. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 7th October 2008 at 10.30am in The Haywood Room.