

Kingstanding HLB Meeting

Covering Wards: Kingstanding, Perry Common and Stockland Green

Date: 2nd September 2019. Time: 1.30 till 3.30 p.m.

Venue: Hunters Walk Sheltered Scheme

Present

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Lesley Beresford	Chairperson
Donna Forbes	Vice Chairperson
Kevin Taylor	CHLB rep
Dave Pearce	Engie
Ian Underhill	Engie
Jacqui Daniel	HLB Member/Resident
Jill Edwards	HLB Member/Resident
Kath Lee	HLB Member/Resident
Cllr Bob Beauchamp	Councillor
Amanda Spurrier	Tenant Participation Office, BCC

1 Welcome & Apologies

- 1.1 The Chairperson welcomed attendees to the meeting and noted apologies. The Chair read out a health & safety statement, advising about fire alarms and exits and required code of conduct.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Tracey Baker	Police
Derek Lay	HLB member
Shyeene Zaidi-Bere	Engie

2 Police, previous minutes, actions/progress/update

- 2.1 Police sent an update prior to the meeting:
- 2.2 *“Reminders to use timers on lamps when out.*
- 2.3 *We did have a bogus official stating he needed to check serial numbers on gas/electric boxes. Please remind everyone to never let anyone in they have asked to attend. Even if they have ID, ring the company they state they are from, but use the number of bills, website etc, never the one on the ID. Call police on 999 if they suspect the individual to be bogus”.*

3 ENGIE, Previous minute’s actions/progress/update

- 3.1 Dave Pearce told the group that he was leaving his current role to pursue other areas of the business and that Ian Underhill would be taking his place. All the members of the Kingstanding HLB offered Dave their best wishes, thanked him for all he had done for them and told him that he would be really missed.

- 3.2 Ceiling at Hunters Walk Scheme common room – the painting is planned for 24th October. Painting has been booked for tenants but there are some more to be done when the scheme manager is back from leave.
- 3.3 Bathrooms are done
- 3.4 The communal door at Kingsbridge House has been fixed
- 3.5 Insulation that Jacqui raised has been fixed
- 3.6 Leak from a flat in Kingsbridge House – Engie have booked a visit to the property tomorrow.
- 3.7 Archers Close porch door – no one was in when Engie visited. The door looked okay; someone had patched it up.
- 3.8 **Dave will get a job raised** for the chain link fence on Finsbury Grove.
- 3.9 Jacqui raised an issue by the bin room at Kingsbridge House. There is a dip in the paving slabs where water collects. In winter it freezes and is a slip hazard. **Dave will look into this**
- 3.10 Kath informed the meeting about a property on the scheme that the Police had to force entry; Jill queried the card that had been left by a contractor stating, ‘to break in and replace lock’. **Dave will look into this**
- 3.11 Jacqui raised an issue of blocked toilets at Kingsbridge House. **Dave will look into this**
- 3.12 Lesley asked about a property in Kingsbridge House; the electricity had been out for some time due to a flood from an upstairs property. **Dave will check this**

4 Guest Speaker -

- 4.1 No guest speaker at today’s meeting.

5 Previous minutes, agreement & sign-off

- 5.1 The previous minutes dated 3rd July 2019 were accepted as factually accurate.

6 Previous minutes, matters arising

- 6.1 (12.2 in previous minutes) – Amanda did let Linda know that the HLB Walkabout is for HLB members and BCC tenants.
- 6.2 (15.1 in previous minutes) – The resident who had expressed an interest in observing the HLB meeting could not attend today’s meeting. Amanda told him that he could contact her when he wanted to come and observe, rather than her ringing him every month.
- 6.3 (15.2 in previous minutes) – One of the two other people who wanted to join the HLB is poorly at the moment and so both will consider joining the HLB when his treatment is finished and he is better.
- 6.4 (15.3 in previous minutes) – Amanda met Kevin and looked at the area behind the common room and also at the side of one resident’s garden. She has contacted the Principal Housing Development Officer and they are meeting at Finsbury Grove on 14th October to look at the land to see if there is anything that can be done about it.
- 6.5 (15.5 in previous minutes) – Brave the Shave took place and Kevin and another resident raised £500 for the MacMillan cancer charity by being sponsored to have their heads shaved. Well done Kevin!

7 District Update

7.1 No update

8 Feedback from City HLB

- 8.1 Kevin reported back that a community grant would fund the building of 1400 new homes but only 60 of these would be allocated for council housing.
- 8.2 Homeless figures have risen and it was noted that lots of land and buildings that have been empty for years are not being utilised and a general discussion took place about the merits of turning them into homeless shelters.
- 8.3 Knife crime has gone up but overall, crime has gone down.
- 8.4 Neighbourhood Watch app is being developed. Kevin is part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme at Finsbury Grove. He offered his advice and support if the Hunters Walk residents wished to start up a Neighbourhood Watch group.
- 8.5 Discussed the Perry Barr flyover and the plans to demolish it.
- 8.6 Bed and Breakfast accommodation has halved to 450.
- 8.7 Kevin wasn't able to ask about the pull cords and the cost issue but said he would definitely raise this at the next City Board meeting. Jill mentioned that at the Sheltered HLB meeting with Charles she mentioned that seven sites were yet to be done and informed the group that all sites will have them by the end of next year. Jill felt particularly aggrieved as some tenants haven't paid for the service. **Kevin to raise this issue at the next City Board meeting in November.**

9 HLB Spend / Budgets

9.1 August 2019 budgets were circulated to the Board.

10 HLB Projects

- 10.1 Hurstway project – Amanda has emailed the works contractor for a correction as the HLB approved and paid to replace the wooden fence with a new one. The new fence has been installed alongside the old wooden fence. The board stated that they paid for the fence to be installed in place of the wooden fence and for the wooden fence to be removed so that is what they want. Amanda is due to meet the Works Contractor about this.
- 10.2 Amanda was asked to raise a project for the planters on Finsbury Grove. Two of them are not currently maintained and are becoming full of weeds. **Amanda will get a quote for filling the planters with gravel to stop the weeds and so they don't have to be maintained.**
- 10.3 The project and revised quote for a trip rail at St Mary's View was voted on and agreed.
- 10.4 Grit Bin request for Wyrley Way – the Board queried where the bin will be stored and who would be responsible for replenishing the grit. As it is not on Housing land, Highways would not refill and it would need to be paid for. **Amanda will ask the Scheme Manager.**
- 10.5 Discussed the merits of raising a project to paint the railings outside Wyrley flats. Councillor Beauchamp pointed out that if the fence was made of galvanised metal, the paint will flake and would need special paint. Kevin said the trips rails at Finsbury Grove also needed to be painted. **Amanda will speak to her manager about this.**

11 TPO Update / Kite-mark

11.1 Amanda circulated safety info from the Police.

12 Walkabout – details and feedback

12.1 Walkabout took place at Finsbury Grove and there were only a couple of issues which have been raised were reported. The Grove was very clean and well maintained.

13 Tenancy Management Update

13.1 n/a

14 Resident involvement

14.1 Amanda and Emma have leafleted Wyrley House with the What is a HLB leaflet as part of the ongoing recruitment for resident involvement.

15 Any other business

15.1 Christmas Social in December – the Board agreed to go to the Parson & Clerk again.

15.2 Birmingham in Bloom coincides with the next HLB on 6th November and Amanda must attend so the Board agreed to hold the HLB on 7th. Jill will book the room.

15.3 Vice Chair appointed – Jacqui Daniel. If she needs to cover Kevin, Lesley will accompany her.

15.4 Amanda is meeting the Principal Housing Development Officer on 14th October to have a look at the ‘no man’s land’ that runs alongside the bungalows at the back of the common room to see if anything can be done about it. These two fenced off areas are completely overgrown and significant amounts of garden waste has been dumped there.

15.5 Jill shared a newspaper article with Amanda in respect of price increases for garden waste and bulk waste collections. (Leaflet circulated with these minutes)

15.6 Kevin raised an issue on Beech Way in respect of cars driving over a resident’s garden to access wasteland. **Amanda will look into this and raise a project if necessary**

15.7 Jill raised an issue about residents cutting down tree branches and plants. **Amanda will look at, at the HLB Walkabout on 16th October.**

16 Next HLB Meeting

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE TO:

Date 7th November 2019

Time 1.30 till 3.30 p.m.

Venue Hunters Walk Sheltered Scheme, Hunters Walk, B23
5XP

Booking Transport Process

To book a taxi you will need to call

Amanda or Emma on their mobile numbers:

Amanda: 07766922095 or Emma: 07860904644

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 out of office hours with the Taxi not arriving, please call Galaxy directly.

Thank you

Amanda and Emma