

# Minutes



**Minutes of Area Panel 2 AGM meeting held on  
18<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at Bestwood Housing Office 5.00pm-  
7.00pm**

**Present:**

Maria Hemphill (Chair)	(MH)	
Phil England (Vice Chair)	(PE)	
Jean England	(JE)	
Ron Gillott	(RG)	
Irene Gillott	(IG)	
John Fletcher	(JF)	
Valerie Hopkins	(VH)	
Simon Ball	(SB)	
Alec Parkinson	(AP)	
Lillian Bird	(LB)	
Pat Chambers	(PC)	
Larisa Ciupruk	(LC)	Nationwide Windows

Nottingham City Council  
Councillor Smith

Nottingham City Homes

Paul Stanley	(PS)	Area Housing Manager Bestwood
Claire Reeves	(CR)	Tenant and Leaseholder Involvement Officer
Clair Marshall	(CM)	Project Liaison Officer
Christina Haywood	(CH)	Housing Patch Manager
Ian Perry	(IP)	Estates and Caretaker Manager
Steve Cooper	(SC)	Property Services

**Apologies:** Gill Moy Director of Housing Operations, Reginald Reddish, Councillor Grocock, Councillor Wildgust, Councillor Newton and Fiona Greenwood

## Action

### **1.0 Welcome, introductions and apologies**

MH opened the Panel meeting and asked for introductions.

### **2.0 Minute & Matters Arising**

2.1 PS advised that the clogged water drains at the

garages had now been cleared

- 2.2 PS updated that a report regarding the consultation over the possible closure of housing offices would be presented to Board in July.
- 2.3 JF asked who was consulted over the closure of Southglade.
- 2.4 PS advised that the community was consulted through; events held in the housing office, letters were sent to all tenants and leaseholders in the area and information was distributed in News from Nottingham City Homes.
- 2.5 PS updated that SWARM booklets had been distributed to Councillors.
- 2.6 PS advised that the error in meeting place for the Top Valley estate inspection had been rectified.
- 2.7 PS advised that the estate inspection programme had been circulated and Whitemoor included in the programme.
- 2.8 PS advised that the Repairs Contact centre had received 52,719 calls between April and June, in April calls were answered within 13 seconds, in May within 11 seconds and June within 20 seconds. The target is 18 seconds
- 2.9 PS advised that he would be attending a meeting with Councillor Grocock at the Bestwood Partnership Forum in July.

### **3.0 Election of Officers 2009/10**

- 3.1 CR invited nominations from Panel members for the position of Chair and Vice Chair for 2009/10.
- 3.2 Maria Hemphill nominated herself for re-election to the position of Chair
- 3.3 Phil England nominated himself for the position of Vice Chair.
- 3.4 No other nominations were received
- 3.5 As there were no other candidates Maria Hemphill was seconded to the position of Chair for 2009/10

and Phil England was seconded to the position of Vice Chair for 2009/10.

#### **4.0 Secure Warm and Modern (SWARM)**

- 4.1 CM introduced herself as a Project Liaison Officer for the Modern Living element of the SWARM programme. She advised that 1,757 properties require the modern element of SWARM in area 2 and these are due to be completed by 2010. 132 have currently been completed, 105 are currently having work undertaken to them, 12 have refused the work and 41 we are trying to gain access. 99.1% have been completed within 15 days. A choices event is taking place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June between 10am-6pm at the Church.

#### **5.0 Improving Estates**

- 5.1 PS advised that improving estates is part of the Panels forward plan.
- 5.2 Environmental Schemes
- 5.3 Part of this is the environmental budget, as per the previous presentation Bestwood and Basford ward have £60,000 each to spend on environmental improvements. The Panel can decide how this budget is spent.
- 5.4 Basford Ward
- 5.5 PS advised that the Basford Ward schemes fall within the £60,000 budget.
- 5.6 JE raised the parking issue on Newport Drive
- 5.7 PS advised he was happy to explore the proposal
- 5.8 The Panel agreed the schemes for the Basford Ward
- 5.9 Bestwood Ward
- 5.10 PS advised that the proposed schemes for the Bestwood Ward totalled £87,250 and invited the Panel to prioritise the schemes to within the £60,000 budget.
- 5.11 The Panel felt that the schemes on Weetman

Gardens, Lytham Gardens, Trinstead Way, Stathern Walk and Queens Bower Road were of less priority and could be removed from this year's list of proposed schemes.

- 5.12 PS advised the schemes prioritised by the Panel would be forwarded to the Area Committee for ratification.
- 5.13 Caretaking Service
- 5.14 IP introduced himself as the Estates and Caretaker Manager. The team works within blocks and also out on estates. The team remove graffiti, bulky rubbish, fly tipping, clearing garage sites, maintain the area around area housing offices and are involved in Weeks of Action. The team endeavour to help tackle ASB by photographing graffiti tags so that ASB officers can work to identify perpetrators. The team is also involved in specific NCH estate based weeks of action. 1 per month takes place to raise the standards on low star estates. They also link closely with the Community Pay Back Scheme and Nottingham City Councils Streetscene.
- 5.15 IP invited the Panel to propose community clean up schemes to the team in future which the team can undertake with the Community Payback Scheme.
- 5.16 PS advised that great strides had been made in estate standards. Tenant Service Inspectors (TSI) carry out estate assessments every quarter to assess the standard of the estates. We now have all 3\* and 2\* estates in area 2.
- 5.17 Garage Management
- 5.18 PS advised there are 965 garages in area 2. An action plan has been formulated to reduce the number of empty garages which currently stands at 395 (40%) empty.
- 5.19 PE asked if garages are used for storage
- 5.20 PS advised that sometimes in cases of eviction or abandonment NCH will store tenant's belongings.
- 5.21 MH suggested that they would be more attractive if they had security and lighting.

5.22 AP advised that the garages had been pulled down behind Kersall Court by some young people.

5.23 PS agreed to look into this.

PS

## **6.0 Area Committee**

6.1 MH advised that schools in the area would be receiving improvements e.g. Robin Hood school is creating an outdoor learning space. Schools will also be used for multiple uses. A walking bus is also being arranged for children to get them to and from school.

6.2 Hanging baskets were organised by MH to brighten up the Beckhampton Road shops, they were put up at 1.30pm and by 5pm they had been torn down.

6.3 IP suggested that if the hanging baskets were put back up it shows that the community is determined to improve the area for everyone and won't be deterred.

## **7.0 Local Area Housing Round Up and Success Stories**

7.1 MH advised that Bestwood TRA would be holding a meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> June.

7.2 SB advised that he was trying to find out the future of Highbury Vale community centre.

7.3 CR agreed to investigate.

CR

7.4 PS advised that a surgery had been held prior to the meeting for personal issues and asked the Panel if this had been worthwhile.

7.5 The Panel felt this had been useful

7.6 It was agreed that the surgeries would be continued.

## **8.0 Performance**

7.1 PS circulated the performance report for the Panels perusal.

## **9.0 Any Other Business**

8.1 CR advised that a week of Celebrating Young

People is taking place between 15-22<sup>nd</sup> July in Bulwell with lots of activities and events, culminating at the parklife event on Southglade park. Get Involved week is also taking place between the 25<sup>th</sup> July and the 1<sup>st</sup> August with lots of fun events. CR invited Panel members to get involved too and there would be support available if the Panel or any TRA's wished to host an event.

8.2 MH asked for an update on the pilot scheme to provide space to park mobility scooters at Winchester and Woodthorpe Courts.

8.3 PS advised he would investigate and feedback.

**PS**

**10.0 Future meeting date**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2009 5.00-7.00pm Bestwood Housing Office**