

AGENDA ITEM No. 3.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT AREA COMMITTEE	Subject: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Date: 3 September 2004	Ref: BP/PW

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to submit the minute of the Bellshill and District Community Forum meeting to the Area Committee. The minute of 24 August 2004 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Bellshill and District Area Committee is requested to note the Bellshill and District Community Forum minute.

Paul Ginties

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BELLSHILL & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

24TH AUG 2004, JOHN ST COMMUNITY CENTRE, BELLSHILL

In Attendance: Margaret MacDonald, Willie Foy, Tom Leggate, Alison Clarke Area Housing Manager, Cst Stephen Williams, Cst Bill McMurray, Cst Alison McAuley, Cst Richard Staward, Cllr Joe Gorman, Maureen Kippen, Teresa Connolly, Helen O'Reilly, Michele Battersby, Senior Community Learning and Development Worker

Apologies: Mary Hendry, John Gilmour

Distribution: Committee Members, Pam Wedlock and Ken Forbes

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION
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1. **Minutes of Last Meeting**
Approved

2. **Community Police**
4 members of the Community Police attended the meeting and gave a Power Point presentation and talk about the following 3 main areas of concern.

Public Re-assurance , Quality Life Issues and Community Concerns

Thereafter, the Community Forum members held a question and answer session with the Police around the subject of underage drinking, purchasing of alcohol for minors and consumption of alcohol in public places and police response times to complaints.

The Forum thanked the Police for their input and the Police left the meeting.

3. **Community Warden Scheme**

Alison Clarke- Housing Dept made the Forum aware that the Community Warden Scheme is a North Lanarkshire Partnership and received £65,000 from Scottish Executive. There are 2 pilot areas – Bellshill and Airdrie. The wardens have an environmental role, work from Mon to Sat 10am until 6pm and they will be the eyes and ears of the community reporting on anti social behaviour, graffiti, and litter picking and noting other environmental concerns. The wardens will liase with the Police and other Council Departments as necessary.

An Open Day to promote the community warden scheme will be held on Sat 28th August in the Frank Ferguson Centre between 11.00am – 2.00pm. An article is being placed in the Bellshill Speaker and there has been a leaflet drop. North Lanarkshire Partnership has received feedback from the community who want wardens on the street at night.

Concerns over the hours to be worked were raised and it was explained that because the role of the wardens is environmental then they would not be working evenings to tackle the youth issues highlighted.

4. **Matters Arising**

Joe McKay Centre funding finished in Mar 2004. The Project's aim was to provide 21 hrs youth work service. Numbers fluctuated due to a number of reasons. There is outreach and detached youth work in the area and they have made contact with a number of young people. With SIP status finishing in April 2005 it was decided that the provision should be integrated within the Community Learning & Development sector. A bid has been made to the SIP for £15,000 that will allow the facility to operate at key times. Key partners YMCA and Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre is supportive of this development. The hours will be reduced but there should be an improved service to the young people in the Orbiston area.

Dialogue with Communities Conference Tom Leggate and Margaret Macdonald gave feedback from the Community Conference in Dundee. Members attended 2 workshops but were disappointed that they were unable to get to more of the 14 workshops on offer, members were also disappointed at the lack of notes from workshops that they attended.

5. **Mossend Youth Provision**

Parents of children from Mossend attended the meeting to raise concerns over the lack of facilities for teenage children in the area. Their children attend The Point in Mossend but can only go on a Tuesday or Wednesday night. The Point is established in Mossend shopping centre but may be demolished within 6 months or slightly longer, which means there will be no facilities for them. There is no other Community Centre or hall offered by the Council for the young people. Young People hang about areas and are regularly moved on by the police. Cllr Gorman is in favour of a community facility, which could be used for a range of community groups. There is money available from different funding but this must be applied for as a community and not individual groups. He has spoke to people in Holm Gardens who are not in favour of this type of development on their doorstep. Cllr Gorman asked the parents to identify a piece of ground owned by the council that would be suitable for a youth club. Focus Youth Centre was used as an example of a group who has a committee and applied for grants to employ staff and develops their project. The parents thought Kirklee Park would be suitable venue for young people as they hang around this area anyway. Parents attending distributed a copy of a recent survey conducted by them selves which approximately 49 young people from the area completed, the survey highlighted young peoples desire to become more involved in activities within their own community.

ACTION

Cllr Gorman to speak with Cllr McKeown and take the matter to the Area Committee on 9th September and thereafter feed back to the parents attending the community forum meeting. He will also speak to the appropriate council department to ascertain the availability of the Kirklee area.

6. **Area Tour**

There will be a tour by the area committee at the end of September to visit various projects in the Bellshill and District Area, members of the Community Forum have been asked to join the tour with a view to highlight potential projects that could be developed through The small communities fund. A small group of forum members will come together to further discuss appropriate environmental projects which meet the criteria for this fund

7. **Football Traffic**

There has been complaints about the cars parking at Hattonrigg when the football is on. The police have spoken to Stephen McGhee who said that the car park holds 460 so there is no need for cars to be parked out on the street. Cllr Gorman suggested an announcement could be made over the tannoy asking people not to park in the street as the police have been called out. Earlier in the meeting the police suggested that an advert or notice be placed into the football magazine.

ACTION

Letter to be sent from the forum

8. **Parking Issues**

Concerns were raised over cars and taxis are being double-parked at Bruce Street.

ACTION

There is a new warden starting and Cllr Gorman will discuss this problem with them.

9. **AOCB**

Financial Statement

Inc

Council Grant £750.00

Int £ 2.76

Exp

Conference £350

Hospitality £ 29.75

T/Exp £ 55.35

Bank £941.00

Cash £ 45.12

10. **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 26th Oct 7.00pm, John Street Community Centre, Bellshill