

Abbey Neighbourhood Board

Minutes of meeting held on 13 February 2008

Present:

Councillor Asaf Afzal (Chair) – Derby City Council
Mr Clayton – Resident
Malcolm Ford – Stockbrook Cluster
Elley Gopo – Derby Homes
Matt Jones – Stockbrook Cluster
Verica Kecovich – CSP, Community Development Officer
Patrick Lee – CSP, Neighbourhood Manager
Councillor Bryan Lowe – Derby City Council
Pamela Stretton – Derby Homes
Helen Walker – Derby Homes
Matt Williamson – Police

Apologies:

Catherine Girvan- Resident
Jaz Greer – Cast Trust
Patricia O'Shea - Resident
Malcolm Price – Derby City Council
Terri Plunkett – Resident
Chris Smith – Fire & Rescue Service

1/08	Welcome and introductions	Action
2/08	<p>Kingsway island petition</p> <p>PL informed the group that the petition had been submitted to the Residents Action Group in January and then forwarded to constitutional services. The response to the petition was sent to the lead petitioner – Mr Clayton, who has been invited to attend the meeting in order for the Board to listen to his comments/observations about the matter. PL went on to outline the options open to the Board regarding this matter.</p> <p>Mr Clayton was not satisfied with the response he had received from the Head of Transportation, and was emphatic that the crossing should be installed as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>MJ observed that the Board should either allow the council to carry on with the proposal outlined in their response or approach the owners of the retail park to ask them to install the crossing.</p> <p>It was decided to note and approve the response to the petition and to request a regular update from the council to the Board. Action: PL to take forward. PL to draft a letter to the owners of the site for Cllr Afzal to sign with a specific emphasis on the fact that the residents feel the</p>	<p>Noted and approved</p> <p>Letter sent to Henderson Global Investments from Chair of Board</p>

	<p>crossing should be installed on the approach road to the retail park.</p> <p>Note: Board members wanted to note their disappointment that Highways department were not able to send a representative to the meeting.</p>	
3/08	<p>Derby Homes Domestic Violence Team presentation: EG and HW were keen to emphasise that domestic violence is about power and control and that it happens across all the social groups. The team is really keen to get the awareness of domestic violence into the community, especially the schools. Clr Afzal thought it crucial to identify domestic violence and try to prevent it from escalating</p>	
4/08	<p>Neighbourhood Team update Funding – PL informed the group that crime prevention funding will finish in March, and it is very likely that the team may have a reduced budget next year. Community cohesion plan – VK informed the group about the progress on the plan. As indicated in a previous meeting the plan is being taken forward with a community event being planned for Saturday 22 March at the VoiceBox. Group of residents have been meeting weekly for some time now in order to plan for this event. Activities offered on the day will be: African printing, henna painting, Bondaweb (textile technique), story telling, face painting, music workshops etc. All will be free to residents with prize draws for each workshop. Publicity brochure will be delivered to all households in the area.</p>	
5/08	<p>Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOVA training schedule has been circulated • Dog fouling bins – in a meeting on 17 December it was agreed to run a spring campaign in the area • Youth club – PL informed the group that the youth club has been suspended for the time being because of some disorder between young people who attend the club • Dates of Board meetings – these have been circulated • Times – PL emphasised the need to move the meeting times in order to attract residents who work and young people in education. Members who were present agreed to move the time to 4.00 pm start. Action: VK to contact other members and ask for their opinion. If positive response received to arrange the next meeting to start at 4.00pm. • Venue – the team felt that present venue is not very suitable, because of the access issues, and proposed that the meeting moves to either Bemrose School or Children's Centre. MJ suggested that this may not be necessary if the time of the meeting is moved; we may be able to use the community room at Firs. 	

6/08	<p>RAG break out groups</p> <p>PL informed the group that the residents at the last RAG meeting were reluctant to engage with the agencies facilitating break out groups, and asked the Board members whether this practice should be changed. Cllr Afzal indicated that the feedback from the agencies is really positive and that the representatives feel more comfortable talking to a small group of people rather than having to address the open meeting. It was decided that the break out groups should be continued. Action: Cllr Afzal and PL to give a brief outline of each group in order to encourage residents to go into break out groups, as well as all agency representatives not facilitating groups to guide residents to appropriate group</p>	
7/08	<p>Participatory budget</p> <p>PL informed the group that the proposal for utilising this funding for improvements to the three parks in the area had been approved at the cabinet meeting in January, and will be taken to the full council meeting in March.</p>	
8/08	<p>PCT health briefing</p> <p>The document was circulated to the members</p>	
9/08	<p>Empty property strategy</p> <p>PL has the document if anyone is interested they need to contact him. The idea is to reduce the number of empty properties in the city.</p>	
10/08	<p>Neighbourhood profile evaluation</p> <p>PL asked the members to fill in the feedback sheet and pass it back to the team.</p>	
11/08	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Electoral engagement – PL informed the group that he will be leading the pilot on improving the electoral engagement in the area. However, this needs to be ratified before the pilot starts.</p> <p>Community champions – DCC in partnership with other agencies are giving 12 community champion awards at a ceremony at Pride Park later in the year. Nominations forms were circulated and Board members asked to fill them in if they felt they would like to nominate someone for this award. Deadline for applications is Friday 4 April.</p> <p>Stockbrook community fun day – this event is being organised for Sunday 29 June from 12 noon to 3.00 pm.</p> <p>Stockbrook website - this new website is available for community groups in the area – www.stockbrookcommunityhub.org.uk</p> <p>Police – Sergeant Williamson informed the group that an additional PCSO will be deployed in the area shortly. His name is Robert Podmore.</p>	

	<p><i>Academy status for a local school</i> – there have been a lot of press releases about Bemrose becoming an academy. Cllr Afzal will be meeting with Jo Ward, head teacher, and the community leaders. Action: Cllr Afzal to update the group on the outcome of the meeting.</p>	
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