Sheldon Housing Liaison Board Biannual (AGM)
Meeting.
Manston Road
1.00pm 24 November 2016

Present

Colin Fish Chair
Marie Murphy Vice Chair
Reg Hill
Debbie Kadr
Janet Stych
Keith Crew
Theresa Duffy
Val Carter
Gary Elwell
Andy Sheppard

Apologies

Cllr Paul Tilsley
Cllr Sue Anderson
Cllr Mike Ward
Rose Bansal

Welcome and Introduction

Colin welcomed everyone to the AGM.

Minutes of the last meeting

The board agreed the Minutes of the last Biannual Meeting
27 November 2014

Chairperson Report

Chairs Report

Colin circulated copies of the Report for Sheldon AGM
listing some of the achievements of the HLB over the past
two years:

Tenant Panels

*The City Council has recognised Housing Liaison Boards as its Tenants Panels. The Council is required by the Government to co-regulate housing together with tenants and leaseholders representatives on tenant’s panels; hence Sheldon HLB is the official tenant’s panel for*
Sheldon Ward.

**City Housing Liaison Board.**

As Chair of the HLB Colin has represented the HLB on Yardley District Strategic Housing Panel. This Panel is responsible to District Committee and looks at the strategic housing issues across the District. This includes both owner occupied housing, registered social landlords, privately rented housing and council housing.

During the last twelve months Debbie Kadr has represented the HLB on the City Housing Liaison Board.

**HLB monthly meetings**

Over the last two years the Housing Liaison Board has continued to meet on a monthly basis. The HLB is supported by the local Housing Officer for Estate Services and the Tenant Participation Officer, plus the local Councillors, police officers and a representative from Mears and now Wates normally attend meetings. The aim of the HLB is to improve housing and neighbourhoods, to monitor the performance of housing and to resolve any common issues which board members bring to HLB meetings.

**Yardley Gardening Competition**

Sheldon HLB together with the other three Housing Liaison Boards in Yardley District continue to sponsor Yardley Gardening Competition. This competition compliments Birmingham In Bloom the City Wide Gardening Competition and gives tenants and leaseholders in Yardley District the chance of winning in both competitions. Members of the HLB attended the awards ceremony at Stechford Cascades for Yardley Gardening Competition on 23 October 2014 and 22 October 2015 and 26 October 2016.

**The Housing Liaison Board Improvement Budget**

The Sheldon HLB also has a budget for improvement projects which benefit council tenants and leaseholders. For example some of the projects which the HLB has supported over the last two years are:

1. Clearing the rear gardens of blocks 13, 15 and 17
Wychwood Crescent.

2. Building a new footpath to the garages in Dalewood Crescent.

3. Providing two raised beds for Radley Court.

4. Wheelie bin storage areas for Blocks 6-12, 18, 24, 26, and 32 Haydn Grove

5. Bench for Sheldon Country Park

6. Pots and plants for Radley Court

7. Compost bins for Barrows Lane, Radley Court and Manston Road

**Estate Walkabouts**

In addition to monthly meetings many members of the HLB have attended monthly Estate Walkabouts lead by Gary Elwell the Housing Officer and also often attended by the Police, Environmental Health Officer and Tenant Participation Officer. The ward has been divided into six neighbourhoods and so there is a walkabout in each neighbourhood twice a year. The walkabouts often highlight problems for the Housing Officer or other agencies to deal with and reveal areas where the improvement budget can be used to fund projects.

**Annual General Meeting**

Gary Elwell took over as Chair for the AGM.

Gary said that since he first started working in the Ward he has seen great improvements. A lot of properties ‘past their sell by date’ on the Chestnuts Estate had been demolished and replaced with new BMHT properties.

On Cranes Park the maisonette blocks now had door entry systems, new windows and the rear gardens combined into one and grassed. The environmental issues at the rear of the Clopton Road blocks had been sorted and the communal grassed areas at the back were now a pleasure to visit. Parking areas had also been provided at the front.

The three Wychwood Crescent blocks now had door entry systems and the HLB had funded the clearing up of the rear gardens.

Many of the garage sites had been cleared or refurbished. Gary said many of the improvements were due to the HLB
members reporting issues to the HLB which they were concerned about and also raising issues on HLB Walkabouts. This had enabled Gary to press on behalf of the HLB for funding for improvements. Gary said that the HLB could be proud of what had been achieved in Sheldon.

Gary said that HLB Training was ‘on going’ the next training available will be in the New Year.

Andy handed round copies of the HLB Constitution, Code of Conduct and Equalities Statement.

Gary said that officially at this stage the existing HLB board stood down. Gary then asked who would like to be on the new HLB. The following people put their names forward:

Colin Fish
Reg Hill
Janet Stych
Debbie Kadr
Theresa Duffy
Marie Murphy
Keith Crew
Val Carter

Gary then asked if there were any nominations for Chair. Colin Fish had stated that he would like to stand again as Chair. There were no other nominations and Colin was voted in unanimously as Chair.

Gary asked if there were any nominations as Vice Chair. Marie said she would like to stand for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations and Marie was voted in unanimously as Vice Chair.

Gary asked if anyone would like to be the HLB’s representative on the CHLB. Debbie Kadr volunteered to attend when her health allowed. This was agreed by the board.

All members of the Board now signed a copy of the HLB Constitution, Code of Conduct and Equalities Statement.

Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Date of Next HLB Meeting

The next meeting of Sheldon HLB will be at 2.00 pm Thursday 24 November 2016 at Manston Road