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MEETING	ACOMB WARD COMMITTEE
DATE	11 MAY 2010
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS HORTON AND SIMPSON-LAING
APOLOGIES	

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**1. SURGERY 6.30PM**

Residents had the opportunity to speak with Cllr Tracy Simpson-Laing, Cllr David Horton, Inspector Colin Moreton and PC Sara Lacy (Safer Neighbourhood Team), J Cook (Community Rangers), Angus Young (Street Environment Officer) Richard Leaning (Senior Street Trading Officer), Sue Houghton (York Central Project Manager), Cindy Benton (Neighbourhood Management Unit).

**2. MAIN MEETING 7.00PM**

Cllr David Horton welcomed everyone to the meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by Cllr David Horton.

**3. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM**

Insp Moreton and PC Lacy gave an update on the work of the Acomb Safer Neighbourhood Team, they made the following points:

At the present time PC Sara Lacy is covering PC Graham Cooper and PS Mike Pickersgill is covering maternity leave.

Comparing the crime figures over the past two years there have been 161 crimes less during the last year, with only 63 crimes from April 1<sup>st</sup> (compared to 78 for the same period in the previous year).

The Ward priorities are antisocial behaviour, criminal damage and burglary.

Overall the main issue is shed burglaries with 39 in March.

Operation Manganin is in place to combat these crimes, with warrants being executed and arrests being made.

There has also been several burglaries at hairdressers.

There is to be an Action day on June 4<sup>th</sup> which is a multi action day and will include the Traffic Section and the Fire Department.

Acomb Police Station is now open and is staffed by volunteers. It is the base for the Acomb and Holgate Safer Neighbourhood Teams. It is open Monday and Saturday 10 – 12 noon, Wednesday and Thursday 6 – 8.00pm and Tuesday and Friday 2 – 4.00pm.

The following questions were raised:-

Q. Why has there been an increase in burglaries at hairdressers?

A. This appears to be mainly due to GHD straighteners.

Q. Do you know if the offenders are local?

A. They are local.

Q. There is an increase in the vandalism on Beckfield Lane, Manor School end, on Friday evenings, can anything be done?

A. The Safer neighbourhood Team will increase patrols at the appropriate time.

Q. Do the Neighbourhood Team deal with antisocial behaviour?

A. Yes they do. The Team can take the first steps towards an ASBO, if necessary.

#### **4. COLD CALLING ZONES**

Richard Leaning gave advice on cold calling zones and made the following points:

It is not an offence to call at your door, cold calling zones are intended for traders who are selling on the doorstep.

50% or more of residents need to agree to be part of the zone for the street to become a Cold Calling Zone.

There are 102 zones across the City covering 4526 properties with 10 zones (410 properties) within Acomb.

When a street becomes a Cold Calling Zone all residents are given packs which include stickers to display in their window and relevant contact details.

Trading standards are working on new cards which will be another tool for residents to use to deter doorstep trading.

Cold Calling Zones reduce the fear of doorstep crime.

There is a Home Services Directory which is for vulnerable or older residents. This directory consists of traders who comply with Trading Standards Consumer Protection Laws. Trading standards have also checked the references of the traders within the directory.

Trading Standards also have a Telephone preference Service, for more information contact them on 08454 040506.

The following questions were raised:

Q. The young people who sell dusters etc on doorsteps, are they real charities or not?

A. There are some who are genuine and some who are not.

Q. Could all York be a Cold Calling Zone?

A. All areas are not affected by traders so do not need to be a zone.

Q. How is the Zone maintained when people move?

A. Zones receive regular contact from Trading Standards Officers and are regularly surveyed.

Q. Is the 0845 number charged as local?

A. It is answered in Leeds but charged at local rates.

## **5. ECO DEVELOPMENT**

Sue Houghton (York Central Project Manager) gave an update on the environmentally friendly housing project in the York northwest site, making the following points:

The developers are working on the master plan.

The consultants who undertake the technical surveys are meeting next week

Application for the planning will be in 2011.

High on the list of priorities is to set out how the local community will be involved. A way forward will be decided with the planners.

Other high priorities are the trees on Langholme Drive, the protected sand bees, traffic and access particularly the traffic on Plantation Drive and a sports ground on the British Sugar site and/or Manor School site.

The build will be eco-friendly and highly sustainable, with a proposed 60 units.

There is to be an overarching set of policies e.g. transport for all the builds in York. Each site will have an individual area action plan.

The following questions were raised:

Q. When this scheme becomes more advanced will Cravens move?

A. This has not been discussed

Q. Will the old Manor School be knocked down?

A. Yes but the trees will remain as they have Tree protection orders.

Q. Residents will not want to use the A59 to commute into town

A. Transport issues for both sites is under discussion

Q. Will there be a complete plan for residents to view?

A. Yes, the detail British Sugar site will be available before any work starts.

Q. Is British Sugar the developer on their site?

A. This is unknown at present

Q. Will there be any City of York Council housing?

A. There will be Social Housing

Q. Will the transport situation improve?

A. Work is ongoing with the transport plans. The Park & Ride has permission.

Q. When the planning stage is reached will there be any consultation?

A. Yes there will be in depth consultation.

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## **6. HAVE YOUR SAY**

Q. The rubbish bin on the corner of the Manor School site has been moved

A. Neighbourhood Management will follow up

Q. Buses should honour return tickets regardless of the company, has anything been agreed?

A. It does happen in other cities, unfortunately the bus companies in York could not agree.

Q. Is the system of recycling changing?

A. A three box system is being introduced, this will ensure recycling is not mixed.

Q. How can cardboard be put into a box?

A. There have been some issues with recycling so there are to be three road shows to give more information.

Q. The snicket on Jute road has overgrown hedges and the lights are still not working

A This will be followed up by Neighbourhood Management.

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, Chair

[The meeting started at Time Not Specified and finished at Time Not Specified].