

## **Minutes of Semilong Community Forum meeting**

**April 9th 2008**

**Present:** Michelle Aveyard (PCT), Daphne Barritt, Ann Timpson, Caroline Humphries, Robert Briggs, Ruth Pott-Negrine (Chron), Tess Scott (Cllr), Stephen Welyczko, Brian Crutchley, Robert Chadwick, Jen Kenny, Mr and Mrs Thompson Sarah Major (PCSO) Andy Langton (NHW), Marie Cocker (PCSO), Tess Scott (Cllr)  
**Apologies:**, Zoë Martin, Ally Dunn, Michelle Aveyard, Tony Clarke (Cllr), Brian Binley ( MP)

### **Abbreviations Used:**

**SCF** - Semilong Community Forum  
**NBC** - Northampton Borough Council  
**NCC** - Northampton County Council  
**AGYCC** - Alliston gardens Youth and Community Centre  
**MUGA** - Multi Use Games Area  
**WNDC** - West Northamptonshire Development Corporation  
**PCSO** - Police Community Support Officer  
**FOR** - Friends of the Racecourse  
**NHW** - Neighbourhood Warden  
**JAG** - Joint Action Group  
**HMO** - Houses of Multi Occupation

**The meeting opened at 7:30pm and was chaired by Rob Chadwick**

**The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.**

**Matters arising from the last meeting**

### **Actions**

Stephen bought stamps ( see treasurers report)  
Zoe sent an update . she has submitted details to the council re: Green Survey, but has yet to hear back.

### **Neighbourhood Warden**

Andy gave figures for flytipping and said that Castle ward has the highest amount , he feels that this is probably due to people being more vigilant and reporting it. He has contacted the landlord of the property on lower Hester Street to ask him to remove rubbish from car park next to the church. He will serve a section 60 if this is ignored.

14 fixed penalties have been served for bin bags out too early. 3 paid so far.

The building work on the old St Paul's school has started.

Andy has found out that the Borough Council is responsible for the fencing on St Andrews Road.

Castle School and zig zag lines Cllr Clarke has put in a stage 1 complaint to the county council. There are electric signs on Barrack Road and Parents are being encouraged to write to support changes.

There were no further questions for Andy.

## **AGYCC**

Steven said that a front window had been damaged by a user group. The parents of those responsible have been billed.

The health day has been postponed until July ( there are a number of events happening around the town the town) the funding is still in place.

The Community Café has been turned down for Caspar + funding, Steven will try again, with up to date criteria.

The main hall is now almost at full capacity with only Monday afternoon free.

## **Finance**

Stephen bought 100 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps so account stands at £489.73

## **Urban**

There are planning applications in for Hester Street on two properties. Sarah raised concerns about parking. Mrs Thompson mentioned the effect on sewers and drainage. The forum is aware that local residents are unhappy with the plans. Concern was raised about fire escape routes for one of the apartments.

**@Action** Tess Scott to follow up about fire escape.

The population density survey was discussed as there has been an article in the Chron. The committee met with Cllr Clarke and stressed that the undertaking of this needs to be dealt with sensitively.

The committee and Cllr Calrke will identify someone who is willing to undertake the task . this will be open to tender. Steven will put in an application to Caspar community chest for funding.

The survey is important to properly understand the local population more clearly than a census.

## **Environment Green**

The memorial garden on Gratfon Street has had some work done.

Millers Meadow is due to have some lighting installed and the arch under the bridge is now cut off .

## **Health**

Michelle sent her apologies but Jen read out an update.

\*The HINC Health Improvement in Northampton shire Communities project is underway. The projects are all pilots and will be evaluated in Jan 09

Manalive 12 week men's health project addressing mens health issues such as blood pressure, weight management, sexual health, cholesterol etc

\*Each session last 2hrs: 15 mins group talk time, 45 mins specialist talk/ information group session, 45 mins exercise, 10 mins group time:

Venues Spring Lane School Spring Boroughs Thursday evenings 7-9pm.

Unity College Trinity Avenue 7-9pm

You need to be referred by GP or just turn up dates confirmed by end of week can email [manalive@northants.nhs.uk](mailto:manalive@northants.nhs.uk)

Call Michelle Aveyard 01604 615337

Wednesday Wellbeing same target groups 16 week ongoing community health project supported by health professionals aimed at improving health and wellbeing for all.

Venue- Alliston Gardenns Youth and Community Centre 9.15-3pm

Health and Wellbeing Event Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April top are of racecourse ( nr White Elephant pub) The theme of the event is Community and Physical Activity in

partnership with NBC sports development team 11 am –3pm

There will be 2 marquees for community groups and activities running through the day all households will receive a promotional flyer week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> April, this is a community event for residents in the three wards and not a town event. It will be promoted as such.

**@ Possible action** if the forum wishes to have a stand there is an application form to complete.

### **Communication**

Brian Is working on updating the news Items, Jen and Stephen W said they are still willing to help with the website.

Steven Richards said that he would make a fresh application for funding for a community printer.

Sarah said that the newsletter could be added to the compass website.

Stephen W said that we should be working on informing estate agents of how the area has changed. The Idea, which he has, is to make some kind of welcome pack to give to new residents. Rob asked for this to be added to the agenda to be discussed next meeting

**@ Action** welcome pack to be added to next month's agenda.

### **Crime**

Crime figures are out and overall 4.8% down on last year.

There have been some Issues with youths hanging around the cathedral grounds so residents who spot anything are urged to contact the SCT.

Mr. Thompson praised the speed of response in dealing with an Incident at Alliston Gardens recently.

Brian attended the JAG meeting and said that the new priorities set for the area are:

- 1.Prostitution
- 2.Street Drinkers In the St James area
3. Youth Issues

### **AOB**

Andy mentioned that the town has lost its town center ranger so graffiti could become a problem, as teams will have to cover.

There was a request from Marie Dickie by email to identify any issues to be discussed by the Caspar board.

The possibility of removing some yellow lines from St Andrews Road was discussed and also the removal of the barriers at the bottom of the streets leading onto St Andrews Road.

Ann Timson said that we should have an estate walk in the same manner that council estates have to identify issues and areas that parking can be alleviated.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

14th May

Meeting closed at 8.34pm