

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**

**REPORT**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| To: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT AREA COMMITTEE | Subject: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM<br>- MINUTES OF MEETING |
| From: AREA TEAM LEADER                    |   |
| Date: 24.8.01                             | Ref: CS001/041/030  |

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this report is to update members on the progress of the Bellshill and District Community Forum and to highlight the range of discussions at Forum meetings.

2. **PROGRESS**

The Community Forum held its most recent meeting on Thursday 30 August 2001, a copy of the note of this meeting is attached for members consideration.  
Particular attention is drawn to paragraphs 4.0, 5.0, 6.0.

3. **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Area Committee;

- (i) Consider the content of the attached minute;
- (ii) Comment as appropriate; and
- (iii) Otherwise note the content of this report.



## BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 30/08/01

#### 1. Present

John Gilmore, Mary Hendry, Gary Williams, Colin Wotherspoon, Rosemary McCarey

#### 2. Also Present

Annette Warren (Bellshill Community Work Team)

#### 3. Apologies

Robert McHarg, Tom Leggate, Cllr C Heberton

#### 4. Amendments

Traffic System: The option favoured was detailed in the last minutes. Clarification sought as to when the completion date is. Responses required from next Area Committee meeting.

#### 5. Strategic Framework

Papers were received and noted and will be discussed at a later date. There was a feeling that it would be more appropriate for responses to come via the Area Committee after consultation with the wider community before further discussions. *Points to Clarify:* Is the Strategic Framework Document a statement of intent or is it a report or proposal.

#### 6. Youth Shelters

Amendments were e-mailed by Stuart Wright (Community Education) to the Area Committee (a copy was disseminated to those in attendance). Playsafe (Mossend) who had initially shown an interest in running a Youth Shelter no longer want to be included further in these plans. More discussion needs to take place as there is a feeling that Bellshill and District Community Forum has been playing catch up with the Area Committee when the information on Youth Shelters was disseminated and discussed. It was stated that the last Area Committee minutes were erroneous and misrepresentative.

##### *Points to Clarify: on Youth Shelters*

- More information is required on the research Thames Valley Police carried out by to determine where they would situate their Youth Shelters.
- Should Mossend still be considered as an area when Playsafe no longer want to be part of this initiative?
- Where will match funding coming from, e.g. Community Services Department?
- Is this sustainable funding, if so who ensures this?
- What consultation has there been with young people?
- What is the consultation process on where to site the shelters?

## **7. Community Forum Expenses**

The form was not available, as Tom was not in attendance. Robert to discuss with Tom. Discussions took place on the importance of good practice where volunteers expenses are reimbursed, and money will only be given if a receipt is presented, (mileage reimbursement would be paid in the normal way – no receipt required)

## **8. (a) Public Walkways (Including Mossend):**

The issues of the poor maintenance (in some areas, in particular Mossend) of public walkways and common ground were discussed. *The points raised included:*

- Dreadful standard of grass cutting.
- Weeds in Mossend Shopping Centre are a safety issue as when the ground is wet this area is hazardous.
- If you complain to North Lanarkshire Council about the lack of weeding in a particular street only this street is weeded.
- Work carried out is of a poor quality.
- Work carried out is not checked by management therefore there is no quality control.
- Accountability.

After discussing the above points it was agreed that a meeting should be held with the Director of Community Services – Paul Jukes – to address the issues raised. The meeting should be arranged after the following points are clarified.

1. What are the statutory obligations of North Lanarkshire Council when it comes to grass cutting, how often should the grass be cut and the are weeded?
2. What are the quality indicators?
3. In North Lanarkshire Councils' opinion are they meeting the standards set (both quality and quantity)?
4. Who is responsible for the common areas? – Why are some areas tidier than others?
5. Who is accountable?

## **8 (b) Cleansing Issues (in particular Mossend):**

It was stated that the Mossend area has a problem with litter that is greater than most areas in North Lanarkshire. The question raised was why are some areas to a better standard than others?

## **9 Any Other Competent Business:**

Please clarify:

- Which hospital should people in Bellshill and District attend in an emergency, is it Wishaw General or Monklands?
- Update required from next Area Committee on plans for Mossend Shopping Centre. What are the plans for consultation?
- What is the recommended number of people in one doctors' practice? (It seems that you can't get an appointment, some people have to wait for a week before they can get an appointment).

**10 Items to be Carried Forward to Next Meeting:**

- Attracting New Members.
- Apologies from members not able to attend.
- Transport Issues – Bus service to hospital.  
    Poor evening bus services.