

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE
TRINITY CHAPEL ROOMS, CHAPEL STREET, WOODHOUSE, FACILITATED BY
THE WOODHOUSE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM ON
THURSDAY 22nd APRIL 2010 AT 7.00PM**

Attendees

Howard Constable, Liz Turton (minute taker), Vaz Falconer (Sheffield Futures), Lillian Randell MBE, Ruth Senior, Barbara Veven, Alan Charlesworth, Ray Flewitt, Kathryn Taylor, Maurice Birch, Peter Wolstenholme, Tony Beech, Jean Morley, Jane Eklid-Singh (PCSO), Mark Steele & David Jacobs.

Youth Forum - Jack Taylor, Luke Hague, Emily Bumby & Jennifer Turton

Apologies

Mick Rooney, Jackie Newbold

1. Welcome & Introductions

2&3 Minutes of last meeting & matters arising

The minutes are accepted as a true record of the last meeting but questions were again asked about the times of the PACT Meetings or could the organisers probably arrange to bus people venue.

The Resolution was not attached to the minutes of the last meeting as questions were since raised as to whether members of the Festive Lights Committee were able to send letters on behalf of the Forum. (A reworded Resolution will be available for the Members of the Forum to discuss at the next meeting.)

The Youth Forum met with Alan Frith re their website.

4. Correspondence

none

5. Presentation - St. Annes

Tony Beech & Jean Morley came to the meeting to discuss St. Annes and hopefully dispel the myths that all the inhabitants are drug addicts, thieves etc and that homeless people can contribute to society. There are usually 66 men living there at any one time. They would like to work closely with the Community and WDCF and would like suggestions as to what could be done to improve relationships. They have a Social Enterprise Scheme (Gardening) - hopefully will have hanging baskets to sell this summer. They contributed the 13th Chelsea Flower show with a (Weed exhibition). Other points covered were:

- Help is given regarding to rehousing and getting back on the job market.
- How to budget a meal.
- Level of violence in centre minimal - most incidences occur outside centre in Woodhouse Village and usually community members instigating attacks.
- Staff mostly local.
- Work with local council - members of local authorities attended open day.

- Vas attended open day. People presume trouble in village caused by either youths or from St. Annes. Open Day dispelled the myths for him.
- Peter attended also and photographed many of the facilities and was impressed.

Sheffield Futures - Vas gave an overview of the Friday night project. There was only funding for 3 months but Howard obtained funding for the project to continue.

Unfortunately, staffing an issue which will affect continuation.

A group of girls are starting a dance class for 10 weeks.

Problems on Badger Park - foresee issues developing now the park looks good which is concerning.

(Howard would like to put a funding bid in for litter bins in the park as the increased usage has meant increase in litter.)

ABC funding bid put in by Kathryn & Jane (PCSO) to target particular groups. Would like to run workshops to cut down motorbike crime.

Next few weeks may become a problem on Badger & Square.

Question was asked re how much youth work is undertaken in Woodhouse. Three workers for 4 hours per week. Vas offered his number as a contact for anyone with an ongoing Youth concern (07766751609).

PCSO's - Agreed with Vas' comments. Work in partnership with Vas & Sheffield Futures as they have the same goals and by working together are more likely of achieving them.

There have been as many as 30 youths on Beaver Park. Two members of the public expressing concern about the park and the Youths.

Badger Close & Rise cause for concern and are working with council and housing. Issues also on Market Square and Chapel Street.

Jane supports St. Annes. The residents engage with the PCSOs and pass on that they feel they are unfairly treated and made to feel 'like scum'.

Concern was raised regarding the open use of dealing of drugs on a daily basis and the lack of action taken to stop them. It was suggested that the police wore 'plain clothes' in order to witness these crimes and the criminals 'in the act'. Certain areas particularly near the Costcutter and the 'Stores' are magnets for 'gatherings' which is especially intimidating for older people and creates difficulty getting passed.

Jane and other PCSOs gather evidence and incidents need to be reported in order for area to be marked as a 'hotspot' and their uniform is necessary to give a visual police presence in the community.

7. Reports

(a) Trustees

There has been no meeting this month.

(b) Project Development

Kathryn & Howard have a meeting arranged with the Council regarding the Community Resource Centre (CRC). The report not for publication states that 2 developers have come forward - Kier and South Yorkshire Housing to put in reports and feasibility

studies. This is a positive step forward. The Officer from the Council is committed to the area and has experience of similar projects in other cities. Will report back as and when further steps are taken.

Completed an ABC funding bid for activities for targeting young people in the Summer holidays especially in relation to motor vehicle theft and associated crime.

The Lottery Bid success means £135K for salaries for 3 workers and to carry on work with transition into CRC. Photoshoot on Tannery Lodge site with Clive Betts & Mick Rooney.

New Health Advocate, Rosie, is unable to continue to work with us due to commitments at the the Job Centre. A young lady, Jamie, has now got that role.

As we have a successful Learning Champion project we are in a position to house all the Learning Champions in the South East. Plus we can offer courses to members of Coalbrook House.

(c) Festive Lights

Mark Steele gave an overview of the work of the Festive Lights Committee since September 2001. The Committee began with 4 members, swelled to 5, and numbers now stand at 3 with Frank Coupe not in the best of health and Mark's work commitments changing. This means that they are struggling to continue. Mark and David Jacobs appealed to the Forum Members at the meeting for help; otherwise the progress of the last 9 years may be wasted. The last Newsletter included a request for help but elicited no response even though it was hand delivered to 5000 homes. The Committee are happy to continue fundraising but need help to liaise with Street Force, the maintenance company for the lights, as well as the paperwork regarding purchases and invoicing. Mark met with the Youth Forum to ask if they were able to assist with these tasks but felt that this would not be forthcoming.

(d) Publicity

Peter Wolstenholme gave a comprehensive list of activity from February and March.

(e) Youth Forum

Jack Taylor informed the meeting of the Woodhouse Family Fun Day on the 19th June on the Tannery Lodge site. Anyone who wants to have a stall or help in any way to please contact Jack.

8. AOB

Peter Wolstenholme asked on behalf of Norman Cawkwell (S13 Brass Ensemble) if the wooden box at the base of the War Memorial could be replaced with a more serviceable stone/brick construction. Kathryn Taylor said that the Forum will pursue this but may have to check with the British Legion as it is their property.

David Jacobs enquired as to the use of the Kier compound on Waterslacks.

9. Date and time of next meeting

THURSDAY 20TH MAY 2010