

**Stocksbridge Community Forum**  
**Meeting at The Venue on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

Chair: Barbara Horsman 288 8394 Vice Chair: Graham Helliwell 288 2498  
[www.stocksbridgecommunity.org](http://www.stocksbridgecommunity.org) email [bob@stocksbridgecommunity.org](mailto:bob@stocksbridgecommunity.org)  
– contact Bob on 288 8624

**Present:** Graham Helliwell, Margaret Derbyshire, Joan Banks, Elsie Newton, Bob Smith, Elaine Smith, Jack Clarkson, Sue Booker, Ivor Webster, Jean Long, Dennis Rolfe, Margaret Moss, Rebecca Hunt

**Apologies**

Barbara Horsman, Mark Wrigley, Roy Bettney

**Police Report - Sergeant John Kirkham**

An update was given as to the increase and decrease of criminal activity in the area. When asked if figures detailing this could be displayed on the website, John replied that they couldn't but that trends and preventions could be mentioned.

Jack Clarkson asked if there are now more officers in the area since restructuring.

There are now 20 officers across 5 teams over 24 hours.

Bob Smith highlighted the ongoing issue of scrap metal.

John stated that the Government are trying to combat this by only paying into bank accounts so that only traders get paid for scrap metal. A licence is also required for a legal dealer. The problem is that methods of obtaining the scrap are unscrupulous.

John reminded everyone of the 101 reporting line for non-emergencies.

**Minutes of May Meeting & Matters Arising**

The minutes were agreed to be correct.

Living Streets – One gate has been completed and work has started on the turnstile and is due for completion in the next few weeks.

Graham Helliwell asked whose responsibility it was to cut back nettles and grass.

Jack Clarkson replied that it was the land-owner and PRow (Public Rights of Way) jointly.

Joan Banks commented that Valley In Bloom were glad that it had rained after such a dry spell.

**Community Website – Bob Smith**

Bob explained that funding was accessed through the Lottery and that the new site had been designed by Web Architects, a local company. When deciding on the content of the new site, some aspects of the old site were to be retained but new features such as an events diary were to be introduced. The new site is to be more interactive with businesses able to update their own details. E-commerce and advertising are to be introduced at a later date.

Bob then showed a preview/walk-through of the new site and demonstrated the new features.

The new site is due to launch in early August and a flier will be going in to Look Local to announce this and give contact details for anyone wanting to be included in the Directory.

The next phase planned is for a discussion forum and a link to Sheffield City Council Planning so that any upcoming planning applications can be highlighted.

Looking ahead, small advertisements and e-commerce are to be integrated but the website needs to be established with more traffic initially.

Bob then asked for observations. It was commented that the site was attractive and easy to navigate.

### **Libraries**

Joan Banks informed the Forum that she had been in contact with Cllr Iqbal regarding the Library but Sheffield City Council would prefer to wait to speak with the Forum when they have some information to share as they have none at present.

### **Dransfield's Development**

Dransfield's have been invited to numerous Forum meetings but have not yet attended.

Comments were made and questions asked regarding green initiatives for the new development. It was asked whether any heat was going to be used from the steel works as Tata have said they have excessive heat.

Jack Clarkson stated that the Town Council had been invited to meet the Tata management on 12<sup>th</sup> July. He informed the Forum that the new gatehouse was progressing and there is to be a large earth mound around it with a new road and rail link. On the new road there is to be a garage on a new roundabout.

Work is scheduled to start in November 2013 and completed in Spring 2015.

Everything is on target so far.

Mark Wrigley is consulting with Tata to look at the wasted energy to possibly start a project involving children.

Elaine Smith pointed out that Valley Medical Centre needed two more GPs to accommodate the people from the new housing but there is no room for expansion at their current location so they had planned to move into the new development. As NHS England will only pay core costs, this is too expensive. This means that Valley Medical Centre may have to close lists to new patients so as to not go over capacity.

### **4SLC – Elaine Smith**

Elaine stated that this was a week of two big successes. The raft race had raised around £2.5k and the keys were scheduled to be handed over.

Elaine called for any volunteers to help as the plan was to clean and decorate the centre initially. Funding is needed in order to make the centre DDA compliant (improve changing rooms, replace sports hall floor etc).

The dry side is scheduled to open to groups at the end of September and open to the public in December after the Trust have got used to running the building.

4SLC are planning to advertise for a manager and to open a café.

Graham Helliwell asked what the future of the pool was.

Elaine replied that 4SLC are looking for funding – one source has been approached so far

4SLC have been approached by the company (The Energy Workshop) that is

submitting a planning application on 30<sup>th</sup> August for the erection of a 79m wind

turbine at Sheephouse Heights which will be used to provide power to the dairy with any surplus being fed to the National Grid.

The Energy Workshop have suggested that if successful, the Community Benefit Package (where developers make payments into funds for improvements to local services or other measures such as discounts on electricity bills and local communities decide how the cash is used) could provide 4SLC with around £50,000 towards the repair and upkeep of the Centre.

This was a provisional offer which has been neither accepted nor declined.

### **Stocksbridge Town Council**

Party In The Park will be on 14<sup>th</sup> September at Oxley Park where there will be a brass band, orchestra and pop band.

### **Stocksbridge Community Care Group**

The group are now funded by the NHS to provide community care on their behalf that they are unable to provide.

There may be funding for regular meetings at The Venue including transport, tea and coffee, a meal and most importantly company.

### **AOB**

Bob Smith made the Forum aware of a planning application to Barnsley Council for the wind turbine at Sheep House Farm. The application is for a temporary meteorological mast to be followed by a wind turbine of up to 79m to blade tip (plus associated infrastructure), for the supply of power to Sheephouse dairy and wider electricity network.

Elaine Smith added that at the 4SLC meeting regarding this wind turbine, the proposal was for either the lump sum of £50k or £5k per year for the life of the turbine (20 – 30 years) or a combination of both. This would be good for 4SLC but they are aware that they must be sensitive to the views of the community.

Jack Clarkson commented that 4SLC are approaching the project in completely the right way – openly and transparent and non-political.

**The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at The Venue at 7pm.**