

Minutes of Semilong Community Forum meeting **May 10th 2005**

Present: Alan Snedker (BBOB Rugby Club), Karen Fruish, Brian Crutchley, Daphne Barritt, Kerry Clarke, Rob Chadwick, Alastair Melton, Katy Heath

Guests: John O'Kelly - Northampton Youth Missionary Office

Apologies: Cllr Peter Evans (NBC), Cllr Marie Dickie (NCC), PC Ron Frater, Gerry Burbage (NBC Housing Officer), Mark Walker, John Wheeler, Kevin Gascoyne (NBC Housing Officer), Cllr Lee Barron (NBC), Margaret Andrews.

Abbreviations used:

SCF – Semilong Community Forum

NBC – Northampton Borough Council

NCC - Northamptonshire County Council

Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed.

Actions Outstanding:

- ✓ Ron Frater will put letters through doors in streets where double parking is occurring.

Matters Arising

John O'Kelly - Northampton Youth Missionary Office

John introduced himself and explained that he was a volunteer for the Northampton Youth Missionary Office. They are planning to hold a weekend of events for local youths from around Northampton around the 19 – 21 August, but intending to hold an event on the 20th in Semilong.

John was expecting to involve about 75 young people from the ages of 11 – 20. Because of the involvement of Peter White from St Giles Church wishing to do a similar project it was agreed that John would be invited to attend the meeting that was planned to agree a strategy.

Actions:

- ✓ Brian to invite Steven Richards, Peter White, Margaret Andrews and Brian to a meeting to agree a strategy for the August youth events.

SOCIAL HOUSING

Due to holidays no Housing Officers were present to give an update.

CRIME

No update this month.

Actions:

- ✓ No Actions

EVENTS

Karen said that to use Millers Meadow for an afternoon NBC would charge us £50 and as Alliston Gardens will be holding an event in August which we would offer help to organise and promote.

Actions:

- ✓ No Actions

EDUCATION

No actions this month

TREASURERS REPORT

Mark was not available for comment

ENVIRONMENT – GREEN

Margaret has sent a copy of the report of the 'unsung heroes' award to green-space.org.uk.

Margaret will also sow wild flower seeds on the memorial garden in the next few days.

The new Gee-Tee catalogue has arrived and we will be able to place our order for planting in autumn 2005.

We have £200 for the wild flowers on Millers Meadow. Brian will call Alan Adkinson to see how this can be implemented.

Actions:

- ✓ Brian to contact Alan Adkinson regarding the wild flowers.

ENVIRONMENT - URBAN

Rob said that he had been sending 5 emails a week to cleansing to report instances of fly-tipping. He had found that NBC had been able to clear the waste usually within 24 hours. Rob urged other forum members to contact NBC to report fly-tipping.

Their contact details are

cleansing@northampton.gov.uk

or call 01604 83 82 81 : Mon- Thu 8 – 5, Fri 8 – 4.30

Rob intends to contact Central Network about the overgrown state of the electricity sub station near Alliston Gardens. He said that he had seen some substations around Northampton that are in a better cared for state than the one at Alliston Gardens.

Planning Applications:

Planning for flats at the garage at the bottom of Quorn Way has been approved.

The new Train Depot has also been approved.

The ATM at the co-op has now been relocated to face the street.

No progress has been made on the hanging baskets though Rob has identified some suppliers.

Actions

- ✓ Rob to look at funding for hanging baskets
- ✓ Brian to contact the co-op to see if they will be putting in any barriers to stop the ATM from being ripped out in a smash and grab and if they could install a bike rack to achieve this.

COMMUNICATION

Nothing this month

Actions

No Actions

RECRUITMENT

Nothing this month

Alliston Gardens Youth and Community Centre

Rob, Karen, Kerry and Brian attended that Alliston Gardens management committee's AGM. Rob highlighted that Alliston Gardens Y&CC was different from the traditional community centre as it has a centre manager that is currently funded by a lottery grant – this funding is due to finish next March. The current management committee, Toby and Jane Birch, used to live in the area and had invested a lot of time making the centre the success it is today. As Toby and Jane no longer lived in the area they felt that they should be succeeded by local residents from the area to form a new management committee.

It was suggested that as SCF and AG have similar agendas regarding making improvements to the community that they should work closer together. Forum members present agreed that this would be a good thing and would attend AGY&CC's next meeting on Monday 6th June, 7pm and the centre. Rob said that the forum as a whole would have to vote on whether to join forces with Alliston Gardens.

Any Other Business

Brian suggested that the AGM takes place in September to allow time for necessary advertising. Kerry suggested that we should knock on door and speak to residents encouraging them to get involved in the local community.

Katy asked if we were aware of what events were taking place at the Cathedral. Katy will register Brian to be included on their newsletter mailing list.

Actions:

- ✓ Brian to find a date in September at Alliston Gardens when we would be able to hold our AGM

- ✓ Katy will register Brian to be included on the cathedrals newsletter mailing list

Next Meetings:

BBOB Rugby Club, St Andrews Road.

Wednesday 15th June 2005 7.30 – 9-30pm

Wednesday 13th July 2005 7.30 – 9-30pm

Wednesday 10th August 2005 7.30 – 9-30pm

Minutes Agreed (signed)

Chair

Date

Secretary

Date