

# Minutes

## Minutes of Area 3 Panel held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at the Beechdale Community Centre

### PRESENT:

John Day	(JD)	Vice Chair
John Hendren	(JH)	
M Limb	(ML)	
Peter Linfoord	(PL)	
Ina McCallum	(IM)	
Jill Dickens	(JDS)	
Grenville Bucknall	(GB)	
Linda Kerry	(LK)	
Diane Hudson	(DH)	
Peter Turner	(PT)	
Dr M Alum	(MA)	
Anne Gowing	(AG)	
Chris Holloway	(CH)	Housing Manager
Jim Hartshorn	(JH)	Property Services
Vicky Simpson	(VS)	NCC Garden Assistance
Christine Walker	(CW)	NCC environmental crime
Shaun Roome	(SH)	Streetscene
PC Chris Bampton	(CB)	Police
Claire Reeves	(CR)	Tenant and Leaseholder Involvement Officer

### APOLOGIES:

Margaret Pugsley, Alison Thorpe, Clive Thorpe, Sue Stevenson, Carole Limb, Chris Thelen Property Services and Gill Moy Director of Housing Operations

### 1.0 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

### 2.0 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

- 2.1 AG advised that she had been offered a bungalow but is having to wait until an inspection of her kitchen has been carried out before she can accept the property.

### **ACTION**

CH agreed to investigate and advise.	CH
2.2 CR advised that she was in the process of drawing up an action plan from the work the Panel had undertaken looking at how to increase engagement with the community. The plan would be brought to the next Panel meeting.	CR
<b><u>3.0</u> Cleanliness</b>	
3.1 Streetscene	
3.2 SR introduced himself as a supervisor for Streetscene and advised that the team work to keep the streets clean and tidy in area 3.	
3.3 PT raised the fly tipping around the recycling centre at Beechdale Community Centre.	
3.4 CW suggested that if someone witnessed fly tipping and was willing to make a statement and go to court the person fly tipping can be prosecuted. CW can be contacted on 915 6001. Also the community centre could contact Beth Morley Recycling Officer on 915 2131 who could investigate adapting the site to reduce fly tipping. Also	
3.5 ML raised the problem with fly tipping behind the fence on the path between 200 and 202 Denewood Crescent. Both NCC and Harvey Haddon say it is not their land so will not deal with it.	
3.6 CH advised he would check if it is housing land.	CH
3.7 JD asked who to report vandalism to bus shelters to.	
3.8 SR advised to call 982 2776.	
3.9 Garden Assistance	
3.10 VS introduced herself to the Panel as the Garden Assistance Scheme Officer at NCC. VS works with NCH to provide the garden assistance scheme to tenants. The scheme is currently at full capacity and 24 people are on the waiting list. 1001 people receive garden assistance in area 3. The aim of the scheme is to keep gardens	

neat and tidy. The grass is cut every 3 weeks in the summer and the borders weeded. Tenants can apply for the scheme through their local housing office; the Housing Patch Manager (HPM) will check the tenant's eligibility. To be eligible for the scheme the person must be a NCC tenant, be a pensioner or disabled, have no person living at the address who could maintain the garden and have no rent arrears over £100 without a payment plan in place that is being adhered to.

- 3.11 VS invited Panel members to discuss any individual issues after the meeting.
- 3.12 ML asked how high hedges should be.
- 3.13 DH advised up to 2 meters at the back and 1 meter at the front.
- 3.14 Environmental Health
- 3.15 CW introduced herself as an enforcement officer with NCC's public health. Her roll includes dealing with vermin, dog fouling, rear alleyways and rubbish in gardens which has a health and safety implication. Whoever has access to rear alleyways is responsible for making sure that it is kept clear. If the alleyway is not kept clear environmental officers can serve a notice on all the neighbours involved.
- 3.16 IM reported an issue where there is no front fence between neighbours and there is problem with dog fouling.
- 3.17 CW suggested that the dog warden be contacted at public health tel. 915 6123.

#### **4.0 Environmental Budget Update**

- 4.1 CH updated that the budget for environmental schemes is £60,000 per ward. The Panel spent time in June prioritising all the schemes. CH circulated the schemes prioritised. The schemes prioritised by Panel have had their costings confirmed and the schemes for Bilborough amount to £61,700 and Aspley to £60,582. CH suggested the number of schemes could be reduced to bring each ward within the £60,000

budget. Any schemes removed from this year's list would however be forwarded to next years list. The schemes that have been prioritised will be forwarded to Area Committee in September.

- 4.2 The Panel decided to remove the Yatesbury Crescent scheme from the Bilborough list for this year and the Woodfield Road scheme from the Aspely list for this year.
- 4.3 CW suggested that the schemes need to ensure that they do not create no mans lands which cause knock on problems e.g. fly tipping.

## **5.0 William Sharp School Project**

- 5.1 CR updated the Panel that she had been working with the EIP Manager and William Sharp school to create a module of lessons for young people around key NCH themes; the living environment, independent living skills and aspirations. William Sharp School had agreed to pilot the module with a group of year 9 & 10 students. The group had carried out an estate assessment of Broxtowe and then spent time in the classroom to make an assessment of the star rating. The young people concluded that the estate was of a 1\* standard but was showing areas of improvement. William Sharp would be continuing to work on the project during the next academic year with a view to rolling it out to other schools in 2010.
- 5.2 CR advised that she would keep the Panel updated of the progress of the project.

## **6.0 Police**

- 6.1 CB introduced himself as the Beat Manager for Strelley; he is new to the area and has been introducing himself to the community.
- 6.2 PT raised the lack of Beat Manager in Beechdale and that the community felt neglected.
- 6.3 CB advised that monthly LAG meetings should be held.
- 6.4 JD asked who was responsible for minuting LAG meetings

- 6.5 CB felt that the Police were responsible.
- 6.6 CB offered to attend Panel meetings from now on as a representative. He also offered to ask the new Inspector if they would be able to attend the next meeting.

## **7.0 Performance in Local Area**

- 7.1 CH circulated the local performance report and advised that all estates are up to a 3\* standard except Bells Lane which is 2\* and Broxtowe which is 1\*.
- 7.2 LK advised that she had still not received an introductory tenancy visit.
- 7.3 CH agreed to progress this.
- 7.4 CH advised that the area housing team try to use all the tools possible to resolve anti-social behaviour (ASB) cases.

CH

## **8.0 Local Area Round Up / Success Stories**

- 8.1 IM updated the Panel of a success story at Stepney Court. The residents wanted a seating area and Broxtowe Estate TRA have helped out to provide the seating area. In all it has taken less than 6 weeks to complete.

## **9.0 Area Committee Update**

- 9.1 This agenda item was deferred until the next meeting.

## **10.0 Any Other Business**

- 10.1 JH updated the Panel that NCH would be moving toward installing composite doors which are UPVC. These would be installed when the current door had finished its life.
- 10.2 IM was concerned that if she turned down an element of the SWARM programme she might not then be offered other elements.
- 10.3 JH advised that this was not the case.
- 10.4 LK asked if back boilers are legal.

- 10.5 JH advised they are but that they are being phased out.
- 10.6 PT asked for an update on the potential closure of the Bilborough housing office.
- 10.7 CH advised that a report had been submitted to Board but an update had not yet been received.
- 10.8 PT suggested that the Beechdale Community Centre could be used could be used for surgeries.

**Date, Time and Venue of next meeting**

**29<sup>th</sup> September 2009, 10am-12pm, Sheila Russell Centre**