

MINUTES OF ELLOWES HALL AND AREA TENANT'S AND RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION RECONVENED GENERAL MEETING.

Held at The British Legion Club,
Ruiton Street, Dudley.

Thursday 14th November 2013 – 7.15pm start.

PRESENT: As attached sheet.

APOLOGIES: Chris Bate to arrive late due to previous meeting

1 Welcome and Introduction

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Martin Smith, Chair of DFTRA and Kim Avantaggiato, our new PDO.

2 Apologies

As above

3 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes agreed as a true record

Matters arising

Street lighting at the bottom of Ellowes Road. No representative from Highways Department on walkabouts. **KA** to arrange for someone to come on next walkabout.

MS stated that new bins should be in place in this area before Spring. Stage 3 should come into effect after Christmas. **KA** suggested that people should log on to "Tell Me My", type in your postcode and this will tell you everything relating to your area including collection times. Some bins are not being put out early enough. **AS** had been to area to see for himself. **GJ** asked if he could speak to some of the residents in Kennedy Crescent who are new to the area.

GJ reported that in some reports Colwall Road had been misspelt.

GJ formally introduced Martin Smith to everyone.

4 Housing Managers – Patch Report

GJ read this out to the meeting – see sheet attached.

8 Police Report

Read out by **GJ** – see sheet attached. **GJ** reported that he had noticed children from Roberts Primary School going to Ellowes Hall for swimming without high visibility vests on. **KA** said that she would look into this. **JP** suggested the use of mini buses from Ellowes.

9 Group Feedback

PACT MEETING – SEE SHEET ATTACHED

– **JP** has been in touch with Gornal Business Watch with regard to Christmas Fair on December 7th. All help would be welcome at 5.00pm 26th November, and 3rd of December 5.00pm at the Darby and Joan Club in the village.

Chris Bate joined the meeting.

WE and **PG** had a very good day at Kirklees – Federation Scrutiny Panel. 90 TRA's were there. **PG** had a copy of their newsletter "Hometruths". A Board scrutinises the work of the Council in various departments.

10 AOB

MS spoke to us about the ownership of the land at the end of Stickley Lane. **CBa** reported that the TRA had still not heard anything about it being sorted out. Owing to

the fact that Ellowes Hall School is becoming more and more successful **CBa** thought that perhaps we could approach them and ask for their help. This could perhaps be in the form of a letter to the owners stating their concern about the impression the waste land gives to people visiting the school.

MS told us that Helen Spicer Dent, from the Legal Department, would be the best person to contact. **KA** said that she would contact her with a view to coming to speak to the TRA. She could also write letters to the owner of the land, copies of which she would send to us.

GJ informed **MS** and **KA** about the council boundaries and that they seem to be cutting back less and less. Fly-tipping is now becoming a big problem. **MS** said that **HSD** will look into this and find out the exact whereabouts of the boundary. **KA** will speak to **HSD** tomorrow.

JP stated that it was not right that council money should be spend cleaning up private property.

CBa has been told by councillor David Branwood that the land proposed by the TRA for a childrens play area is to be designated building land.

MP raised the question of who owns the car park at the end of Stickley Lane and who maintains it.

CBa asked if we should wait to see HSD before we approach Mr. Griffiths at Ellowes Hall and ask for his support. It was decided to wait to hear from HSD and the Legal Department. **KA** will speak to her asap so that she can develop a plan for us to go forward and hopefully finally solve this problem. **KA** suggested that a sub-committee be set up to deal with this. **CBa** thanked **MS** for his advice.

CBa is a member of the Community Forum and she spoke to us about the suggestion that doctors should do out of hours surgeries. She would like the committee to fill in a survey that will be available on 2nd. December.

CBa to raise this at DFTRA next week.

MS said that it was not strictly true about closure of Out of Hours Clinic. This may run side by side with A & E at Russells Hall.

CB told us about patients abusing A & E because they cannot wait to see their own doctor. It is hoped that eventually just one recording system will be used by all to record patient information.

MS has sent letter about car parking, as this is another area for concern.

CB agreed with this.

MS told us about Crime Board. John Polychronakis and Bob Jones are looking at the way policing is done in this area.

PG mentioned the need for us to have two vandal proof noticed boards, to be placed on council land. Leafleting doesn't seem to be working and less and less people are coming to meetings. **KA** told us that Galaxy Hot Chocolate give 80 awards of £300 to local groups. **MS** said that we could request money from capital bid.

These notice boards need to be placed where there will be a lot of foot traffic.

CB said that we had not approached DFTRA to do leaflets but they will do little flyers for us.

KA – on the walkabout 28th November, look out for suitable place to put notice boards.

New Flag – funding has been awarded and certificate. Ceremony will take place 7th December. **EL** and **GJ** to meet Mayor

DFTRA Christmas Party – 7 – 11.00pm

Attending: GJ, EL, WE, PG, CB – 3 places left.

KA spoke to us about our forthcoming aspirations. These were discussed by the committee and noted.

MS – New grit bin service. Have to re-apply every year. No charge, becomes a problem if people object.

Car park end of Stickley Lane – **CBa** looking to get council to spruce it up. **CB** said that it would be good if it looked like the one at the top of Jews Lane in Upper Gornal.

The following were also discussed:-

Street Lighting in gulleys – Louise to speak to people in houses either side.

TRA to have skips in the area to take away rubbish.

Independent group work with council to do this.

E-mail Dudley Youth Offending – helping hand to keep area clean. Perhaps Colwall Road.

Resident reported smoking of drugs in alleyway between Bird Street and Boundary Crescent. Will be brought up at PACT meeting.

KA discussed newsletter – articles confirmed. **JP** to sign mock up. Photos authorisation forms to be sent.

Amended Constitution to go back again.

GJ – meeting about future of fete held at the Quarry in Upper Gornal. More help needed so that this Fun Day can go ahead. Four or five more volunteers would be a great help. Meeting Monday 18th November with cadets from Ellowes Hall asking for help to put tents up, maybe the scouts as well.

Stalls to be £10 each. **KA** Health and Safety, Risk Assessment nightmare.

MS will do risk assessment with **GJ**. Use council RA.

KA, problem last year posters came late – more time needed for publicity.

PG – publication “Spotted Gornal” and “Spotted Dudley”. **CBa** has added TYA to these sited.

PG and GJ thanked all for coming, especially **KA and MS**.

Date, time and venue of next meeting – General
The British Legion, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley.
16 January 2014 – 7pm for 7.15pm start 9pm.