

Sutton Coldfield District Housing Liaison Board

Date: 10/07/2019

Time: 1.30

Venue: Arbury Walk Sheltered Scheme

Present

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Eric Shipton	Chair
Jadwiga Sys	Vice Chair
Pat Keen	Resident/HLB
Pat Hall	Resident/HLB
Graham Payne	Resident/hlb
Dot Payne	Resident/hlb
Sue Sargent	Resident/hlb
Lorna Steers	Resident
Jacky Rodgers	Resident/hlb
Wendy Jones	Resident/hlb
Clive Hannaby	Resident
Matthew Fox-Redfern	Resident
Margaret Saunders	Resident
Debbie Nath	Observer
Rashminder Plahen	Age Concern, Birmingham
Kate Gomez	Age Concern, Birmingham
Amanda Spurrier	Tenant Participation Officer
Wendy Jones	Resident/HLB

1. Welcome & Apologies

- 1.1 The Chairperson welcomed attendees to the meeting and introductions were made. Chair advised of housekeeping and fire drill for the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Designation:</u>
Doreen Rymell	Resident
Shyeen Zaidi-Bere	ENGIE
Emma Batterham	TPO
Pam Pritchard	Resident/hlb
Pat Mason	Resident/hlb

Minutes also to
Bob Gilder
Angela Adams

2. Guest Speaker – Age Concern

- 2.1 Rashminder Plahen and Kate Gomez from Age Concern were working with Birmingham City Council, with projects for older people. Kate explained that the Sutton Coldfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme were mapping all activities in Sutton Coldfield for the over 50s. A leaflet was circulated to all those in attendance. The scheme offers support

for existing and new activities and they can help with funding and networking. Information can be accessed online but they will have drop-in sessions for those without a computer or access to the Internet.

They don't facilitate activities themselves but support and work with those who have ideas for activities.

Rashminder explained that Aging Better in Birmingham have been funded for six years to help older people stay independent and to tackle social isolation. Aging Better is a fund to help over 50s; they meet with people to see if they have an idea that could be supported. Rashminder reiterated that they don't run groups, people can make an application to the fund and this then goes to a Panel to make a decision whether it can be funded or not. Aging Better will help people find, for example an expert (can be anything from gardening, exercise teacher etc) and any funding that is granted would go towards this.

They have previously supported a community garden with compost and plants etc.

Four people over 50 have to make the application and the activity can also include people under 50 but must benefit those over 50.

Leaflets circulated with these minutes.

3. Contractors – ENGIE

- 3.1 From June 2019 minutes: Shy advised the drains at Heron Court are still undergoing investigations to identify the source of the smells within the block; they will now look at individual flats given to her by Jacky at the meeting.

Outcome – Shy received an update from Dave Pearce dated 9th July, that the main stacks are blocked on the roof and are stopping the smells from dispersing. Each side of the block share one stack pipe, the two stack pipes exit the roof on top of the lift motor room. They are planning to access the stack pipes from the lift motor room and to cut out a section from both stack pipes and then machine snake them. Once this has been completed they will re-fix the pipe and insert a collar containing a rodding eye, which will assist if this happens again in the future. They are aiming to complete this work next week.

4 District update

- 4.1 Eric advised that due to the cost of the Sprinklers programme, no Capital works would be carried out.
- 4.2 Fire doors will need to be changed. Properties currently have half hour fire resisting doors but these all need to be replaced with one hour fire resisting doors.

5 Previous Minutes & Matters Arising

- 5.1 Previous minutes dated 12th June 2019 were accepted as factually accurate.

5.2 Matters Arising

- 5.3 (3.3 in previous minutes) Sue advised Amey had been out to look at the broken up ground outside her property around the tree but had heard nothing since.

Outcome: Emma has emailed Amey. This will be done as remedial works for the area. No date has been given for this as yet

- 5.4 (3.4 in previous minutes) Pat reported that the grass has still not been cut on Hill Village and Henley Drive.
Outcome: This has been passed to Parks; they said it has been cut. Pat confirmed it has been cut now.

6 **City Housing Liaison Board Update**

- 6.1 No update as the meeting was cancelled. Eric shared that there had been two celebrations of 100 years of social housing, one in Parliament and one at the Town Hall. He said that social housing was originally Homes for Heroes for troops coming back from the First World War to ensure they had homes to come back to and it grew from there.

7 **HLB Spend/TPO Update**

- 7.1 Budget documents were circulated. There were no projects to consider as Emma was awaiting quotes.
- 7.2 (From previous minutes) Emma asked the board if they could agree a project from last year to fit two seats in Heron Court foyer as this had been missed on Capital and so not approved. Members voted to agree this project and so will be sent to CWO for the go ahead.
Outcome: This has now been sent to the Contracts Officer.

8 **Walkabout**

- 8.1 Walkabouts will take place as follows

July – Mount View – **This took place with Eric and Graham**

August – Heron Court – **Emma will set a date and ring Erick and Graham. Lorna requested that Emma also contact her as she wanted to attend the walkabout.**

September – Wheatley Close

- 8.2 The July Walkabout was in Reddicap.
Action: Lorna requested that she is contacted to participate in the next Walkabout.

9 **Tenancy Management Update**

- 9.1 No update

10 **Any Other Business**

- 10.1 Pamela was asking if the disabled Housing register still existed within housing department
Outcome: There is no longer a disabled housing register, just medical priority and then adapted by the Physical Disability Team.
- 10.2 Sue reported doors in washing area at Henley Drive needed collecting as they had been left there some time ago
Outcome: Reported for the tipper trucks. Sue confirmed this had been done.
- 10.3 Sue reported a tenant on Sheri Ford Lane has a very large front garden that as always been mowed up until this year – Emma to chase with parks
Outcome: Still no response; they asked Sue to get proof saying it's not their garden although Sue said it was Council.

- 10.4 Sue said that Engie had been out and cleared the guttering but one flat, 19 Henley Drive has a wasp nest. Engie need this to be taken away before they will clear the guttering for this property.
Action: Emma to look into
- 10.5 Lorna reported that she encountered a rough sleeper in her block and the he slept in the entrance way there and also at Heron Court. It was not known what could be done about this.
Action: Amanda to inform Emma
- 10.6 Matt said that the hedges were overgrown; they are only cut every four to six weeks. Eric said they were looking into this.
- 10.7 Graham said that cars were parking on the ambulance access by the common room. He wanted to know if a yellow line could be painted so the vehicles could pull round easily.
Action: Emma to look into as a project
- 10.8 Pat has applied for a move so she can be nearer her daughter but every property says 'not suitable' so she is not able to bid on anything and wants to know why this is.
Action: Emma to query
- 10.9 Sue queried the grit bin that was going to be looked into but she hasn't heard anything and wanted an update.
Action: Emma to follow up
- 10.10 A request was made that from now on Dot, Jacky and Lorna share one taxi to and from HLB meetings.

11 **Date & Time of Next Meeting**

Date: 14th August 2019

Time: 1.30p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Venue: Arbury Walk

Booking Transport: New Procedure

Please note as from 08-2018 to book a taxi you will need to call

Emma or Amanda on their mobile numbers:

07860904644 or 07766922095

Important

We will need a clear 48 hours' notice if possible.

If we are unable to answer please leave a clear voice message detailing:

- Name
- Full address with post code of the pick-up address
- Time you would like the taxi to pick you up
- Full address with post code of the venue you are going to
- Time of return taxi
- Contact number for the taxi company to call you

Taxi company is Galaxy Cars - 0121 350 1000

Birmingham City Council North Account

If there are any issues with the Taxi not arriving out of office hours, please call Galaxy directly.

Thank you

Emma and Amanda