

South Yardley Housing Liaison Board

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2019
at Steel Grove Community Room, 2 Steel Grove, B25 8BA

Present	John Harrison- Chair Lee Parkinson - HLB Pat Sheridan MBE –HLB Cynthia Conway – HLB Barbara Benson – HLB Ray Barrow - HLB Yasmin Samaraweera HLB Sylva Sadler – HLB John McLaren – HLB Myles Scullion - HLB Jenny Poole - Wates Zafer Iqbal - Councillor Mandy Williams– TPO
Apologies	Carl McCooty - Vice Chair Ann McCormick – HLB Derek Fellows - HO

1	<u>Welcome, Introductions</u> John (JH) welcomed all to the meeting.
2	<u>Minutes of last meeting</u> Barbara told Jenny she still has not received her Gas Certificate
	<u>Matters Arising</u> John (JH) roof fans at Bakeman House need update – Derek to email Jenny – Derek to email Capital Investment – ON-GOING – Derek to email again.

Barbara mentioned the manhole cover on the footpath outside 20 Kestrel Avenue – Derek to report **to chase**

Lee said that outside Block 120-126 Berkeley Road is a blocked drain – Derek to report to Wates

Post Meeting Note: Reported to Wates job no. 7137420/1 – new Job No. 7310199/1.

John (JH) shared that a charge has been introduced for Careline and pull cords will be cut off and pendants introduced at a cost of approximately £2 per week

John (JMc) has asked if a Housing Officer can be present at all HLB meetings if possible

3. **Invited Guests**

Police

Update from police

Olly Bradley sent this response:

There have been a number of muggings in Oaklands rec. Hi-vis patrols have been carried out by the Team when on lates.

Op. Forecast is the stop-and-search van that has been out doing proactive searches over the last month. This has resulted in a number of arrests for knife and drug possession.

A routine traffic stop on the Coventry Rd resulted in the arrest of a male for a murder carried out nearly two years ago.

PC 225454 Sophie Hackett has left our Team and moved on to response in West Brom.

PC 7676 Lee Woolman only has 90 working days until his well-deserved retirement.

Wates

HOT CHOCOLATE DAY

We have supported the air ambulance team by way of having a

'Hot Chocolate Day' in the office.

The hot chocolate mix was supplied by the air ambulance team and staff paid to have a hot chocolate made for them, **this helped raise £92 which was donated to the charity.**

I'M A CELEBRITY EATING CHALLENGE

The Wates gas team held an 'I'm a celebrity' eating challenge whereby staff supported by pledging money for who they wanted to do the challenges.

4 members of staff took part in the challenge

Stewart Butler received the most votes and ate critters such as Meal worms, crickets, scorpions, and grass hoppers (all dried)

At the end of the show, there was a bid to raise further donations by Steve Coombs (Wates Operations Director) being nominated to eat a giant water bug which raised a further £250

ALL TOGETHER £1269.50 WAS RAISED FOR 'THE BIRMINGHAM CHILDRENS HOSPITAL

Work experience

2 x trainees from JTL for 4 weeks work experience – will be invited back for interview for apprenticeships in July...6 apprentices qualify in June

Events

Employability skills at Erdington Skills Centre – Wates have been supporting Erdington Skills Centre with providing Employability skills events providing presentation which include customer service skills, CV writing tips, interview tips and then Mock interviews with some of our supervisors.

Job Centre Plus support

We met a lady called Wendy from the job centre who we have now agreed to deliver the same Employability skills presentation through the areas that Wates cover

Barbara said workmen had a job adjacent to No 20 Kestrel Avenue the 1st workman was by the marionettes and the 2nd workman she did not know where he had come from and the job was for wooden boards / flashing – the other job was for guttering and Barbara said she has netting on her guttering – this was all very confusing

John (JMc) said there were issues with the central heating in Wheeldon House and asked if Stewart Butler could attend a meeting but was unable to make it. Jenny said she had spoken to Stewart who said all operatives have been trained and that there is a void at No.6 and he had been in touch with BCC to see if more training can be carried out in the void. John (JMc) wants to invite Stewart to next tenants meeting and will get the dates sent across

Ray shared that the resident from No.38 Kings Rd had a letter from the Capital Team and the resident was frightened as they were the only one having work done. Jenny said she will contact the Capital Team

Cllr Iqbal shared that the letter could be above board and they do put odd jobs on from the Capital Team

Jenny advised everyone to always get the operatives name when they visit your property and they also do carry out jobs if they have been missed off a programme or if the resident has lived at the property for a long time

Cynthia asked when is the grass going to be cut – This is to start very soon

Lee asked if Jenny could chase a drain job no. 7137420/1. Jenny replied saying this was an old job from January. Lee said Derek had taken this off the minutes and it was a different job. Lee showed picture of drain and it is still blocked and will need another job putting on. **Post Meeting: awaiting Job No.**

4. **Councillors Updates**

Cllr Iqbal said he been involved with a few GBSC:-
At Oaklands with the local MP

Spring Rd train station with Fran Lee
Kings Rd with Housing team and no residents turned up
He was also helped out with the GBSC on the River Cole today
with Webster & Horsefall and had already collected about 50 bags
of rubbish

He also shared that Hay Mills Foundation are to apply for funding
and get trustees to work with them

The traffic lights on junction of Coventry Rd / Kings Rd are being
looked at today

The tent has now moved to the middle of the dual carriageway on
Coventry Rd. He is not ex-army and has left a load of rubbish
where he was settled before

Bin strike is now over and everyone should be having weekly
collections again

Cllr Iqbal said he had a meeting with the cabinet member and
unions and Kings Rd & Tynedale Rd had still not had their
recycling collected

There is to be a new bus shelter on Coventry Rd and everyone in
Kings Rd & George Rd will be receiving a letter

Ray shared that the timetable at the bus stop No. 609182 is not
visible

Cllr Iqbal said he is trying to set up a Streetwatch in Steel Grove
and needs to speak to the Support Worker

Lee shared that missed bins to be reported to 303 1112 but there
are issues at the Redfern Depot as residents have been told their
missed bin collections will be collected within 72hrs this is not the
case and the call centre is giving out misleading information – Cllr
Iqbal said he would find out what is happening

Lee was told missed collections will not be picked up until the next
collection is due and recycling not being picked up until the 1st May

Cllr Iqbal shared that all collections should be back to normal
shortly as the bin men need to catch up

5. **Chairs Report and CHLB Update**

The last CHLB meeting was held on Thursday 28 March 2019.

John (JH) took Lee along as he was representing South Yardley HLB and Lee fed back from the meeting:

Sprinklers are going well with being installed and fire doors need changing and these are hoping to be done on the same programme

Big promotion on Modular Housing where 7 sites across the City are being looked at to install 1 or 2 bed homes

The 1st ones will be built in Harborne around June 2019 – these homes are built off site and put together like Pre-fab houses and are expected to last 30-40 years. The Gas & Electricity bills could be around £400 per year so they are very efficient homes. It is being looked at building 2 or 3 bed homes on bigger sites. If residents had cars then this could be a problem on the smaller sites as car parking would not be provided. These are also not really for the older generation especially if they have disabilities or mobility issues as they do have spiral staircases inside them.

Lee shared they are being built in Coventry and then being transported and being put together very quickly

6. **Housing Update**

Jenny asked if she was to put any items outside her property and a note on saying 'please feel free to take' is this classed as fly tipping – MW to verify with Derek. – **Post Meeting: If it is on public highway then yes it is classed as flytipping**

There is a charity in Garretts Green Lane that will pick up certain items free of charge

John (JH) said to say thank you to Derek for changing the date of the last walkabout

	<p>Mandy asked about installing bollard outside garages at Wheeldon House and they would cost approximately £500 each – the group agreed to purchase these and to get a proper quote – they want the fold down ones with the key to lock them on the top</p> <p>John (JH) asked for this to put back into the minutes - Need to add non-slip flooring for Bakeman House to project list – Derek to chase for quote.</p> <p><u>HLB Budget</u></p> <p>Awaiting budgets to be confirmed</p> <p>John (JH) shared that BCC is 100years old this year and asked everyone about giving £100 from HLB budget – all agreed to donate the £100</p> <p><u>Agreed Projects</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>New Projects</u></p> <p>None</p>
	<p><u>HLB Walkabout</u></p> <p>Walkabout from the 8th April was distributed and the next one is on Tuesday 7th May at 11am on George Rd</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Tenant Participation Officer Report</u></p> <p>AGM's have again been put on hold again.</p> <p>Birmingham in Bloom forms were distributed to the group</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Barbara mentioned garage no. 12 and 19 Kestrel Avenue has had the door damaged.</p>

POST MEETING NOTE: Jobs raised to renew garage doors Job Reference Nos. 7234301/1 and 7234292/1

John (JH) distributed Universal Credit leaflets and asked members to put up where they can as these are to help people

Ray shared that the yellow bollards at Kings Rd Scheme have been knocked down by a refuse wagon which was working a Saturday night. **Post Meeting- Derek Fellows has reported on 26/4/19 as a job repair awaiting Job No 7310160/1.**

John (JMc) shared the front door at Wheeldon house is broken and they are waiting for a new part the buzzer system in each flat is permanently lit up when the door is left open. If caretaker is not at work no-one can gain entry as the unit is in the support worker's office

John (JM) advised that he has reported the dead tree in front of Wheeldon House to parks.

Lee asked about the block drain at Block 120 – 126 Berkeley Road Reported to Wates Job Number 7137420/1. **Post Meeting- Derek Fellows has reported this job on 26/4/19 awaiting Job No is 7310199/1.**

John (JH) requested if night security officers could visit the block due to anti-social behaviour - Derek has requested this.

John (JH) said the main entrance at Bakeman House is not closing properly – **POST MEETING NOTE** : Job reported reference number 7224178/1

11. **Date and Time of next meeting:**

**1.30 - 3.00pm Wednesday 15th May 2019
at Steel Grove**