

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

**Minutes of Meeting held at 1.30pm, 18 September 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
	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
	David Heys (DH)	Head of Home Improvements
	Larry Patrick (LP)	Director of Property Services
	Rhonda Finlayson (RF)	Resident Involvement Officer (minutes)

Observer: Jack Dawson

Deepdale Court TA

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
1	Refreshments and Questions to officers	
2	Welcome and Introductions	
2.1	JB welcomed everyone and introduced Jack Dawson, Observer. He explained the meeting rules. A full quorum was in attendance.	
3	Apologies for Absence	
3.1	Apologies were given by: Dorothy LeMoignan and Hazel Entwistle.	
4	Declaration of Interests/Confidential Matters	
4.1	There were no declarations of interest. Confidential matters would be discussed in Item 12c).	
5	Minutes of Last Meeting	
5.1	The Minutes of 17 July were approved, with the following amendments: Item 7.1a - The TA led on the work. Only two parents turned up to the meeting. Item 7.2a - There was a lack of communication from the school to Northwards because one young person had turned up. They are to be invited again.	

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	Manchester working but another contractor. JB reminded panel members to use the Issue Sheets to report such issues. MHu/GW will take this up.	Panel Mhu/GW
8.3	Cllr Mark Hackett advised the smiley faces on the feedback table can be confusing. a neutral face might be more effective.	
8.4	LP advised he would prefer to see the table in larger print spread over two sides of the page. JB reported having struggled with information printed on a bright blue coloured bar chart.	
9	<p>Major and Environmental Works Update</p> <p>Pot of Gold funds – David Heys/Julie Wilson</p> <p>9.1 Members appreciated the content but queried the choice of colour used on the bar chart for the programmes. DH asked how relevant are the blue charts to them? Members also advised they found the print too small to read it easily.</p> <p>9.2 The Home Improvement smiley faces is a quarterly report, that gives a summary overview of information. The HIP chart now has the Dam Head projects separated from Charlestown. This takes us right through to the end of the programmes.</p> <p>9.3 There is one error in the Charlestown ward. Item 29 should say July 2009 to October 2009. These are provisional dates. Quite a few schemes are coming to completion. Northwards is going ahead at a good pace with the Decent Homes work programme.</p> <p>9.4 Item 21 is either finished or due to finish. There is some snagging required, and a few minor problems remain.</p> <p>9.5 The windows have been completed on Charlestown LP advised Northwards is in advance of its targets.</p> <p>9.6 Although some money has been moved back to 2011 and 2012, Northwards is still going to complete the Decent Homes standard by 2010. Customer satisfaction scores are above target. The target is 9.2 and Home Improvements are above that.</p> <p>9.7 JB – Reported land near White Moss Gardens has not been well maintained since the site cabins were removed. Some levelling and seeding work was done prior to the judging of Charlestown in Bloom. JW has</p>	

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<p>9.8</p> <p>9.9</p> <p>9.10</p>	<p>spoken to the grass cutters, who confirmed they are behind in cutting the grass, owing to recent bad weather. MHu is to take this up.</p> <p>Manchester Contracts are contracted to cut the grass but not to collect it. JWi advised this is an issue that has been brought up at Ward meetings on several occasions.</p> <p>Pot of Gold funds</p> <p>JWi confirmed a study visit was done of Dam Head, Charlestown, Moston and New Moston estates on 17 September (at 7.45pm) by panel members, a Board member, a Warden for the Lightbowne estate and RF. A list was made of the possible sites for erecting new lighting columns. JWi will meet with Fourways panel members to prioritise and agree the siting of these.</p>	<p>MHu</p> <p>JWi</p>
<p>10</p> <p>10.1</p> <p>10.2</p> <p>10.3</p> <p>10.4</p> <p>10.5</p> <p>10.6</p>	<p>LSM Update</p> <p>MHu circulated a report on Voids, and presented its content. Colours were used to show information. Dam Head – Red, 6 voids (a decrease of 5 from July’s report) Charlestown – Yellow, 7 voids (a decrease of 3 from July’s report and New Moston – Green, 12 voids (1 more than in July’s report).</p> <p>There are 9 ready to let properties in the whole of the Fourways area, that are in the process of being signed up. A Void comparison was also given for for Northwards between this time last year. Fourways have reduced their void numbers by 42% in total.</p> <p>Anti Social Behaviour update: MHu advised Fourways have a total of 70 cases open at the moment and 9 of these are with ASBAT for review/progression towards legal action.</p> <p>Fourways has secured the following legal actions since the July meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 injunction order • 2 ex-parte injunction orders • 1 ex-parte ASBO application • 1 equipment seizure <p>JB confirmed panel members appreciation that the void figures are continuing to reduce.</p> <p>PY queried a void, this will be taken up by MHu.</p> <p>Staff: Christine Martin-O’Hara who was temporary NSO has now moved to the Cheetham office to cover for maternity leave.</p>	<p>MHu</p>

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10.7	JB stated early ASBO cases for housing had been publicised in the newspapers. JB asked why is nothing being publicised by Northwards on its successful legal actions?	
10.8	LP explained the courts have advised against doing so. JW _i advised that increasingly the courts are not allowing Northwards to publicise the facts of cases. Northwards is getting better at management of local nuisance and anti social behaviour.	
10.9	Cllr Hackett asked at what stage do Northwards officers feel they should do a Press Release? He advised all good news should be publicised. A lot of criticism is received about what Northwards isn't doing. Criticism was given by an MP about what is being done.	
10.10	PY advised the local free press paper; the Advertiser and the Blackley Guardian often carry publicity for other areas in Manchester but not for Dam Head or Charlestown. JF rang the Editor of the Advertiser to inform them Charlestown is not being covered by the paper.	
10.11	JB proposed the Fourways Area panel should take up this matter.	Panel
10.12	JW _i advised the office sends details of everything it does out to the Communications officers. Who in turn send Press Releases to the Advertiser and Blackley Guardian. Members comments indicated these papers are often filled with East Manchester news.	
11 11.1	CIH Active Learning Programme JW _i circulated a handout with details of a course of Active Learning for community volunteers from the Chartered Institute of Housing. JW _i /DR would like to know if anyone is interested in attending. If interested, please ring RF for further details on Tel. 795 2334 ext. 296. JB thanked JW _i for this information.	RF
12	Community Update and Governance a) Revolve – RF circulated the September issue. Panel members were pleased it was a It's a Northwards Knockout "Special". It was agreed to have the review of the event at this point, instead of at g) as stated on the agenda.	

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	<p>It's a Northwards Knockout Review</p> <p>JB advised The Lord Group team won 1st prize in the Knockout games. The GMP team won 2nd prize and the White Moss Volunteers team won 3rd prize.</p> <p>All felt it was an excellent day's event, enjoyed by all. Consultation of tenants had taken place.</p> <p>MH said the two ladies in the café were excellent. (JF and PY)</p> <p>GC worked on the Tombola stall and it had made £283.00. JWi/JB thanked Jim Burke, Chair, and the Steering Group plus staff who worked hard to ensure it was a well planned event.</p> <p>JWi advised there were a few problems, but these are to be addressed in a Review meeting on Tuesday 23 September.</p> <p>JF – The thing that impressed her was that staff from Northwards came to assist her, then stayed to introduce themselves and their family, and to talk about the Board.</p> <p>JWi –reported that volunteers all seemed to leave at the same time. This meant few volunteers and staff were left to do the bulk of the clearing away. It was proposed next time the slots worked by volunteers should be: 8am – 1pm and 1pm – 5pm.</p> <p>The advertising side of the organisation of the event. People complained there wasn't enough seen of this.</p> <p>JWi – Gazebos were placed around two sides. These could be placed around one side, to allow a clear view from the other side.</p> <p>JB proposed each member of participating teams be given a certificate from Northwards.</p> <p>b) Recruitment and Vacancies – There is one Tenant and one Leaseholder vacancy on the Fourways panel.</p> <p>GC advised when the Fourways Area Panel was started they agreed there should be 2 representatives from the multi-storeys. For 2007/2008 there has only been one. RF will approach the other multi –storey TRG's.</p> <p>c)Observers – Jack Dawson, Observer left the meeting for this discussion. (See Confidential Minutes)</p> <p>d) Area Panel Study Visit - Wilton will be hosting a Study visit on a date tbc. RF will speak to panel members to confirm the date for the Fourways and notify DR.</p>	<p>Northwards</p> <p>RF</p> <p>JG</p> <p>RF</p>

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
	<p>e) Area Panel AGM Planning and Rotation of Members RF to confirm with Panel members the AGM planning./catering. The Fourways Area Panel AGM is being held at the VASA Club,23 October at 1.30pm – 3.30pm. The Rotation list of members was circulated with panel papers. PA queried her 1 year rotation on the list, she recalled being elected for 2 years. RF will check this and confirm.</p> <p>f) RF distributed the Board AGM invitation to panel members. PY has given her apologies, as she will be at the Town Hall. PA asked for her invitation. She or RF will speak to DR, as she rang Hexagon Tower to confirm.</p> <p>g) It's a Northwards Knockout Review – This item was fully discussed at 12 a).</p>	RF
<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p>	<p>Re-inspection Programme</p> <p>JWi advised the Re-inspection Programme presentation was given by Claire Tyrrell at a meeting for Area Panel members on 20 August. The presentation handouts were included with panel papers.</p> <p>DR would like to have a half day session with the panel at 10am – 1pm on Saturday, 18 October. RF will ring panel members and advise DR who can attend.</p>	RF
<p>14</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>c) PY has raised a query with AMEY: Can the trees be lopped away from lights that have been re-sited? An email received from Dave McClean on Tuesday 16 September states the contract is finished, so nothing can be done. JW i will take this up.</p> <p>d) GC reported quite big, unfilled holes have been left where the new lights have been put up. This is a health and safety hazard.</p> <p>e) JF advised DAMRA are still receiving visitors about the Older Persons Activity Park.</p> <p>f) JF advised Charlestown Singers choir is meeting regularly.</p>	JWi
<p>15</p> <p>15.1</p>	<p>Date and Time of Next meetings</p> <p>a) Board AGM and northAwards – 2 October 2008</p> <p>b) Fourways Area Panel AGM – 23 October 2008</p>	
	<p>Meeting closed at 3.35pm</p>	