

Minutes of Semilong Community Forum meeting **June 15th 2005**

Present: Alan Snedker (BBOB Rugby Club), Karen Fruish, Brian Crutchley, Daphne Barritt, Rob Chadwick, Kevin Gascoyne (NBC Housing Officer), John Wheeler, Alistair Melton, Cllr Peter Evans (NBC),

Guests: Lee Brown – Street Football officer NBC.

Apologies: Kerry Clarke, Cllr Marie Dickie (NCC), Gerry Burbage (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.

Matters Arising

Alliston Gardens

Members of the forum attended the Alliston Gardens Committee meeting on the 6th June. This was to build closer links between the Community Centre and the Forum. Their next meeting will be on the 23rd June.

The Semilong Community Forum AGM has been set for the 5th September.

Lee Brown – Street Football Officer NBC

The Street Football has now been arranged to start on Tuesday 21st June from 5.00 – 7.00pm and will continue every Tuesday. As the evenings get darker towards the end of September it is expected that the session will be held on Saturday mornings instead. Lee expressed that he still needed local volunteers to put themselves forward to be trained as coaches. Peter Evans asked that the local residents receive a letter informing them that the event is to start.

There had still not been any resolve regarding floodlights being installed at the play area.

Actions:

- ✓ Lee Brown to write 200 letters and give to Karen for distribution before Tuesday
- ✓ Lee Brown to post some posters to Alan Snedker at the rugby club to help advertise for volunteers.

SOCIAL HOUSING

Kevin Gascoyne informed us that there had been a number of occasions where many white vans had been parked in Semilong Road and had blocked the street. It was believed that these vehicles are related to the fruit and vegetable

wholesaler adjacent to Alliston Gardens. We were unsure as to what action could be taken to prevent this from happening again.

Brian informed Kevin that a rear door to the flats on Barrack Road had been left open for a number of days.

Peter Evans asked if Gerry Burbage had obtained a price for a fencing scheme around the Burleigh Road flats so that he could pursue this. Peter also asked if there could be some additional greening of the community garden at the Burleigh Road flats.

Alliston Gardens Centre Manager.

Steven Richards introduced himself as the centre manager of Alliston Gardens Community Centre. He said that the centre remained to be very busy with a very popular Mums and tots group and a Baby group. The community Café are hoping to add a third day (Wednesday) to their opening times. There is also a café operating at Nazarana House on Mondays.

Community Development

John Wheeler informed us that he was leaving his post on Thursday and that Grace Elford would be returning very soon. John had been busy written a forward strategy for the continuation of Caspar in the Semilong and Spring Boroughs areas.

CRIME

No update this month.

Actions:

- ✓ No Actions

EVENTS

Karen said that she would liaise with Alliston Gardens to help them with their event.

Actions:

- ✓ No Actions

EDUCATION

Karen said that the new headmaster of Castle School in Poole Street is likely to be the headmaster when the school reopens in Semilong.

Actions:

- ✓ Karen to invite the headmaster of Castle School along to our next meeting on the 13th July

TREASURERS REPORT

Brian had spoken to Mark and he had said that he would not be able to continue with the role as Treasurer.

Actions:

- ✓ Find a new treasurer.

ENVIRONMENT – GREEN

Margaret had sown wild flower seeds at the memorial garden and hoped that these would flourish.

There had been no contact from Alan Adkinson regarding the wild flowers at Millers Meadow.

Bulbs for planting this autumn would have to be ordered soon.

Brian will be meeting with volunteer leaders of St Giles Church and the Catholic Church on the 22nd June to discuss an action plan.

ENVIRONMENT - URBAN

Rob has contacted NTL over the green communication boxes in the street regarding graffiti and has had success in having graffiti removed by them – if anyone sees graffiti on the NTL boxes they are to contact Rob with the details and he will pass them onto NTL.

In addition Rob has reported a number of missing street signs and has reported this to the borough council. If you see a missing street sign – report it to Rob and he will pass on the details.

There also seems to be an increase of graffiti in Semilong. Rob asks that details of any graffiti spotted are passed to him to compile and report to the borough council.

Rob has also reported the electricity sub station to Central Networks for being overgrown. He has been informed that this area will be cleared in the next week. Rob has not pursued the costs of hanging baskets yet.

Actions

- ✓ Please pass on details of Graffiti and missing street signs to Rob
chadwick@ntlworld.com or 01604 459790

COMUNICATION

Brian will be working with Steven Richards to create a newsletter for Semilong and Alliston Gardens.

Actions

- ✓ Brian and Steven to create a newsletter for the area.

RECRUITMENT

Nothing this month

Any Other Business

Rob pointed out that he had seen improvements to other areas of Northampton that had been carried out by the borough council, and felt that areas of deprivation were not taken seriously as these areas appear to be overlooked. As an example the roundabout near Morrison's on the Kettering Road has had

additional planters place here where it could be argued that the money spent on these could have been used to improve the environment of other areas.

Future Meetings:

BBOB Rugby Club, St Andrews Road.

Wednesday 13th July 2005 7.30 – 9-30pm

Wednesday 10th August 2005 7.30 – 9-30pm

Alliston Gardens youth and community centre.

Monday 5th September AGM 7.00 – 9.00pm

Minutes Agreed (signed)

Chair

Date

Secretary

Date