

YORK FEDERATION OF RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS

MEETING - THURSDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2012

MINUTES

1. WELCOME. The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked them all to introduce themselves round the table for the benefit of newcomers.

2. APOLOGIES. Apologies were received from Cllr Simpson Laing, Greta Kenis and Margaret Sharkie.

3. ATTENDANCE. Those present at the meeting were; Anne Smith, Chair, Terry Mc Laughlin, Secretary, Barbara Broadbent, Chair Monastery, Trevor Potter, V/chair Muncaster, Maureen O'Hare, Chair NAWCA, Shirley Gumley, Chair Foxwood, Barry Bothamley, Chair Tang Hall, Ann Major, Secretary Cornlands / Lowfields, Marge Sharp, Chair Clifton, Wendy Clarvis, Clifton, Mick Green, Chair NARA, Rene Barcarse, KARA, Sandra Waddington, V/chair KARA, Patricia Palaeologina, KARA, Peter Barton, Chair Fulford, Cindy Benton, photographer!!! CYC, Brian Ledger, Chairman Copmanthorpe, Mary Bailey CYC, Dorothy Senior, Treasurer Cornlands Lowfields, Truda Counsell, V/ chair Lindsey, Julie Hood, CYC, Zoe Crisp, Secretary Sovereign Park, Jo Ingerson, Groves, Joy Jones, Chair Groves.

4. MINUTES. Copies of the minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated to the members. They were accepted as a true record of events. There were no matters arising.

5. OVERVIEW. The Secretary gave a brief overview of the agenda stating that there would be two speakers Mary Bailey and Julie Hood. Questions would be welcomed by the Speakers. As the Agenda was full and there were a number of items on Any Other Business, the Secretary asked for members to keep questions down to one per person.

6. SCRUTINY PANEL Etc. Julie Hood gave a short resume of the meeting held on 6th November for those people who had put themselves forward for the Scrutiny Panel. Thirteen people had attended and Julie felt that the meeting had been informative as to what might be expected from the Panel once it was up and running. Feed back from the day had been positive. The next meeting when it was hoped to set up the membership of the Panel would be held on Monday 10th December 2012. Invitations to all those interested will be sent out in the near future.

A.S.B. A meeting will be held at the Guildhall on Wednesday 5th December at 6.0pm., for those who are interested.

YORK HOUSING WEEK. Because the Coffee Morning held at York Enterprise was not as successful as was hoped and very few members of the public attended. Julie thought it may be advisable if the Residents Associations themselves held Coffee Mornings next year and possibly the Federation could hold one as well. Terry replied that this would need to be discussed fully by both groups. Julie agreed to bring it back to the Federation early in 2013.

7. COMMUNITY CONTRACTS. Mary Bailey from CYC had been invited to give an update of the process of setting up Community Contracts. Mary has just taken over this job and is still finding her way around. She passed out copies of a booklet giving an example of what the Ward Committees think should be done and explained that there is room for suggestions and improvements should members of the Federation and Residents Associations wish to propose them. Dates and venues for future meetings have been forwarded to those who wish to be included. Cindy informed the Dringhouses members that venues would be within the Ward. This had been causing some concern. Patricia asked that before the final printing

of the booklet it should be written in plain English, and not has she said Beaucroatic Jargonese. Mary agreed that it should be done. The Secretary asked if Mary could return to the Federation with a view to devoting more time to the subject. It was suggested that either the Cluster Group Day or the AGM would be the most suitable.

Anne thanked both Julie and Mary for coming and talking to us.

8. TRAINING. Cindy gave a brief report on the number of applications received from people wishing to take up the offer to attend the various training courses. The response had been good, but there was still room if anybody else wanted to apply. The feed back from some of those who had already taken part was very encouraging. Barry had attended the course on Trustee Management. He had found it both informing and interesting, He was looking forward to the next session.

9. CLUSTER GROUPS. The date and venue for this event is Thursday 31st January 2013, at the NHS Social Club, Whitecross Road, 10am – 3pm. Councillor Tracey Simpson Laing and Sally Burns of CYC Have accepted our invitations to come along and talk to us. Any suggestions for helping the day to be entertaining will be most welcome.

10.A.G.M. The A.G.M., will be held on Thursday 21st February 2013, if members requires an item added to the Agenda please advise either Cindy or Terry no later than Thursday 17th January 2013. Any alterations to the Constitution must be submitted to Cindy no later than December 20th 2012. Any nominations for Officers please ask the nominee first if He/She is willing to stand. Nominations can be put forward on the night before the meeting begins. Anne Smith who has been our Chair for the past five years announced that she wants to stand down. She said that 5 years was long enough and it was only right that someone else be given the chance to Chair the meetings.

Anne has been Chair for the past five years and in that time has done a great job. She has been gentle but firm without being heavy handed. During her tenure an increase in attendance at our meetings has taken place, as well as a pleasant atmosphere. This has allowed business to be dealt with efficiently and calmly. As a result of Anne always wanting an answer to the many questions raised, there has been quite a noted increase in the amount of Council Officers attending and explaining in detail what is going to happen or hoped will happen. She has been an outstanding Chair for the Federation and deserves our heartfelt thanks for a job well done.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. 11.1. Barry reported that there had been a number of Wheelie bins set on fire in the Tang Hall area. These had been dealt with by the Emergency Services, but He wondered if there had been instances of this nature in other R.A., areas. Jo ingerson said that there bin fires reported in the Groves.

11.2. Trevor asked if the Illuminated/flashing speed control sign had been erected in Dodsworth Avenue. A grant towards the cost had been made from the £30k pot in 2011. Cindy will make enquiries.

11.3. Patricia wished to know about the Councils Housing Allocations Policy. Terry replied that this was something that should be brought to the Federation because it was part of Housings remit and until such time as the Scrutiny Panel was on board there was nobody to deal with it. Cindy will invite Yvonne Burns to talk to us.

11.4. Brian had been receiving a lot of nuisance telephone calls re mis-sold Insurance, He realised that this was something that a large number of people were experiencing. Although not a lot was being done about it He recommended that members should advise people to contact their local M.P., and put pressure on the Government to take action.

11.5. Ann Major informed the meeting that thanks to their grant from the £30k pot Cornlands had now been able to have Fencing erected in two areas.

11.6. Cindy had three items to mention, i. All those wishing to meet the Civic Party on 20th December should meet at the Mansion House at 4pm. This would be followed in the Guildhall with a slightly less formal meeting.

- ii a visit to the new West Offices is being organised, Cindy will keep us informed.
- iii. Four Laptop Computers have now been ordered. Allocation of these will be discussed by the Federation at our next meeting.

11.7. Constitution. Terry said that in view of Anne standing down at the AGM, he had been reading through the Constitution and discovered that in the latest edition there was no proviso for a time limitation applying to officers. In previous editions officers were elected annually but could not serve for more than three years in the post they were elected to. This limit could be extended provided that no member of the Federation wished to take up office when elections were held at the AGM. In His capacity as Secretary he felt that the three year clause should be re-introduced into the Constitution. He asked the meeting for this to be placed on the Agenda for the AGM in February. It was agreed that it should.

There was no further business to discuss, the Chair thanked everybody for attending then declared the meeting closed.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS.

FEDERATION MEETING - THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2012, 7.0PM. Guildhall.

ORGANISING MEETING - THURSDAY JANUARY 3RD 2013, 10AM.

FEDERATION MEETING - THURSDAY 17TH JANUARY 2013, 7.0PM.

CLUSTER GROUP DAY - THURSDAY 31ST JANUARY 2013, 10AM. NHS Social Club.