

**Fourways Area Panel
(Moston and Charlestown)**

**Minutes of Meeting held at 1.30pm, 22 May 2008
White Moss Road Office**

Chair: John Biggs

Present:	John Biggs (JB)	Panel Member (Chair)(part)
	Grace Choularton (GC)	Panel Member
	Pam Angelucci (PA)	Panel Member
	Carol Downes (CD)	Panel Member
	Mavis Harris (MH)	Panel Member
	Dorothy LeMoignan (DM)	Panel Member
	John Ward (JW)	Panel Member
	Peggy Yuill (PY)	Panel Member (Vice Chair)
	Joan Fitzgerald (JF)	(Board Member)
	Julie Wilson (JWi)	Head of Neighbourhood Services
	Michael Hutton (MHu)	Local Service Manager
	Gary Walsh (GW)	Repairs Service Manager
	Richard Eden (RE)	Publications and Marketing
	David Heys (DH)	Head of Home Improvements
	Councillor Basil Curley (BC)	Panel Member (MCC)(part)
	Mike Stevens (MS)	Director of Neighbourhood Services
	Rhonda Finlayson (RF)	Resident Involvement Officer (minutes)

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
1	Refreshments and Questions to officers	
2	Welcome and Introductions JB welcomed everyone. A full quorum was in attendance. LH – Publications had asked to have Item 15 discussed early in the agenda. Time would be allocated for this.	
3	Apologies for Absence Apologies given by: Cllr Basil Curley will arrive by 2pm. Hazel Entwistle is on extended leave. John Biggs apologised as he had to leave at 3pm. Peggy Yuill would Chair the rest of the meeting.	
4	Declaration of Interests/Confidential Matters There were no declarations of interest. (Confidential matters) - Observers would be discussed in Item 14 .	
5	Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes were enclosed. They were approved as a true record by PA, seconded by JF.	
6	Matters Arising	

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7	<p>There were no matters arising.</p> <p>Rehousing and Allocations</p> <p>AD explained the report and highlighted the new procedures for Rehousing Registration to use officer resources more efficiently to offer a better service to all new applicants.</p> <p>The following questions were raised:</p> <p>PY – Are applicants made aware they have to re-register?</p> <p>AD – Yes, applicants are made aware of this fact. Where people have been in touch with Northwards, but not returned the re-registration slip, they will be kept on the register and re-contacted. Other incomplete applications may be removed.</p> <p>PY – On registration, do staff note down if the applicant can read and write?</p> <p>AD – Yes this is noted by staff. Where it is an issue, applicants will be contacted by staff for an appointment. It is also noted where English is a second or other language.</p> <p>PY – There are lots of older people who can't read and write, but don't have a computer, what help is given to them?</p> <p>AD – People with such needs are offered assistance to complete the form, or the registration is done in a form accessible to them, such as large print forms, the form can be put onto audio tape, or in Braille.</p> <p>CD – Can it be checked that when people have a property that they are living there? And is it also possible to check where an elderly tenant may have died?</p> <p>Concern was raised by a panel member about addresses that may be used as "Giro-Drops".</p> <p>JWi advised if anyone is suspicious about a property, panel members are asked to advise the office.</p> <p>PY expressed the view there has been a "Majestic" improvement in the service. AD – thanked PY for this comment.</p> <p>JB thanked AD and complimented her on doing a good job.</p>	

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8	<p>Environmental Work Programme (including Pot of Gold funds) Julie Wilson and David Heys</p> <p>JWi is still waiting for the bids coming in from Monsall Street. There are several good bids.</p> <p>The following questions were asked:</p> <p>MH – When are the railings going up in Dam Head?</p> <p>JWi – Advised there is enough money in the 2008/2009 budget for the work to be done.</p> <p>PY – Will the panel be going out again to look at projects as in 2007?</p> <p>JWi – There is only one change from last year’s Environmental Programme.</p> <p>A Trailer event took place on Moston Miners, Moston Mill and the Broadway Baths estates on 16/5/08. The Moston Mill estate was the most challenging. From it, there are now 8 residents interested in re-forming the TRA. RF is to arrange a meeting with the 8 residents to fully discuss what is required from Northwards and themselves to do so</p> <p>JWi explained Inspector Steve Porter will be going out in the Police trailer in 2 weeks as a follow up action to widen dialogue with residents.</p> <p>JWi has spoken to DH. £75,000 has been allocated from the 2007 budget to look at the areas where the garages were demolished. Something will be provided for the children. Northwards is to ask residents about fencing, grass verges, etc. Groundwork is to draw up a big plan and will work up a bid.</p> <p>JWi advised there are other sources of money available to do this work: Ward Co-ordination grants, Community Safety, Crime Reduction.</p> <p>PY advised if this project/work is going to improve the estate for all Moston Mill estate residents to encourage them to get involved, the Panel will support this.</p> <p>JW - There have been two TRA on Moston Mill estate. People have been elected onto the committee and then resigned.</p> <p>JWi – Northwards can’t defend the past. There will be a lot of activity when the Bathroom and Kitchens programme is taking place, so residents will be able to see change for themselves.</p>	

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	<p>GC – It was a marvellous idea to take tenants out to tenants. Their objectivity has been a plus, to residents. All the people who signed up should receive personal acknowledgement from Northwards.</p> <p>JWi advised letters will be sent to each person, and follow up tasks to the event have been delegated to staff. It was a very labour and resource intensive day's event but we will be holding another.</p> <p>JF – It is the best thing that the panel has ever done. There are so many areas of Moston where Northwards do not have people.</p> <p>PY and JF proposed that a trailer event be organised to take place twice a year. JW i advised Greig Lees is negotiating buying the trailer from MCC, so further events can be held.</p> <p>JB thanked panel members for turning up, JW i and RF for the hard work</p>	
9	<p>Environmental Works – David Heys DH circulated an updated Fourways Overall Project Plan with completion dates for Schemes. He has managed to secure programme start dates for the work from Groundwork.</p> <p>JF advised Lander Grove is on the Crosslee estate not Dam Head, and item no. 23 is also on Crosslee estate. DH will correct this on the plan for next meeting. All Moston Mill residents will get personal letters about the start of the Bathrooms and Kitchens programme.</p>	
10	<p>Major Works Update – David Heys CD queried when outstanding doors from January will be done. DH – explained not knowing specific addresses he would speak to her outside the meeting. CD queried properties that have had three doors replaced. DH explained there are various reasons why doors may not be replaced. JB reminded members to use their Panel Issue Sheet for such queries. DH – confirmed that the communal aerials systems switchover to digital should be done by July 2008. GC asked what is the position with reception of Sky</p>	

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	<p>Channels? DH – In multis there is a communal aerial. This will be checked. JB thanked DH for good work.</p>	
11	<p>Repairs Quarterly Report – Gary Walsh GW explained he has been in post 6 – 7 weeks, and has met with MW managers. He has set up meetings to address this issue. He will sit down with the managers to get the basic data for all three panels. The following questions were raised:</p> <p>GC asked if its always going to be City Works doing the work? GW confirmed that doors were done as part of re-let work. The new Manager is called Andy Wood. GW will update members about the review that is to be carried out by him at the next meeting</p> <p>MHu – The Rehousing Team are trying to analyse why properties have been rejected, 99.9% of rejections may be homeless applicants.</p> <p>JWi – Some people that are homeless may stipulate specific areas in their applications which cannot be met. They may need to widen their choice. Paul Andrews, the new executive Member will be looking at this.</p>	
12	<p>LSM Update – Michael Hutton Voids - There are 42 voids. This has increased slightly, but is still a good figure. GC noted that three tower blocks are being held as there's asbestos in the building. MHU explained its procedure that this is dealt with in this way. Members are concerned, and this was expressed by DM, who's been asked about it by other residents. A discussion took place about asbestos in buildings and its safety or otherwise, in line with advice given by Larry Patrick at an earlier panel meeting, if left undisturbed it is safe.</p> <p>ASB – There are 55 live cases 8 cases with the Legal ASBAT team. 1 Noise abatement case</p> <p>Staff – Janine McHale has gone to Monsall Stephen Gravener has been appointed. It is his second week in this post.</p>	

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	<p>JF – Received a call from a lady. MHu – reminded members to use the “Issue Sheet” for all individual issues, these will be dealt with before the start or outside of the meetings.</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Chair/Vice Chair Meeting Update PY attended they discussed what is going to happen in September. Bowls may be introduced.</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>Community Update and Governance a) REVOLVE was circulated to members and will be sent to all Fourways tenant and resident groups b) Area Panel Logo – Page 18 was unanimously agreed. c) Recruitment and Vacancies – Agreed Jack Dawson can be invited to attend the June Fourways Area Panel Meeting, as an Observer with a view to being elected into the vacant panel member place. d) Observers (See Confidential Minutes)</p>	<p>RF DR DR/RF/Board</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Northwards Natter RE addressed Item 15 for Louise Huntington. Copies of the Northwards “Natter” were circulated. It was agreed future issues would focus on the Area Panels. He was seeking the Fourways panel’s help to be Volunteer interviewees. An Interview is to be done for each panel. The following questions were raised: PY - Can Northwards put an article in the “Natter” that Fourways Panel is desperate for new members? JWi advised a result from the “Tea Mobile” trailer event was 19 names had been secured to enable more Moston residents to apply to be Panel members. As a result of this, it was now less desperate. h) JF – The Charlestown in Bloom meeting is on Friday 23/5/08. The BBC are coming to film the Older People’s Play activity park. The activity park is for everyone. Despite criticisms to the contrary.</p>	
<p>19</p>	<p>JWi advised on the Lights - Amey. Andrew Steele is out with them next week. Amey have replaced the panels. MCC are responsible for managing them. GC reported</p>	

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	<p>Broadmoss Drive and Grange Park Road have been without lights for 6 weeks. JWi advised that a Neighbourhood Wardens review meeting will be taking place on Tuesday, 27/5/08, to discuss the service. Emma Foster manages the ward. JWi explained the background to the Wardens. They were originally appointed areas with high incidence of crime. Miles Platting and Newton Heath fitted this profile. As Charlestown and Moston do not have this service, volunteers were sought to attend the meeting. The following members volunteered: GC, MH, CD and DM. RF will arrange taxis. PY attended the Moving Forwards Seminar on Saturday, 17/5/08. 7 people attended from all three panels. Fourways Area Panel needs to be more representative. The Assessor noted the area panel members need to improve and address residents prior to the inspection. JWi advised Fourways AP are well represented at events. The Moston event has been a proactive event. MS attended part of the Saturday meeting. It was looking at what Inspectors will want to assess. DR & CT will take away the results of Saturday's meeting and Panel members will be informed of these at the next meeting. JF referred to the present rules/constitution. These can be revisited by members if they wish to change them. JF went to Harrogate for the Housing Corporation Conference. She advised that Northwards ticks all the boxes.</p>	
20	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>a) Awards – A list of awards was circulated. Panel members are invited to list on the page circulated their own priorities for the awards, from 1- 10. 1 being the highest priority and 10 the lowest.</p> <p>b) Choir – JF advised the Community Choir is getting together at 7pm on 29/6/08 at the VASA club. The Choir is welcoming anyone who wants to sing. Residents can come from all areas.</p> <p>c) The International Food and Dance Festival will be taking place on Thursday, 29/5/08. All are welcome to attend.</p> <p>d) Neighbourhood Wardens Review – Tuesday 27/5/08. Volunteers are as follows: GC, TW, DM, MH, CD. RF to arrange taxis. GV – The PCSO came to Broadmoss TA's meeting. He's needs a mobile phone. He's signed up to do the</p>	RF/Panel Members

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
	Neighbourhood policing for 12 months. JWi will speak to Inspector Steve Porter about this.	
21	Date and Time of Next Meetings Next Panel meeting will be Thursday, 19/6/08 . If you have any issues, you'd like addressed, please arrive at 1.00pm	RF JB/JWi
	End of Meeting With thanks to everyone the chair closed the meeting at 3.20pm.	