

Minutes of the Carholme Community Forum held on Tuesday 26th June 2018

in Lincoln City Hall, Committee Room 1, from 5.30 pm

Apologies

Robert Parker had sent his apologies.

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 8th May were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Sandra Lewis reported that the issue of the Hampton Street garages had still not been fixed by the City Council. The problem had been going on for over a year now.

Action: Neil Murray

Neil reported that the application for the new Carholme Co-op car wash had been formally submitted; he said that he had asked the City Council to contact the County Council and Anglian Water regarding the application because of the flooding problems already being experienced on Carholme Road. Neil said he would also talk to the Co-op Chief Executive about the application and the ongoing flooding issues on that road.

Following the last Forum meeting, George Woolfenden had checked all the garages and actually found that there were no manhole covers in them. Neil noted this and said he would pass this information to the City Council.

Action: Neil Murray

Sandra Lewis reported that the damaged sign at the bottom of Richmond Road had still not been replaced. Neil said he would pass this information to Robert.

Action: Neil Murray/Robert Parker

West End noise and ASB issues

George Woolfenden informed the Forum about issues relating to 86, Hewson Road. The house had previously been let to students but that was no longer the case and rooms were being let to people who were not students. He had been forwarded information that a

heroin dealer had been arrested at the house a few weeks ago plus a couple of tenants had been very abusive to local children, swearing at them when they were playing. Neil said he would ask PCSO Pete Davies about the issue although George noted that Pete already knew about it.

Action: Neil Murray/Pete Davies

Jon Davies commented that there had been a spate of graffiti stretching from Queen's Crescent in the West End and across various places in the Long Leys/St. George's area. Councillor Lucinda Preston had been dealing with this and most of the Long Leys graffiti had now been wiped off.

Lucinda Preston noted that she had reported an issue with homeless people sleeping rough in the garages on Rudgard Lane to Pete Davies. Two residents had flagged up their concerns to her, mainly around drinking and the possibility of fires/damage. Pete Davies confirmed that he had been into the garages but had found only man, someone who was clearly struggling following injury and the loss of his job. He had tried to connect him/engage him with P3 support but so far the man had not engaged with P3 and seemed unwilling to do so. Pete had reminded him that the garages were due to be demolished in a few weeks time. Neil reiterated the fact that this problem was finite because of the impending demolition of the garages.

### Policing

Neil thanked Pete Davies for all his work and support and noted how appreciated it was by Forum members and residents of Carholme.

Neil reported that he felt that the police overall were taking issues in Carholme more seriously. A year ago he had met with the police and not felt that was the case but things had changed.

Pete responded to Jon Davies' discussion of the graffiti. The culprit had not been identified.

Pete informed the Forum that he would go to 86 Hewson Road again, to talk to the residents. Last time he had called, no one was in. George noted that the landlord was an absent landlord. Neil suggested that the landlord should be contacted; he also said that it needed confirming whether the residents were paying council tax. A quick check with the City Council would confirm this or not.

Action: Pete Davies/Neil Murray

As requested, Pete Davies had brought along crime statistics. In Carholme, there had been:

- two burglaries

- vandalism on the West Common: a sign ripped off
- ten cars vandalised following an out of control party
- a suspected robbery at McDonalds
- ongoing/increasing shop theft at Sainsbury's Local
- issues with suspected drug dealing at Arthur Taylor Street. Lucinda Preston noted that she had had complaints from two residents regarding this.
- Overall there had been eight ASB incidents.

Pete Davies noted that Chris Forsdyke had moved to the city centre area; Mark Wrigley was full-time in Carholme. The PCSOs' area also now covers Gaunt Street/Princess Street.

Jon Davies asked Pete regarding his stance, as a local PCSO, on SIDs (speed indicators). Pete confirmed that he supported the installation of one in the Long Leys area.

Alison Griffiths informed the Forum that more incidents of drug taking in Liquorice Park had been reported to her. It appeared to have been happening between 1 and 3 pm, especially on a seat near Alexandra Terrace. Needles had been found. Alison commented that Pete couldn't patrol round that area all the time and she thanked him for his work in helping to look after the park.

### Community issues

Sandra Lewis was pleased to report that the Gala was in receipt of offers of money from two sources: the National Lottery and the local Dawber Trust. After the National Lottery had made a mistake on the paperwork, she had applied to the Dawber Trust for financial support. They had agreed to give money to the Gala but then the Lottery had come back, agreeing to support it too. We would be using the Dawber Trust money and Sandra would be speaking to the National Lottery administrators again, regarding the application to them and not taking up their offer.

Sandra referenced the university's kind offer of £300. She suggested it could now go towards the purchase of a marquee.

Neil felt that it was quite appropriate that Dawber Trust money be used for the gala: the Victorian Dawber had lived locally (at Grafton House on Newland) and had many Carholme collections.

Sandra reported that the renovation of the West End Children's Play Area was going well. As well as volunteers who had cleared foliage and weeds on the site, many local people had volunteered to help with jobs such as painting the equipment.

There was more good news when Alison informed the Forum that eleven steps in Liquorice Park had been repaired by Lincoln College students. It was good work experience for them as well as helping the park. Keir had provided the building materials.

Lucinda reported that the West End Arts Festival on 2nd June had been a success. Despite slow footfall at the beginning of the event, perhaps due to the heavy downpour experienced late morning, there was a steady flow of visitors later in the day with many positive comments from local people. Money had been raised for local good causes, split between the renovation of the Children's Play Area and Liquorice Park. She thanked the volunteers who supported the event, without which it wouldn't have been possible to put it on. They were fantastic. She would be meeting with the volunteers again in September to see if they were interested in putting something similar on again and, if so, to think about details such as timings, time of year and marketing etc.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Sandra reminded the Forum that the Big Lunch was coming up. It would be on Sunday 1st July at 12 to 2 pm by the cricket pitch. Forum members made a note for their diaries.

#### Street scene/Planning (City)

Jon Davies stated that the Long Leys Residents' Association had agreed to be a neighbourhood forum. This would mean that they could get planning specialists and other specialists to look at the future development of the area. He felt sure there would be a diversity of views regarding the future of the St. George's/Long Leys area. Once a local plan had been put together then the plan would go to a referendum on St. George's/Long Leys residents. If there was a positive vote for the plan then that would become a working planning document which would be need to be taken into account when local planning decisions were made.

Neil commented that this was an excellent project that would support the development of that part of the ward.

Lucinda observed that she had sat on a planning committee meeting for the first time, stepping in for a councillor colleague. A couple of local planning applications had been debated. She emphasised that it was sometimes difficult to oppose a planning application as there had to be objections relating to specific criteria (material considerations). If a planning application was rejected then an applicant could appeal, win and the council pay financially for a battle which could have been avoided. Lucinda noted that in terms of the two planning applications debated that related to Carholme she agreed only reluctantly to vote in favour of one and abstained on the other as she felt that both applications lacked

something architecturally. Unfortunately, she had no material grounds to vote against either. Both applications were approved with a heavy majority anyway.

Sandra asked Neil about the number of property signs that had been erected in gardens in the past year. She asked if those people would be allowed to keep those signs up once the new 'To Let' rules were in place. Neil explained that the decision about To Let signs, which would likely be positive, was currently with the Secretary of State. However, signs in gardens were subject to other rules and owners would be asked to take them down.

### Highways

Robert Parker had sent his apologies.

Jon Davies discussed the new Long Leys bus service. He thanked Lincolnshire Transport Services for the clear new bus signs.

Many elderly and disabled Long Leys residents were still unhappy with the new bus service, in comparison to the old one. Whilst the Dial-a-Ride service was a good option and offered value for money, many of the most vulnerable residents were in receipt of a free bus pass so the dial-a-ride service was actually a lot more expensive than the previous bus service. A key issue was that there was no longer a direct route to Burton Road. Jon expressed his concerns regarding these vulnerable residents and his fear that in the cold, icy weather, many would resort to attempting to walk up to Burton Road with the accompanying risks. Neil commented that as the service was publicly subsidised it should serve the needs of those people. It was suggested that the matter was referred to Robert Parker.

Action: Robert Parker

### Any Other Business

There was discussion around weeds in the West End. George had heard that the County Council Highways hadn't sprayed like they usually do. It was suggested this was passed to Robert Parker to look into.

Action: Robert Parker

Jon Davies reported on the continuing parking issues in Long Leys, in particular the issue around Benbow Way. There was not enough parking at the hospital facilities on Long Leys resulting in many visitors and staff parking on Benbow as well as Carram Way and Long Leys Road.

The hospital's solution was put up a fence to stop traffic and probably pedestrians using Benbow as an entrance/parking to the hospital. However, whilst this would solve many of the problems with parking on Benbow Way it would almost certainly shift the parking problems to Carram Way and Long Leys Road. Lucinda commented that she and Councillor Laura McWilliams had heard complaints from residents regarding indiscriminate parking when out on roving surgeries. The situation would need to be monitored.

Linked to this, Jon informed the Forum that he had been told that some hospital services would be moving from the Long Leys/St. George's complex to Tritton Road. George and Jon talked about the hospital's aspiration ( it wasn't yet at the planning stage) to knock down Gervase House and build a new unit. This would have implications for parking. Jon Davies said he would speak again with the hospital management regarding this issue.

Action: Jon Davies

Date of next meeting

This was likely to be September, before the Carholme Gala. Neil to consult with the Chair, Robert.

Carholme Community Forum, Tuesday 26th June 2018

Present:

Sandra Lewis	WERA
George Woolfenden	WERA/Open Spaces
Jon Davies	LLRA
Gary Stimson	LLRA
Pete Davies	Lincolnshire Police
Jacqueline Mayer	University of Lincoln
Jane Kilby	University of Lincoln
Grace Corn	UL Students Union
Alison Griffiths	Liquorice Park
Rev Julie Wearing	St. Faith's
Laura McWilliams	City Councillor
Neil Murray	City Councillor
Lucinda Preston	City Councillor/Secretary

