

Minutes of Semilong Community Forum meeting **November 9th 2005**

Present: Alan Snedker (BBOB Rugby Club), Brian Crutchley, Gerry Burbage (NBC Housing Officer), Rob Chadwick, Carol Moriarty, Anthony McGowan, John Gardner, Kerry Clarke, Steven Richards (Centre Manager AGYCC), Alastair Milton, Sgt. Carol Tennet.

Apologies: Daphne Barritt, Jenifer Kenny, Karen Fruish, Margaret Andrews, Kevin Gascoyne (NBC Housing Officer), PC Ron Frater (CBO Northants Police), Sam Cooper-Evans, Dave Wiseman.

Abbreviations used:

SCF – Semilong Community Forum

NBC – Northampton Borough Council

NCC - Northamptonshire County Council

AGYCC – Alliston Gardens Youth and Community Centre

The meeting was chaired by Rob Chadwick

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the 12th October were agreed.

Guest: John Gardner – Neighbourhood Watch representative.

John explained the history of the Neighbourhood Watch (NW) scheme and it's organisational structure. Currently there are 350-400 NW areas in Northampton. Each scheme must be registered with the police in order to be protected by insurance and to get regular updates from the police. Areas that set schemes up can usually get a reduction on their contents insurance. John suggested that schemes be set up in streets or parts of streets. NW will feature in the next Semilong newsletter to try and get the community involved.

Action:

NW to feature in the next Newsletter.

SOCIAL HOUSING

Gerry said that there had been a problem with prostitutes and she had been working with the police to sort this issue out. There had been no complaints about the (MUGA) play area. Gerry asked that if anything happens to let her or Kevin know.

CRIME

Sgt. Carol Tennet attended the meeting and talked about some of the changes that would be taking place in the way that police will operate in the county. She said that there would be more community wardens who would have limited powers but would be able to deal with some of the antisocial activities that take place in communities.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

No community development officer was present to comment. Rob suggested that we invite Suzanne Stringer to represent NCC

EVENTS

The possibility of a winter fair at AGYCC had not moved on any further. Carol said that she would look for a band for a barn dance

EDUCATION

Nothing this month. Rob suggested that this item be removed from the agenda in future until there was something to discuss.

TREASURERS REPORT

Kerry stated that the current balance stands at £934.50.

Rob asked if we could spend some of the money, mainly the £250 that we won from the local heroes award. Carol said that she would get some costings for holding a bran dance in the New Year. Rob asked if any other ideas could be discussed at the next meeting.

ENVIRONMENT – GREEN

Steven said that he had £500 left over from the Alliston Gardens community garden lottery funding which we could use for green projects in the community. He also had a large bag of daffodil bulbs left over. Brian and Kerry volunteered to plant the bulbs at the community garden on Grafton Street on Sunday afternoon (13/11/2005)

ENVIRONMENT - URBAN

The plans to demolish 79 and 81 Semilong road were deferred at the last planning meeting to allow the planning committee members to have a site visit on the 30th November.

Rob said that he would forward any suggestions about what the new community warden could do in our neighbourhood. Suggestions were.

- Identify litter and report back to NBC
- Identify sites for little and dog waste bins
- Issue fines for people found littering
- Ensure they walk all streets in the neighbourhood in a shift
- Identify homes and the languages used in that home for future literature
- Put information letters through doors where needed.
- Attend every other SCF committee meeting

COMUNICATION

Suggestions were given what could be included in the next newsletter.

- Useful numbers
- Recycling Calendar
- Mobile Library information
- Next Years Meeting dates
- Review of the year

Any Other Business

It was suggested that we invite Paul Morcroft as a guest to talk about street scene and Brian Binley to future meetings.

The meeting finished at 9.26

Future Meetings: Wednesdays 7.30pm: 7th December 2005 and 11th January 2006
At BBOB Rugby Club house, St Andrews Road (entrance at the back of Enterprise Rent-a-car)

Minutes Agreed (signed)

Chair _____ Date _____

Secretary _____ Date _____